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Gary Ridley Acting Chief Executive

23rd September 2008

Dear Councillor,

I hereby give you Notice that a Meeting of the **POLICY AND STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE** will be held in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE, CROOK** on **WEDNESDAY 1st OCTOBER 2008** at **6.00 P.M.**

AGENDA

Page No.

- | | | |
|----|--|-----------------|
| 1. | Apologies for absence | |
| 2. | To consider the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 23 rd July 2008 as a true record. | Copies attached |
| 3. | Declarations Of Interest | |

Members are invited to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interest in matters appearing on the agenda and the nature of their interest.

Members should use either of the following declarations:

Personal Interest – **to be used where a Member will be remaining and participating on the debate and any vote:**

I have a personal interest in agenda item (...) regarding the report on (...) because I am (...)

Personal and Prejudicial Interest – **to be used where a Member will be withdrawing from the room for that item:**

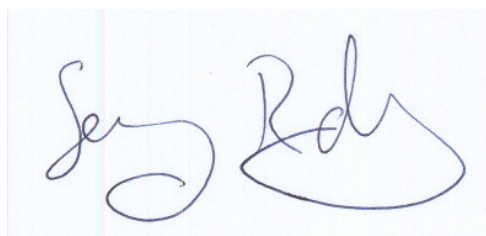
I have a personal and prejudicial interest in agenda item (...) regarding the report on (...) because I am (...)

Officers are also invited to declare any interest in any matters appearing on the agenda.

NOTE: Members are requested to complete the enclosed declarations form and, after declaring interests verbally, to hand the form in to the Committee Administrator.

4. To consider the Wear Valley Health Profile for 2008. 1 - 6
5. To consider a request by the Coundon and Leeholme Partnership for funding for a post office located in the Partnership's building. 7 - 12
6. To consider the award of costs in relation to an appeal against refusal of planning permission for J Noble and Sons. 13
7. To consider such other items of business which, by reason of special circumstances so specified, the Chairman of the meeting is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sey Rdh', is written on a light blue grid background.

Acting Chief Executive

Members of this Committee: Councillors Mrs Bolam, Buckham, Mrs Burn, Ferguson*, Gale, Grogan, Harrison, Hayton, Henry, Kay, Kingston, Mews, Perkins, Stonehouse, Taylor, Mrs Todd* and Zair.

*ex-officio, non-voting capacity.

Chair: Councillor Harrison

Deputy Chair: Councillor Zair

TO: All other Members of the Council for information
Management Team

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FORM

NAME AND DATE OF COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER	NATURE OF INTEREST AND REASONS	PRINT NAME	SIGNATURE



POLICY AND STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1 OCTOBER 2008

Report of the Acting Chief Executive
HEALTH PROFILE 2008

purpose of the report

1. To submit for consideration the Wear Valley Health Profile for 2008.

background

2. The North East Public Health Observatory (NEPHO) publishes a report every year to inform local authorities and other agencies about the area's health profile.
3. The profile gives a snapshot of health in our area. With other local information the health profile has been designed to support action by local government and primary care trusts to tackle health inequalities and improve people's health in Wear Valley.
4. A copy of the most recent profile is attached as Annex A.

findings

5. Although the overall health trends are improving, the overall health of Wear Valley residents is not as good as the England average. A summary of the findings are detailed below:
 - Health and deprivation in Wear Valley are generally worse than for England as a whole.
 - Death from smoking and rates of early deaths from heart disease and stroke are worse than the England average.
 - Men and women from the least deprived areas of Wear Valley can expect to live longer than those from the most deprived. Men can expect to live 8 years longer and women five years longer. However, overall live nineteen months less than the national average and women live twenty five months less than the national average.

6. The report also shows:

- Income deprivation and child poverty are above average with 28% of children living in households dependant on-means-tested benefits.
- The level of statutory homelessness is lower than the national average.
- Teenage pregnancy percentage rate is higher than the national average although it shows a modest improvement from 2007 report.
- An estimated 25% of adults binge drink an increase of one percent from the previous year.
- An estimated 26% of adults are obese which is 2% higher than the national average of 24%
- Diabetes affects at least 2470 people in Wear Valley which is higher than the national average and:
- The rate of hip fracture, in people aged 65 years and over, has decreased from last year but remains higher than the national average.

conclusions

7. The report shows that the population of Wear Valley's health is below the national average on a wide range of statistical indicators.
8. Despite efforts to improve health within the District, there is still a long way to go before Wear Valley is at the national average for a number of national health indicators.
9. If Council is to make an effective contribution to tackling these areas of comparative health deprivation, then it will need to work even more closely with our professional partners for a joined up approach.

