

AGENDA

Page No

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. MINUTES

To confirm the decisions of the meeting held on 4 November 2014 (CA.39 - CA.43), previously circulated.

Resources Management

3. 2014/15 CAPITAL MONITORING AND TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID YEAR REVIEW

1 - 18

The purpose of the this report is to provide the quarter 2 update at 30 September 2014 on the progress of the capital programme 2014/15 and the treasury management position. A full schedule of the capital programme 2014/15 schemes is attached at Annex A of the report, together with the relevant update on progress of each scheme.

In accepting the recommendations, Cabinet will approve and recommend that Council approves the net decrease of £254,763 in the capital programme to £2,547,427 and the detailed capital programme attached at Annex A; approves all movements in the capital programme +/- £20,000, in accordance with financial regulations, as detailed in Annex B; notes the further overall increases in the capital programme which are individually below £20,000 as detailed in Annex B and cumulatively total £33,077; notes the Capital Funding position - contributions of £285,704, capital receipts of £857,707 and £1,404,016 capital reserves; notes the treasury management activity at Annex C; approves the changes to the investment credit ratings process methodology whereby viability, financial strength and support ratings will not be considered as key criteria in the choice of creditworthy investment counterparties; this will continue to ensure the security of the Council's funds and notes the prudential and treasury indicators at Annex E and that there were no changes at quarter 2 in the mid-year review.

Relevant Ward(s): All Wards

4. 2014/15 QUARTER 2 REVENUE MONITORING REPORT

19 - 24

This report provides an update on the revenue budget position of the Council and the reserve funds at the end of September 2014.

In accepting the recommendation, Cabinet will approve and recommend to Council the budget surplus of £1,178 as set out at paragraph 3.2 of the report and the return of funds to the One-Off Fund of £84,640 as set out at paragraph 6.4 of the report.

Relevant Ward(s): All Wards

5. "MAKE A DIFFERENCE" GRANTS FUND

25 - 30

An opportunity has arisen to re-invest windfall savings back into the community and this report seeks approval of a new one-off community grants scheme.

In accepting the recommendations, Cabinet will approve the new grants scheme and apply the criteria and timetable as set out in Annex A of the report and that the scheme be funded by an allocation of £125,000 from the One-Off Fund.

Relevant Ward(s): All Wards

6. BEDALE GATEWAY CAR PARK 31 - 36

This report provides feedback on the outcome of consultation that took place in October 2014 and provides a suggested response to the outcome.

In accepting the recommendations, the Gateway Car Park project will be deferred; the Capital Programme will be adjusted accordingly and a further report will be presented after the relief road has opened and an additional sum of £212,000 will be included in the Capital Programme.

Relevant Ward(s): Bedale

7. RURAL HOUSING ENABLING 2015-18 37 - 40

This report seeks approval for the Council's continued participation in the North Yorkshire Rural Housing Enabler Programme from 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2018 which is based on a slightly amended business model to the current programme. It also seeks approval for the Council to continue to act as lead employer for the sub-regional team of Rural Housing Enablers.

In accepting the recommendations, the Council's continued participation in the North Yorkshire Rural Housing Enabler Programme post 31 March 2015, based on the amended business model will be approved and the Council will continue to act as lead employer for the sub-regional team of Rural Housing Enablers.

Relevant Ward(s): All Wards

Policy and Strategy

8. SETTLEMENT HIERARCHY AND HOUSING DEVELOPMENT IN THE RURAL AREAS - DRAFT INTERIM POLICY GUIDANCE NOTE 41 - 60

This report seeks approval of an Interim Policy Guidance Note which has been prepared for consultation purposes to guide the Council in considering planning applications for new housing development in and around smaller settlements of the District's Plan Area.

In accepting the recommendation, the Draft Interim Policy Guidance Note on the Settlement Hierarchy and Rural Housing Development will be approved for public consultation.

Relevant Ward(s): All Wards outside the North York Moors National Park

Policy Implementation

9. HAMBLETON ECONOMIC STRATEGY 2014-2024 61 - 72

This report seeks approval for the final version of the Hambleton Economic Strategy and Investment Plan 2014-2024, attached as Annex A to the report.

In accepting the recommendation, Cabinet will approve and recommend to Council that the Hambleton Economic Strategy and Investment Plan 2014-2024 be adopted.