RECOMMENDED

- i. That Members consider the reports content;
- ii. That Members continue to endorse the Councils objectives and support officers in their efforts to tackle health inequalities.

Officer responsible for the report

Gary Ridley
Chief Executive
Ext 306

Author of the report

Dr. Lawrence Serewicz
Policy and Partnership Manager
Ext. 311

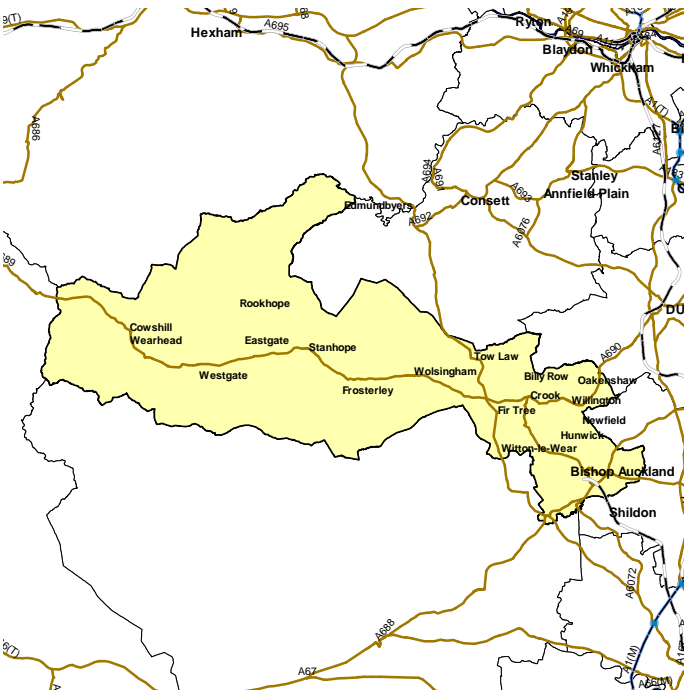
Wear Valley

This is a Spearhead area

This profile gives a snapshot of health in your area. With other local information, this Health Profile has been designed to support action by local government and primary care trusts to tackle health inequalities and improve people's health.

Health Profiles are funded by the Department of Health and produced annually by the Association of Public Health Observatories.

To view Health Profiles for other local authorities and to find out how they were produced, visit www.healthprofiles.info



POPULATION 62,000

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DH 100020290 2008. Other map data © Collins Bartholomew.

Wear Valley at a glance

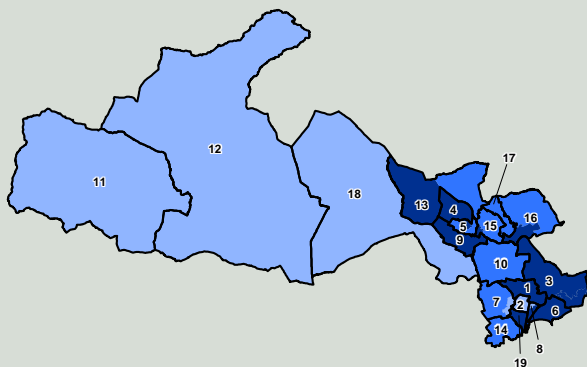
- Health and deprivation in Wear Valley are generally worse than for England as a whole. Deaths from smoking and rates of early deaths from heart disease and stroke appear worse than the averages for England. There is no significant difference in rates of early deaths from cancer between Wear Valley and England as a whole.
- Men and women from the least deprived areas in Wear Valley can expect to live longer than men and women from the most deprived areas: about eight years longer for men and about five years longer for women.
- Over the last ten years death rates from all causes have decreased for men in Wear Valley. However, the rate for women has fluctuated and there has been very little change over this period of time. Rates of early deaths from heart disease and stroke and from cancer have decreased over the past ten years and remain above the averages for England.
- Breast feeding initiation and smoking in pregnancy rates are worse than the averages for England.
- The percentage of Wear Valley's children spending at least two hours per week on school sport is higher than the England average.
- Wear Valley has prioritised promoting positive mental health, reducing alcohol misuse and tackling obesity over the next three years.
- Further details on the health of this area can be found within the Director of Public Health's Annual Report at: www.countydurhampct.nhs.uk

Deprivation: a national perspective

This map shows differences in deprivation between small areas in this local authority, *compared to the whole of England* (based on IMD 2007).

National deprivation groups

- 1 Least deprived fifth of areas in England
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5 Most deprived fifth of areas in England



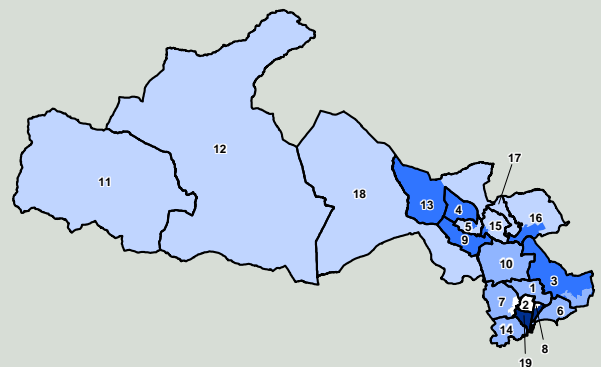
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Deprivation: a local perspective

This map shows differences in deprivation between small areas in this local authority, *compared to the local authority as a whole* (based on IMD 2007).

Local deprivation groups

- 1 Least deprived fifth in this local authority
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5 Most deprived fifth in this local authority



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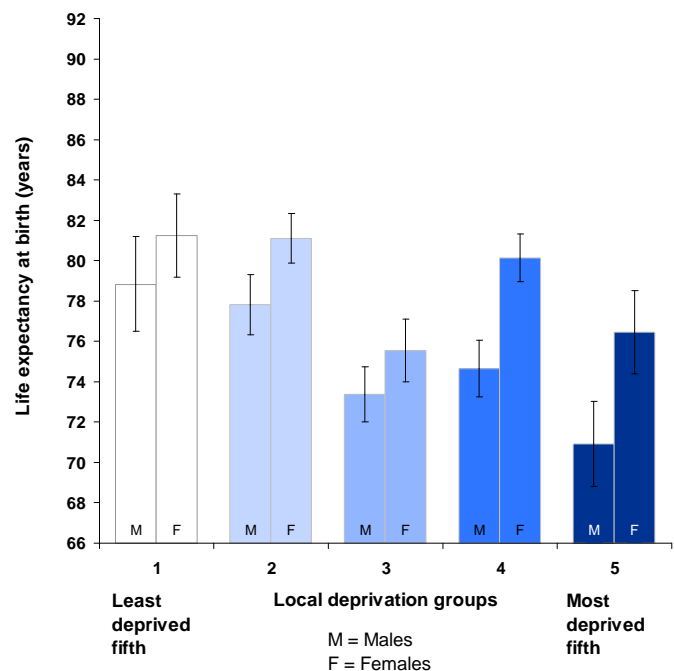
Ward legend

- 1 Bishop Auckland Town
- 2 Cockton Hill
- 3 Coundon
- 4 Crook North
- 5 Crook South
- 6 Dene Valley
- 7 Escomb
- 8 Henknowle
- 9 Howden
- 10 Hunwick
- 11 St John's Chapel
- 12 Stanhope
- 13 Tow Law and Stanley
- 14 West Auckland
- 15 Wheatbottom and Helmington Row
- 16 Willington Central
- 17 Willington West End
- 18 Wolsingham and Witton-le-Wear
- 19 Woodhouse Close

Ward boundaries 2005 are superimposed upon MSA (Middle Super Output Area) boundaries. Each MSA is shaded by Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2007. For details refer to www.communities.gov.uk. Numbers correspond to ward legend. Ward boundaries may have changed.

Health inequalities: a local perspective

Inequalities in life expectancy (2002-2006) for men and women who live in areas with different levels of deprivation (within this local authority).



95% confidence interval. These indicate the level of uncertainty about each value on the graph. Longer/wider intervals mean more uncertainty. When two intervals do not overlap it is reasonably certain that the two groups are truly different.

Health inequalities: changes over time

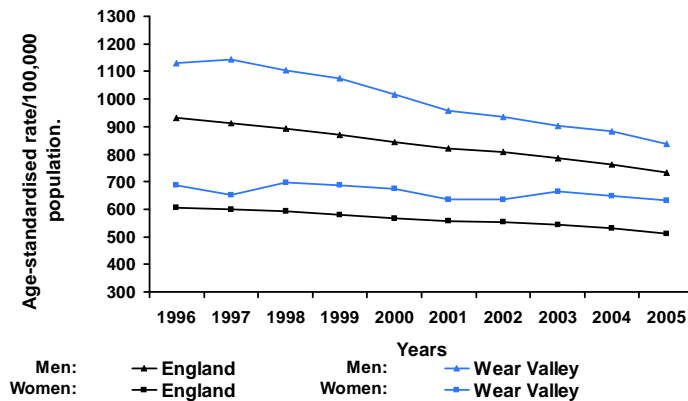
These trend graphs show how changes in health for this local authority compare with changes for the whole of England. Data points are mid-points of 3 year moving averages of annual rates i.e. 1996 represents the 3 year period 1995-97.