Relevant Ward(s): All Wards

10. SOWERBY SPORTS VILLAGE

73 - 76

Through a long history of negotiations the Council has signed a S106 Agreement in relation to the South West Thirsk housing area. This report relates to the off-site recreational scheme and sets out progress with the delivery of this element which covers the transfer of 9.745 acres of land and £1.5 million.

In accepting the recommendation, the progress on the Sowerby Sports Village will be noted and the next steps will be approved.

Relevant Ward(s): Sowerby

11. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

To consider passing a resolution under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 excluding the press and public from the meeting during consideration of item 12 on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

12. LAND AT GALTRES CENTRE, EASINGWOLD

77 - 80

This report sets out the current position regarding the disposal of land at the Galtres Centre, Easingwold.

Relevant Ward(s): Easingwold

HAMBLETON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report To: Cabinet
2 December 2014

Subject: 2014/15 Q2 CAPITAL MONITORING AND TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID YEAR REVIEW REPORT

All Wards
Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Finance: Councillor P R Wilkinson

1.0 PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the quarter 2 update at 30 September 2014 on the progress of the capital programme 2014/15 and the treasury management position. A full schedule of the capital programme 2014/15 schemes is attached at Annex A, together with the relevant update on progress of each scheme.
- 1.2 Capital expenditure is intrinsically linked with treasury management as the way that the capital programme is funded, directly effects the treasury management arrangements of the Council. This Council currently does not borrow for a capital purpose; instead capital expenditure is funded by grants, receipts and reserves. The use of the Council's funds affects the daily treasury management cash flow position, the requirement to investment these surplus funds and the income earned.

2.0 CAPITAL PROGRAMME SUMMARY:

- 2.1 The 2014/15 capital programme was approved by Cabinet at quarter 1 on 2 September 2014 at £2,802,190.
- 2.2 A net decrease to the capital programme of £258,763 is detailed in this Quarter 2 monitor that results in a revised capital programme budget of £2,543,427. The Capital programme is attached at Annex A.
- 2.3 The net decrease of £258,763, to be approved in this report, is made up of:-
 (a) decrease in expenditure from re-profiling of £331,000 from this year to 2015/16
 (b) increase in expenditure of £74,216 supported from Council reserves;
 (c) reduction in scheme expenditure of £1,979.
- 2.4 Table 1 below outlines the variances reported against each portfolio area.

Portfolio	Current Approved Expenditure Q1 £	Revised projected Outturn Q2 £	Variance Increase/ (decrease) £	Budget re-profiled (to) 2015/16 £	Request for additional funding £	Funding no longer required £
Environmental & Planning Services	321,379	340,029	18,650	-	18,650	-
Customer & Leisure	877,347	587,068	(290,279)	(331,000)	42,700	(1979)
Support Services	1,603,464	1,616,330	12,866	-	12,866	-
Total	2,802,190	2,543,427	(258,763)	(331,000)	74,216	(1,979)

Table 1: Capital Programme Q2 2014/15

2.5 To 30 September 2014 capital expenditure of £568,936 had been incurred or committed representing 22.4% of the revised Q2 capital programme position. Schemes are under development and at Q3 an increase volume of works are expected to be committed prior to the end of the financial year.

2.6 The proposed changes to the Capital Programme, detailed for each of the 3 portfolio areas, are attached at Annex B.

3.0 FUNDING THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME:

3.1 For 2014/15, at Quarter 2, the capital programme of £2,543,427 is being funded from £285,704 external grants/contributions and £2,257,723 from reserves.

3.2 The external grants contributions of £285,704 are £166,277 Government Grant for Disabled Facilities grant, £50,000 S106 funding towards Sowerby Sports Village, £19,000 towards Hambleton All Weather Pitch and £50,427 as a result of 46% of the Bedale All Weather Pitch scheme being funded by a contribution from the Football Foundation

3.3 The capital receipts estimated to be received during 2014/15 is £857,707.

3.4 Therefore at year end in accordance with accounting practice the capital programme will be financed using all available in year funding prior to using the Council's reserves. At quarter 2 it is estimated that £1,400,016 of reserve funding will be used from the capital receipts or unapplied grants reserves.