Trend 1 compares death rates (at all ages and from all causes) in this local authority with those for England.

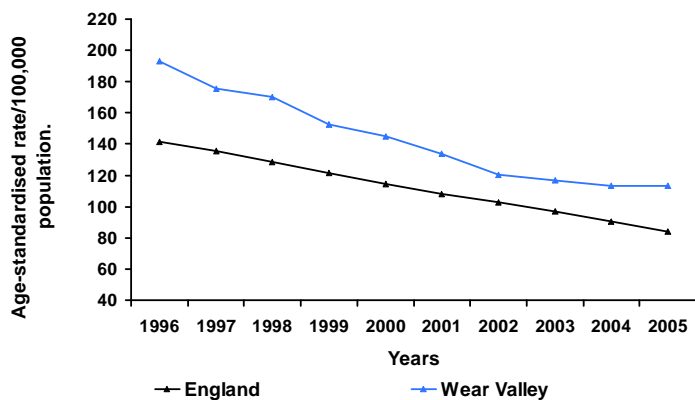
Trend 2 compares rates of early death from heart disease and stroke (in people under 75) in this local authority with those for England.

Trend 3 compares rates of early death from cancer (in people under 75) in this local authority with those for England.

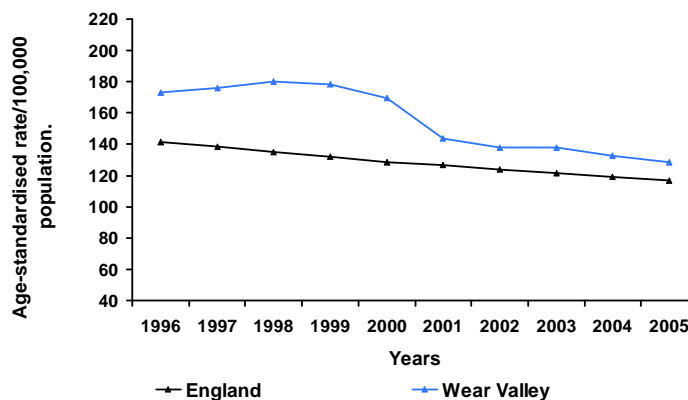
Trend 1: All age, all cause mortality



Trend 2: Early death rates from heart disease and stroke



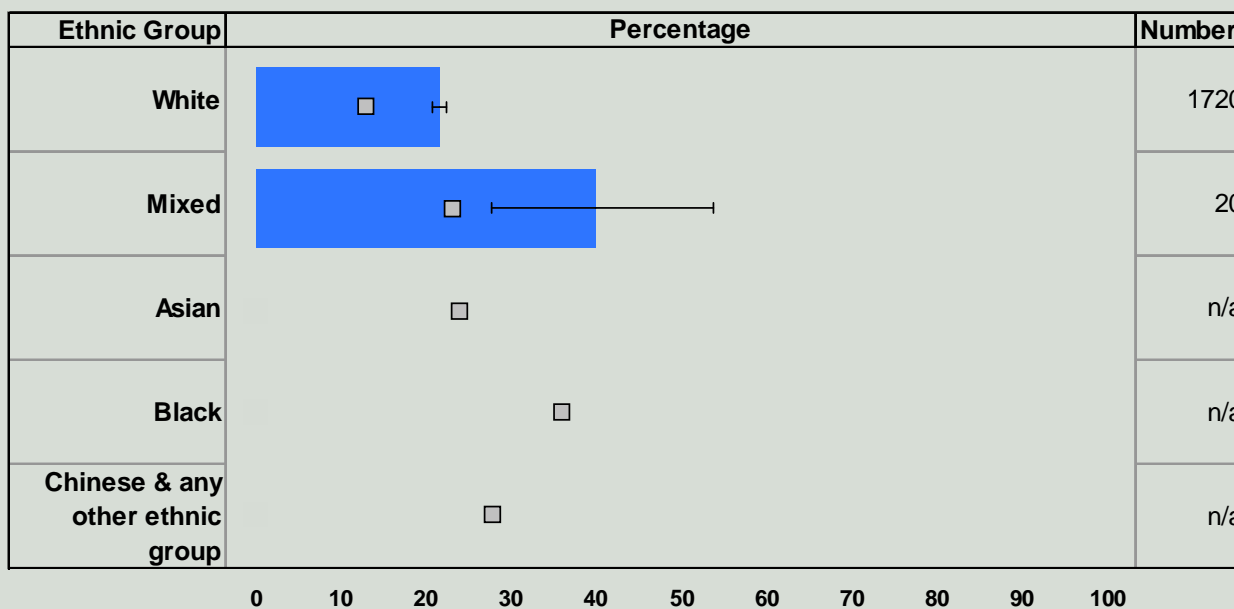
Trend 3: Early death rates from cancer



Health inequalities: ethnicity

This chart compares the percentage of children in each ethnic group who are eligible for free school meals (2007). Eligibility for free school meals is an indicator of deprivation, and people who suffer more deprivation tend to have poorer health. Comparing deprivation by ethnic group helps identify potential health inequalities between groups.

Percentage and number of children eligible for free school meals



Where the total school population in an ethnic group in the local authority is less than 30, no data have been presented and the number column shows n/a. Where the number is less than 5, no percentage is shown.

□ England - average
■ Wear Valley

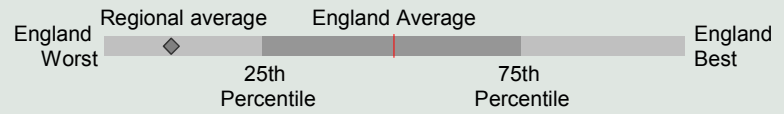
Confidence intervals are shown for local data

Health summary for Wear Valley

The chart below shows how people's health in this local authority compares to the rest of England. The local result for each indicator is shown as a circle, against the range of results for England which is shown as a bar. A green circle may still indicate an important public health problem.

- Significantly worse than England average
- Not significantly different from England average
- Significantly better than England average
- No significance can be calculated

* relates to National Indicator 2007



Domain	Indicator	Local No. Per Year	Local Value	Eng Avg	Eng Worst	England Range	Eng Best
Our communities	1 Deprivation	23009	37.0	19.9	89.2		0.0
	2 Children in poverty *	3248	27.6	22.4	66.5		6.0
	3 Statutory homelessness	117	4.1	4.4	14.4		0.0
	4 GCSE achievement (5 A*-C) *	494	62.3	60.1	35.8		82.7
	5 Violent crime	1149	18.5	19.3	38.9		4.5
	6 Carbon emissions *	468	7.6	7.6	20.6		4.6
Children and young people's health	7 Smoking in pregnancy	174	24.2	16.1	38.8		4.4
	8 Breast feeding initiation *	375	52.1	69.2	33.2		90.9
	9 Physically active children *	7456	91.4	85.7	63.3		99.2
	10 Obese children *	65	10.6	9.9	16.1		4.9
	11 Children's tooth decay (at age 5)	n/a		1.5	3.2		0.4
	12 Teenage pregnancy (under 18) *	64	51.8	41.1	83.1		12.5
Adults' health and lifestyle	13 Adults who smoke *	n/a	27.9	24.1	40.9		13.7
	14 Binge drinking adults	n/a	25.6	18.0	28.9		9.7
	15 Healthy eating adults	n/a	16.8	26.3	14.2		45.8
	16 Physically active adults	n/a	9.8	11.6	7.5		17.2
	17 Obese adults	n/a	26.1	23.6	31.2		11.9
Disease and poor health	18 Under-15s 'not in good health'	141	13.1	11.6	20.8		6.4
	19 Incapacity benefits for mental illness *	1580	41.9	27.5	68.6		8.4
	20 Hospital stays related to alcohol *	213	343.2	260.3	741.1		87.6
	21 Drug misuse	293	7.4	9.9	34.9		1.3
	22 People diagnosed with diabetes	2473	4.0	3.7	5.9		2.1
	23 Sexually transmitted infections						
	24 New cases of tuberculosis	4	6.0	15.0	102.0		0.0
	25 Hip fracture in over-65s	78	553.6	479.8	699.8		219.0
Life expectancy and causes of death	26 Life expectancy - male *	n/a	75.7	77.3	73.0		83.1
	27 Life expectancy - female *	n/a	79.1	81.6	78.3		87.2
	28 Infant deaths	6	7.8	5.0	10.3		0.0
	29 Deaths from smoking	142	277.7	225.4	355.0		139.4
	30 Early deaths: heart disease & stroke *	85	113.1	84.2	142.4		39.7
	31 Early deaths: cancer *	94	128.4	117.1	167.8		76.7
	32 Road injuries and deaths *	39	63.3	56.3	194.6		20.8