3.5 The overall funding position continues to be closely monitored to ensure the overall capital programme remains affordable and sustainable over the 10 year approved capital plan. Analysis of the funding of the 10 year capital programme will be provided along with the financial strategy and Capital Programme 2015/16, when approval is required prior to the beginning of the new financial year.

3.6 It should be noted that this report reflects the capital programme position at Q2 as if approval has been agreed by Cabinet. This is detailed in the recommendations below.

4.0 TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID YEAR REVIEW 2014/15

4.1 The Treasury Management Mid-Year 2014/15 is attached at Annex C and provides Members with an update on the:

- (a) treasury management position
- (b) economy and interest rates
- (c) annual investment strategy
- (d) investment performance
- (e) borrowing position
- (f) Compliance with prudential and treasury indicators

4.2 The annual investment strategy has changed in this mid-year review in relation to the credit rating agencies approach to credit ratings criteria. The three main rating agencies (Fitch, Moody's and Standard & Poor's) have, through much of the financial crisis, provided some institutions with a ratings "uplift" due to implied levels of sovereign support. More recently, in response to the evolving regulatory regime, the agencies have indicated they may remove these "uplifts", making part of the agencies approach to credit ratings redundant.

4.3 The credit rating agencies have Long and Short Term rates to define their credit ratings and in addition Support, Financial Strength and Viability ratings. It is these later categories that are now redundant. The change in this process may occur during this financial year, although the actual timing of the changes is still subject to discussion; however, this does mean immediate changes are required to the credit methodology in this report.

- 4.4 As a result of these rating agency changes, this element of Capita Asset Services (the Council's treasury management advisers) future credit rating methodology will focus solely on the Short and Long Term ratings of an institution. Rating Watch and Outlook information will continue to be assessed where it relates to these categories. This is the same process for Standard & Poor's that has always been taken, but a change to the use of Fitch and Moody's ratings. Further, the credit rating process will continue to utilise Credit Default Swap prices (as has been the case in the past) as an overlay to ratings in the new methodology.
- 4.5 The investment position at Quarter 2 was £30,070,000 with an average interest rate return of 0.79%; this was 0.44% higher than the 7 day market rate at 0.35%. When comparing this with District Councils at 0.69% that are monitored by Capita Asset Services, the Council's return was 0.10% greater. For surplus funds invested for 3 months or more, a return of 0.85% was achieved which was 0.43% greater than the 3 month benchmark at 0.42%.
- 4.6 The interest rate environment continues to offer investment market rates of return around the Base Rate level of 0.5%. There is some volatility in the market due to the uncertainty as to when the Base Rate will rise due to the global economic environment. Market volatility offers opportunities to seek out higher rates of investment return above Base Rate. The interest earned in 2014/15 is estimated at £300,000 and this is being closely monitored and further information will be provided at Q3. Further information on the economic environment and interest rates is attached at Annex D.
- 4.7 The Council remains debt free; no borrowing has been taken in 2014/15.
- 4.8 The Council has operated within the treasury and prudential indicators set out at Annex E. The Director of Resources – S151 Officer - confirms that the approved limits within the Annual Investment Strategy were not breached during the first six months of 2013/14.

5.0 LINK TO COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

- 5.1 All schemes approved as part of the capital programme have been evaluated against key corporate priorities. Schemes are only undertaken and approved by cabinet in accordance with the Council Plan and supporting project initiation documentation.
- 5.2 Treasury Management supports all aspects of the Council's priorities as with good management of surplus funds, investment interest earned can be used to support Council services.

6.0 RISK ASSESSMENT:

- 6.1 There are two main risk associated with the capital programme and treasury management:-

Risk	Implication	Prob	Imp	Total	Preventative action
Capital budgets are not monitored, expenditure is above budget and the funding position is unknown	The Council is unable to control capital expenditure or redirect resources to priority areas	3	5	15	Continue with regular budget monitoring with regular reports to Chief Officers, Management team and Members

Risk	Implication	Prob	Imp	Total	Preventative action
Treasury management investment of surplus funds occurs with unsound institutions	The value of the investment could be lost	3	5	15	Use of treasury management advisers, good investment creditworthiness rating criteria policy approved by Council and regular monitoring reporting to Members

Prob = Probability, Imp = Impact, Score range is Low = 1, High = 5

7.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

7.1 The financial implications are dealt with in the body of the report.

8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

8.1 Treasury Management activities and the Capital programme conform to the Local Government Act 2003 and the Council has adopted the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Prudential Code and the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice.