Note (numbers in bold refer to the above indicators)

1 % of people in this area living in 20% most deprived areas of England 2005 2 % of children living in families receiving means-tested benefits 2005 3 Crude rate per 1,000 households 2005-2006 4 % at Key Stage 4 2006-2007 5 Recorded violence against the person crimes (crude rate per 1,000 population) 2006-2007 6 Total end user CO2 emissions per capita (tonnes CO2 per resident) 2005 7 % of mothers smoking in pregnancy where status is known 2006-2007 8 % of mothers initiating breast feeding where status known 2006-2007 9 % 5-16 year olds who spend at least 2 hrs/wk on high quality PE and school sport 2006-2007 10 % Schoolchildren in Reception year. 2006-2007 11 Average (mean) number of teeth per child which were actively decayed, filled, or had been extracted (age 5) 2005-2006 12 Under-18 conception rate per 1,000 females (crude rate) 2004-2006 (provisional) 13 % Modelled estimate from Health Survey for England. 2003-2005 14 % Modelled estimate from Health Survey for England. 2003-2005 15 % Modelled estimate from Health Survey for England. 2003-2005 16 % aged 16+ 2005/06 17 % Modelled estimate from Health Survey for England. 2003-2005 18 % who self assessed general health as 'not good' (directly age standardised) 2001 19 Crude rate per 1,000 working age population. 2006 20 Directly age and sex standardised rate per 100,000 pop. 2006-2007 21 Crude rate per 1000 population aged 15-64. No significance calculated for lower tier authorities. 2004-2005 22 % of people on GP registers with a recorded diagnosis of diabetes. 2005-2006 23 Indicator blank as data not yet available for local authorities. 24 Per 100,000 population (3-year average crude rate) 2004-2006 25 Directly age-standardised rate for emergency admission 2006/07 26 At birth, years 2004-2006 27 At birth, years 2004-2006 28 Rate /1,000 live births 2004-06 29 Per 100,000 population age 35+, directly age standardised rate. 2004-2006 30 Directly age standardised rate/100,000 pop. under 75 2004-2006 31 Directly age standardised rate/100,000 pop. under 75 2004-2006 32 Per 100,000 population (3-year average crude rate) 2004-2006

For more information from your regional PHO, visit www.apho.org.uk

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AGENDA ITEM NO. 5

POLICY AND STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1 OCTOBER 2008

Report of the Acting Chief Executive

REQUEST TO FUND THE COUNDON LEEHOLME POST OFFICE

purpose of the report

1. To present a request by the Coundon and Leeholme Partnership for funding for a post office located in the Partnership's building.

background

2. The Post Office in Coundon has closed because of the ill health of the postmaster. The Coundon post office has been closed since February and the Leeholme Post Office had picked up the customers .
3. Leeholme Post Office closed in July along with the Eldon Lane, South Church and Kirk Merrington Post Offices, which are all within three miles of Coundon.
4. The Post Office Ltd is closing post offices across the country in a bid to save money and rationalize services across the remaining post offices. Several Post Offices across Wear Valley, including those near Coundon, have closed or will be closed from the change programme by Post Office Ltd.

policy context

5. The Post Office Network Change Programme that is being carried out across the Country.
6. The Local Government Reorganisation Process across the County is presenting a new approach to service delivery and access points across the County.
7. Essex County Council has developed a model for supporting post offices. The Post Office Ltd has supported their proposal as a model for other authorities and local communities.

proposal

8. Coundon and Leeholme Partnership would like £25,000 to start up the post office in the Partnership Building.
9. The money is needed to purchase the required equipment and modify the building to house the service. (See Annex B for a cost breakdown).