9.0 EQUALITY/DIVERSITY ISSUES:

9.1 The capital programme seeks to address key equality issues that affect the Council and the public. The main scheme that specifically addressed equalities in the capital programme 2014/15 is the disabled facilities grant scheme.

10.0 RECOMMENDATIONS:

10.1 It is recommended that Cabinet approves and recommends that Council:-

- (1) approve the net decrease of £258,763 in the capital programme to £2,543,427 and the detailed capital programme attached at Annex A;
- (2) approve all movements in the capital programme +/- £20,000, in accordance with financial regulations, as detailed in Annex B and below:
 - a. the increase in capital expenditure of £36,700 for the Footpath Diversion and & Car Park Creation at Leeming Bar.
 - b. the decrease in expenditure from re-profiling of £131,000 from this year to 2015/16 for Hambleton All Weather pitch
 - c. the decrease in expenditure from re-profiling £200,000 from this year to 2015/16 for Leisure Equipment
- (3) note the further overall increases in the capital programme which are individually below £20,000 as detailed in Annex B and cumulatively total £35,537;
- (4) note the Capital Funding position - contributions of £285,704, capital receipts of £857,707 and £1,400,016 capital reserves;
- (5) note the treasury management activity at Annex C ;
- (6) approve the changes to the investment credit ratings process methodology whereby viability, financial strength and support ratings will not be considered as key criteria in the choice of creditworthy investment counterparties; this will continue to ensure the security of the Council's funds; and

- (7) note the prudential and treasury indicators at Annex E and that there were no changes at quarter 2 in the mid-year review.

JUSTIN IVES

Background papers: None

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030913 201314 Q1 CapitalMonitoring+TreasuryMgmt

Ref.	Responsible Officer	Title	Capital Programme Schemes 2014/15 (including 2013/14 schemes B/Fwd)		Approved Changes at Q1 2014/15	Approved Expenditure Revised at Q1 2014/15	Third Party Contribution	Cost to the Council	Expenditure at 30/9/14	Anticipated Expenditure £	Variance	Change in Funding Taken/(Returned) to Capital Reserve	Estimated completion date	Explanation
			Original Approved Expenditure 14/15	Schemes rolled Fwd from 2013/14										
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£			
		Environmental & Planning Services												
1	MJ	Purchase of bins and boxes for refuse and recycling	36,000		36,000		36,000	21,783	36,000	0	0			Budget will be spent by year end. Final Orders placed. The budget is predicted to be fully spent this year. There has been a change in the agent for this service to Swale Housing Improvement Agency. Currently £175k has been spent or committed.
13	MJ	Disabled Facilities Grants	150,000	80,379	230,379	100,000	130,379	59,587	230,379	0	-66,277			Increase in funding £8k requested for approval at Q2 Cabinet. This scheme has changed to fully meet the operational needs of Waste and Street Scene. The ground works extents have increased as the whole of the existing washbay will now need to be removed. An additional splash screen has been included to ensure better protection for spray drift. Frost protection to the water supply and additional works to the washing equipment are now included in the scheme. Works due to commence 1 December 2014.
B/Fwd	MJ	Waste & Street Scene Clocking System		18,000	18,000		18,000	0	26,000	8,000	8,000			Anticipated completion date is February 2015, scheme out to tender.
B/Fwd	MJ	Central depot external lighting improvements		9,000	9,000		9,000	15,460	20,000	0	0			Project 95% complete, awaiting the completion of the Depot Wash Bay to complete the scheme, anticipated completion date is January 2015.
11	MJ	Central Depot - Security Fencing	20,000		20,000		20,000	15,460	20,000	0	0			Tender documentation being prepared. Works due to commence in January 2015.
12	MJ	Idox Performance Management Software - Planning	8,000		8,000		8,000	0	8,000	0	0			Increased funding of £10,650 to be approved at Q2. The software (a) gives planning officers an overview of their work and identifies priorities; and (b) creates management reports on individual and team performance. The software supports cultural change, leading to more extensive and more effective performance management and creating opportunities for pro-active self-management.
	MJ	Total Scheme Value Environmental & Planning Services Customer & Leisure Services	214,000	107,379	321,379	100,000	221,379	96,841	340,029	10,650	10,650			
	DG	Thirk and Sowerby leisure centre improvement scheme		36,227	36,227		36,227	10,258	36,227	0	0			Retention monies. Continued negotiation with contractor to rectify poor work. HDC Legal services now involved
	DG	Thirk & Sowerby Sports Village	0		50,000	50,000	0	30,550	50,000	0	0			Funded by section 106 as agreed at December cabinet. Conditions survey complete, Planning Application submitted.
	DG	Stolesley Leisure Centre improvement scheme	0	4,349	4,349	0	4,349	4,349	4,349	0	4,349			Retention monies. Continued negotiation with contractor to rectify poor work. HDC Legal services now involved. Slight increase in Budget approved at Q1.
B/Fwd	DG	Bedale Leisure centre improvement scheme		203,296	203,296		203,296	192,427	203,296	0	-50,427			Outdoor floodlit pitch - Work completed. Football Foundation has also provided 46% of the pitch funding at £50,427, therefore Capital reserve returned. Scheme Complete, invoices to be settled.
B/Fwd	DG	CCTV Control Room Upgrade		3,835	3,835		3,835	0	3,835	0	0			Schema is ongoing
B/Fwd	DG	CCTV control room upgrade - Wireless Network		71,000	71,000		71,000	0	71,000	0	0			The Project Initiation Document continues to be developed
B/Fwd	DG	Thirk New TIC		1,337	1,337		1,337	0	1,337	0	0			Retention monies
B/Fwd	DG	Bedale Craft Yard Window		3,975	3,975		3,975	3,975	3,975	0	0			Works complete
B/Fwd	DG	Evolution Car Park Extension		7,000	7,000		7,000	5,021	5,021	-1,979	-1,979			Works complete. Remaining budget will be returned to the Capital reserve.
	DG	Workspaces - roller shutter doors	0		9,005		9,005	0	9,005	0	9,005			New doors being installed to increase efficiency, reduced costs and bring doors up to recommended standards for Health & Safety. Approved at Q1 cabinet September 2014. The bulk of the work has been completed and the scheme will be finalised at the end of November 2014.
2	DG	Footpath Diversion & Car Park Creation Leeming Bar	200,000		200,000	200,000	0	0	0	-200,000	0			Increased funding of £36,700 to be approved at Q2. Opportunity to create this car park and assist economic growth of the area. Revenue savings of £4,100 have been included in the revenue budget 15/16.
	DG	17 Market Place Bird Netting			6,000		6,000		6,000	6,000	6,000			Increased funding of £6,000 to improve the damaged building and address H&S issues.
2	DG	Leisure Equipment Lease Buy	200,000		200,000	200,000	0	0	0	-200,000	0			ROLL FWD 15/16. This will form part of the North Northallerton plans which are currently at consultation stage. Full consideration will be given as this project progresses. Presently liaising with Sport England on external funding which will influence when work will be undertaken.
10	DG	Customer Services Web/Intranet Development	100,000		100,000		100,000	25,900	100,000	0	0			This project is expected to deliver during 2014/15 and approval was given at Outturn 15/07/14 Cabinet for £12,210 of this funding to have been utilised during 2013/14. Expected delivery March 2015.
14	DG	Hambleton All Weather Pitch Refurbishment	131,000		131,000	19,000	112,000	0	11,000	-131,000	0			ROLL FWD 15/16. This will form part of the North Northallerton plans which are currently at consultation stage. Full consideration will be given as this project progresses. Presently liaising with Sport England on external funding which will influence when work will be undertaken.
15	DG	Stolesley All Weather Pitch Refurbishment	11,000		11,000		11,000	0	11,000	0	0			Minor works - not yet started. Due later 14/15.
16	DG	Hambleton Leisure Centre Improvement Scheme	20,000	15,323	35,323		35,323	0	35,323	0	0			Preparatory works for studio (remaining budget in 15/16). Some expenditure incurred on initial assessment/schematics. Scheme needs to take consideration of North Northallerton project and potential for external grant funding. Not yet started
	DG	Hambleton Leisure Centre Fence	0		10,000		10,000	13	10,000	0	10,000			Work completed - awaiting invoices
		Total Scheme Value Customer & Leisure Services Support Services	462,000	341,993	877,347	269,000	608,347	272,493	587,068	-290,279	13,648			