considerations

10. The service will be provided by the Partnership and they will arrange a rota of volunteers to run the post office. They have contacted the Post Office to negotiate an operating system that does not require an organisational structure based upon having a postmaster.
11. The partnership will need planning permission to undertake the changes to the building and this will take 8 weeks from the date plans are submitted to be approved. The plans have not yet been submitted.
12. The Partnership is putting £3000 towards the project.
13. The Partnership has not developed a detailed business case, although they have most of the information, because they want to wait until the council has a firm commitment to fund them before providing a business plan.
14. The Post Office has provided some statistics concerning the amount of foot traffic and service take up on the old post offices. This information will be provided with the business plan.
15. They have discussed with the County Council's Access to Services about putting an access point in the Post office and the County Council is interested but that depends on the post office being moved.
16. The Council needs to consider how it will support other post offices as the one in Rookhope faces closure. If we are to support one post office, we need to consider whether we can support more.
17. The Post Office Ltd following Essex County Council's model to support post offices, has published a guide for local authorities and community groups that want to take over post offices. Bear in mind that this post office is not on the closure list but is only closing because of the postmaster's ill health.
18. From a telephone conversation with the Partnership's Coordinator, they have said that they are requesting £25,000 to cover building works and purchase required equipments. They believe that the post office will be self financing after the first year and will not require further funds from the Council.
19. The Council has a responsibility to support its elderly and vulnerable groups within the district.
20. In many parts of Wear Valley, the sub-post office is an important community facility as well as a commercial business. The post office provides a vital interface between local residents and external services.
21. If the Council supported the post office, does it want to introduce other council services into the building as part of its deal? If it does, then it needs to consider the Essex Model for arranging services within the post offices.
22. If the Council supports this post office, does it set a precedent for other post offices in other wards? Even though the circumstances are different, it does raise the issue of equity across other wards who may face similar issues.
23. Is the Council in a position to fund and support other post offices? The Post Office, in its guidance to local authorities and community groups, recommends that all funding be committed for at least three years. We are only being asked for one year funding.

analysis

24. The Partnership has not presented a business plan so it is hard to make a recommendation on the evidence. What has been gathered is from a telephone conversation with the Partnership Coordinator.
25. Essex County Council has developed a model for supporting post offices, which is listed in paragraph 30. In addition to those, the Committee will want to understand the following issues before deciding to fund the post office.
 - Financial: Is this a viable operation that can be self-sustaining over three years? If we spend £25000 for something that fails within a year, is this money well spent?
 - Personnel: Who will run this and how the system will be operated and sustained? Initial enthusiasm can quickly wane.
 - Access to Services: The model presented by Essex County Council relies upon putting council services in the Post Office location. Durham County Council has designated a number of service points in the area like Bishop Auckland. A service point in Coundon could create issues regarding the LGR plans. If Coundon is to become a service point, how will this fit with LGR plans?
 - Business Volume: We do not know how much business will be generated through this site. The Partnership has suggested that additional income streams will be generated from other services alongside the Post Office services. Is it value for money to fund a few people when other people can benefit from the money elsewhere? Will the additional revenue be generated and will it be enough to contribute to the Post Office expenses?
26. Essex County Council (ECC) has developed a model to support post offices threatened with closure. Even though the Coundon post office is not being closed, the situation is similar.
27. They argued that for this type of 'community funding' to work effectively, a number of different services will be required to be available. ECC have determined the criteria and factors by which they have selected communities as necessary recipients of the service.
28. These include:
 - the lack of availability of the essential services that are considered to be at risk from either the closure or non-existence of an immediate Post Office® service (both Post Office® products/services and retail and other services, such as access to information)

(Essential Post Office services are available in Shildon and Bishop Auckland. The Coundon post office will cover other areas such as Dene Valley)
 - potential customer demand

(The Partnership has said that the Post Office will supply the statistics. They believe there is sufficient customer demand based upon the volume of traffic in the closed post offices.)

- supporting the needs of vulnerable groups

(The Partnership believes that a number of elderly and vulnerable people rely on this service. The Post Office will supply a customer profile.)

- availability of premises/Retailer-Partner and associated business plan

(The Partnership has a premises and it is waiting for the Council's funding before preparing a business plan.)

- assurance that any funding to a Retailer-Partner (including that which may already be in place) does not exceed the State Aid de-minimus level In addition, the Funding Party may wish to establish a set of factors to ensure the potential partner meets certain standards.

(The Partnership is in contact with the Post Office.)

29. Members will note that the ECC's criteria require a business plan, an awareness of what vulnerable groups are affected, and a lack of services provided elsewhere. However, none of this has been provided yet.
30. Wear Valley District Council is not in a position to locate services in the new partnership as the Essex County Council model requires. Therefore, Wear Valley District Council would be relying upon an initial payment to support the post office.

financial implications

31. The request is for £25000 as a one off payment to support start up costs, purchase necessary equipment, and modify the existing structure.
32. The partnership states that the previous Post Office in Coundon generated 22,675 per annum and they believe this amount will be generated by the reopened Post Office.

value for money

33. The post office may provide services to the vulnerable and the elderly but there is no evidence upon which to make an assessment. Members will want to consider if £25000 could support these groups in a different way.

option appraisal.