Ref.	Responsible Officer	Title	Original Approved Expenditure 14/15	Schemes rolled Fwd from 2013/14	Approved Changes at Q1 2014/15	Approved Expenditure at Q1 2014/15	Third Party Contribution	Cost to the Council	Expenditure at 30/9/14	Anticipated Expenditure £	Variance	Change in Funding Taken/(Returned) to Capital Reserve	Estimated completion date	Explanation
B/Fwd	Jl	Air conditioning - legislative requirement Corporate	15000	11,862		26,862		26,862		26,862	0			Scheme on-going, review of air conditioning units to identify those in need of priority, included in 10 year plan as an ongoing scheme for 3 years.
B/Fwd	Jl	Public lighting energy reductions		31,088		31,088		31,088	18,727	31,088	0			Part nigh complete for Public Lighting awaiting invoices. Car parks still to consider, budget predicted to be spent.
4	Jl	Public lighting replacement	51,000	18,816		69,816		69,816	0	69,816	0			Concrete programmed replacement columns to go ahead as well as every day renewals from aging stock, budget predicted to be spent.
5	Jl	Civic Centre - Carpet Replacement	10,000		7,000	17,000		17,000	6,915	17,000	0	7,000		Work complete, awaiting invoices
6	Jl	Civic Centre - Internal Painting	6,000			6,000		6,000	5,999	6,000	0			Complete
7	Jl	Civic Centre - Window Replacements	10,000			10,000		10,000	0	10,000	0			Members wing to be completed by end of October 14 with rest of programme to be completed by year end.
8	Jl	Civic Centre - Backup Generator	40,000			40,000		40,000	0	40,000	0			Generator ordered, installation planned as per revised programme.
9	Jl	ICT Improvements	187,030			187,030		187,030	34,480	187,030	0			Complete (world to Windows Server migration, infrastructure refresh complete. LIVE SQL 2012 has been set up. Irent decision to be made,
	DG	All Leisure Centres - Digital Transaction Software	24,000			24,000		24,000	0	24,000	0			Complete purchase order, start project
	Jl	ICT Leisure Improvements	105,670			105,670		105,670	2,375	105,670	0			This will form part of additional capital funded support from ICT. Project started and will be delivered in phases. Current stage is Server preparation, w-f installation in Leisure Centres.
	Jl	ICT Information Security/Compliance	6,300			6,300		6,300	0	6,300	0			The legislative PCN requirements to be completed as highlighted in the Health Check report.
	Jl	ICT Customer Excellence	76,000			76,000		76,000	0	76,000	0			Cloud based responsive eform package has been enabled, start work on eform migration. Further integration work is being identified.
18	Jl	ICT Finance system split from Richmondshire District Council	0		60,000	60,000		60,000	38,078	60,000	0	60,000		Decision for the Finance system to be split as part of the repatriation from Richmondshire District Council. New Licences and 20 days of consultancy work required. Approval required at Q1 from Cabinet September 2014.
19	Jl	Car Park Restatements	45,000			45,000		45,000	0	45,000	0			Tender documentation to be issued in October. On Site in November 2014
20	Jl	Car Parks - Thirsk Cobbles	75,000	14,348		89,348		89,348	93,028	95,754	6,406	6,406		Work complete £2,726 retention to be paid in 2015/16. Additional funding requested to ensure all cobbles were completed under phase 2 of the scheme, as some cobbles were in worse condition than originally anticipated.
21	Jl	Bedale Gateway Car Park	160,000			160,000		160,000	0	160,000	0			Work on Scheme documentation suspended, local consultation to be undertaken on principle of car park due to commence in October
22	Jl	Adoptions - Thirsk Phases 2 & 3	200,000			200,000		200,000	0	200,000	0			Liaison started with NYCC on scheme requirements.
	Jl	Adoptions - Electric Bollards - Thirsk & Northallerton	40,000			40,000		40,000	0	40,000	0			Liaison started with NYCC to commence on scheme detail in early August.
	Jl	Thirsk Market Place Central Area Enhancement	0		10,000	10,000		10,000	0	10,000	0	14,000		Street Furniture ordered - works to be completed in October
N/A	Jl	Structural Repair to Civic Centre Roof Revenue Repairs & Renewals	399,350			399,350		399,350		6,460	6,460	6,460		Structural damage to the Civic Centre roof has resulted in a longstanding leak in the dormer area in room 308 that leaks into room 223. The scheme requires an investigation and for scaffolding to be erected so a formal assessment can be made. Previous attempts have failed to stop the leak.
		Total Scheme Support Services	1,450,350	76,114	77,000	1,603,464	0	1,603,464	199,602	1,616,330	12,866	33,866		Revenue Repair & Renewals funded from Reserves
		Total Capital Approvals 2014/15	2,126,350	525,486	150,354	2,802,190	369,000	2,433,190	568,936	2,543,427	-258,763	59,887		

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME:

- 1.1 The proposed changes to the capital programme, detailed for each of the portfolio areas are listed below:
- 1.2 Environmental & Planning Services - 2 schemes require adjustment at Quarter 2:-
- (a) Depot-Washbay – Increase of £8,000 is required as this scheme has changed to fully meet the operational needs of Waste and Street Scene. The ground works extents have increased as the whole of the existing washbay will now need to be removed. An additional splash screen has been included to ensure better protection for spray drift, also frost protection to the water supply and additional works to the washing equipment Works due to commence 1 December 2014.
 - (b) Performance Management Software - Funding of £10,650 is requested to be approved at Q2. The software (a) gives planning officers an overview of their work and identifies priorities; and (b) creates management reports on individual and team performance. The software supports cultural change, leading to more extensive and more effective performance management and creating opportunities for pro-active self-management.
- 1.4 Customer & Leisure Services - 5 schemes require adjustment at Quarter 2:
- (a) Evolution Car Park Extension – Funding of £1,979 is no longer required for this scheme and is to be returned to the capital reserve.
 - (b) Footpath Diversion & Car Park Creation Leeming Bar - Increased funding of £36,700 to be approved at Q2. Opportunity to create this car park and assist economic growth of the area. Revenue savings of £4,100 have been included in the revenue budget 15/16.
 - (c) 17 Market Place Bird Netting - Increased funding of £6,000 to be approved at Q2. This scheme is required to improve the damaged building and address H&S issues...
 - (d) Leisure Equipment – Approval is sort at Q2 to re-profile this scheme in to 2015/16. This scheme will form part of the North Northallerton plans which are currently at consultation stage. Full consideration will be given as this project progresses. Presently liaising with Sport England on external funding which will influence when work will be undertaken.
 - (e) Hambleton All Weather Pitch Refurbishment Approval is sort at Q2 to re-profile this scheme in to 2015/16. The reason is as (d) above.
- 1.5 Support Services– 2 schemes require adjustment at Quarter 2:-
- (a) Car Parks - Thirsk Cobbles – This projected is now completed and additional expenditure is required at £6,406. Additional funding is requested to ensure all cobbles were completed under phase 2 of the scheme, as some cobbles were in worse condition than originally anticipated
 - (b) Structural Repair to Civic Centre Roof – Additional of funding at £6,460 is requested for approval at Q2. Structural damage to the Civic Centre roof has resulted in a longstanding leak in the dormer area in room 308 that leaks into room 223. The scheme requires an investigation and for scaffolding to be erected so a formal assessment can be made. Previous attempts have failed to stop the leak
- 1.6 Capital schemes are monitored on a monthly basis and reported to Cabinet quarterly, ensuring that the majority of schemes are held within budget or reported to Council at the earliest opportunity.
- 1.7 New Schemes added to the capital programme all have supporting Project Initiation Documentation to ensure projects are affordable, sustainable and prudent.