34. Option 1. Do nothing.
If the Council does not support the request, the post office remains closed and people continue to commute to Bishop Auckland and Shildon for their post office transactions. The downside is that vulnerable people have to travel and an important community service remains closed in the Coundon area. The opportunity to re-open a viable business is lost.

35. Option 2. Accept the request.
The Council spends £25000 for this post office. The upside is that service is provided to some elderly and vulnerable groups. A potential service point (pending the County Council's involvement) could be created in Coundon. An important community resource is returned to the Coundon area. A viable business is reopened in Coudon.
There are potential downside issues. First, the Council needs to consider the precedent it sets concerning other post offices that are closed. Second, it may have to make a similar payment to support other wards facing a related issue. (A youth centre closing or a service being removed.) Third, the post office may fail and the money is then not put to its best use. Fourth, the money could have been spent on a different project. Fifth, the Council could be seen to be supporting a bid that is not yet backed by a business plan.

conclusion

36. Coundon and Leeholme want to move the post office that was closed due to ill health into their partnership office. They want the Council to commit £25000 to them for initial start up costs and to purchase equipment required by the Post Office. The Partnership has not yet presented a business case to support their request.
37. Without a clear business case, it is difficult to offer a definitive recommendation to accept the request. If further evidence is presented, that shows the post office is a viable business, supports a significant number of elderly and vulnerable people, and does not draw business from other post offices, then it could be considered more favourably.

RECOMMENDED

1. That Members in principle decide to approve the request for £25000 pending the receipt of a robust, viable, and detailed business plan in order that the matter may be considered further:
2. That Members receive further reports as the matter progresses.

Officer responsible for the report

Gary Ridley
Chief Executive
Ext 306

Author of the report

Dr. Lawrence Serewicz
Policy and Partnership Manager
Ext. 311

Coundon Post Office - Start up costs

Expenditure Details	PO	CLCP
Alarm System		2400.00
PO Safe (1)		1783.00
Horizon System (2)		1600
Electrical Works-		2450.00
Telephone Line		106.37
Security Works		1800.00
Fortress screens (2)		6350.00
pedestals (2)		1300.00
Scales	electronic	610.18
Planning		335.00
Date Stamps (2)		122.20
CCTV		800.00
Signage external		750.00
Display Equipment		600.00
Licence Fee		6660.85
Computers		1500.00
Costs	0.00	29167.60
VAT		5104.33
Total Costs	0.00	34271.93
 Summary:		
Total Start up costs		£29,167.60
Post Office Contrib		£1,273.00
CLCP Contrib		£3,250.00
Total Funds Required		£24,644.50
VAT		£4,312.79



POLICY AND STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1 OCTOBER 2008

Report of the Strategic Director for Environment and Regeneration

AWARD OF COSTS IN RELATION TO APPEAL AGAINST REFUSAL OF PLANNING PERMISSION FOR CHANGE OF USE OF PART GROUND FLOOR AT 58 NEWGATE STREET, BISHOP AUCKLAND FOR BAKERY AND COFFEE SHOP TO ADULT GAMING CENTRE

J. NOBLE AND SONS LIMITED

introduction

1. On 23rd April 2008 a public inquiry was held to consider an appeal made by J. Noble and Sons Limited. On 11th June 2008 the Inspector issued his decision. He allowed the appeal. He considered the proposal would contribute positively to the variety of uses within the private shopping area, complementing its main retail function.
2. The Inspector also allowed an application from J. Noble and Sons Limited for an award of the costs of making the appeal. The Inspector concluded the Council had acted unreasonably in refusing planning permission which led to J. Noble and Sons Limited incurring unnecessary costs in pursuing the appeal.

costs

3. The solicitors acting for J. Noble and Sons Limited have submitted a claim for £21,429.48 plus VAT. In support of the claim receipts and invoices have been submitted to the Council which have been checked by officers and have been found to be in order.

reserves

4. The Acting Director of Resource Management has informed me that the unbudgeted expenditure can be financed from the Budget Support Fund within the Council's earmarked reserves.

RECOMMENDATION: that the claim of £21,429.48 plus VAT be agreed.

Background document: Inspector's decision letter dated 11th June 2008, submissions by Gosschalks Solicitors on behalf of J. Noble and Sons Limited.

Officer responsible for the report

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