TREASURY MANAGEMENT POSITION 2014/15 – QUARTER 2**1.0 LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENT:**

- 1.1 The Council operates a balanced budget, which broadly means cash raised during the year will meet its cash expenditure. Part of the treasury management operations ensure this cash flow is adequately planned, with surplus monies being invested in low risk counterparties, providing adequate liquidity initially before considering optimising investment return.
- 1.2 The second main function of the treasury management service is the funding of the Council's capital plans. These capital plans provide a guide to the borrowing need of the Council, essentially the longer term cash flow planning to ensure the Council can meet its capital spending operations. This management of longer term cash may involve arranging long or short term loans, or using longer term cash flow surpluses, and on occasion any debt previously drawn may be restructured to meet Council risk or cost objectives.
- 1.3 Accordingly, treasury management is defined as:
- “The management of the local authority's investments and cash flows, its banking, money market and capital market transactions; the effective control of the risks associated with those activities; and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks.”
- 1.4 The CIPFA (Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy) Code of Practice for Treasury Management recommends that members be updated on treasury management activities regularly (Treasury Management Strategy Statement, Annual and Mid-year reports, as well as quarterly updates). This report therefore ensures this Council is implementing best practice in accordance with the Code.
- 1.5 The regulatory environment places responsibility on members for the review and scrutiny of treasury management policy and activities. This Mid-year report therefore
- (a) updates Members on the current treasury management position
- (b) updates Members on the changes to the main rating agencies (Fitch, Moody's and Standard & Poor's approach to credit ratings).
- 1.6 The Council's capital expenditure plans at quarter 2 continue to be financed by either external grants or contributions, capital receipts received in the year or capital reserves. The changes in the capital expenditure plans as detailed in the first half of this report are not financed by borrowing and do not affect the Council's underlying need to borrow.
- 1.7 In 2014/15 the Council's treasury position (excluding finance leases) is to continue to be debt free. No borrowing has been taken in 2014/15 to date.
- 1.8 The capital financing requirement, which is the amount of borrowing required to support the capital expenditure programme, is zero for this Council. All capital expenditure as detailed in the paragraphs above is supported from grants, contributions and reserves. The following table shows the treasury management position as at 30 September 2014:

	30 Sept 14	Rate
	£000's	%
Capital Financing Requirement	0	
Borrowing	0	0.0
Investments	30,070	0.79

Table 1: Borrowing and Investment position at 30 September 2014

1.9 The table shows that changes in the capital expenditure programme only affects the treasury management position through the surplus funds that are available to the Council to invest, to earn investment income.

2.0 THE ECONOMY, INTEREST RATES AND TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY:

2.1 The economic background, interest rate forecast and summary outlook, which sets the environment in which the Council's treasury management operates is attached at Annex D.

3.0 ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2014/15 – Mid Year Review Quarter 2:

3.1 **Investment Policy** – the Council's investment policy is governed by the Department for Communities and Local Government guidance, which was implemented in the Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) for 2014/15, and includes the Annual Investment Strategy approved by Cabinet on 11 February 2014. This Policy sets out how surplus funds are invested and placed with highly credit rated financial institutions, using Capita Asset Services suggested credit-worthiness approach. This includes the use of Country sovereign credit ratings as well as individual financial institution credit ratings and Credit Default Swap (CDS) overlay information provided by Capita Asset Services.

3.2 The main rating agencies (Fitch, Moody's and Standard & Poor's) have, through much of the financial crisis, provided some institutions with a ratings "uplift" due to implied levels of sovereign support. More recently, in response to the evolving regulatory regime, the agencies have indicated they may remove these "uplifts". This process may commence during this financial year. The actual timing of the changes is still subject to discussion, but this does mean immediate changes to the credit methodology are required.

3.3 It is important to stress that the rating agency changes do not reflect any changes in the underlying status of the institution or credit environment, merely the implied level of support that has been built into ratings through the financial crisis. The eventual removal of implied Government support will only take place when the regulatory and economic environments have ensured that financial institutions are much stronger and less prone to failure in a financial crisis.

3.4 Both Fitch and Moody's provide "standalone" credit ratings for financial institutions. For Fitch, it is the Viability Rating, while Moody's has the Financial Strength Rating. Due to the future removal of sovereign support from institution assessments, both agencies have suggested going forward that these will be in line with their respective Long Term ratings. As such, there is no point monitoring both Long Term and these "standalone" ratings.

3.5 Furthermore, Fitch has already begun assessing its Support ratings, with a clear expectation that these will be lowered to 5, which is defined as "A bank for which there is a possibility of external support, but it cannot be relied upon." With all institutions likely to drop to these levels, there is little to no differentiation to be had by assessing Support ratings.

3.6 As a result of these rating agency changes, the credit element of our future methodology will focus solely on the Short and Long Term ratings of an institution. Rating Watch and Outlook information will continue to be assessed where it relates to these categories. This is the same process for Standard & Poor's that has always been taken, but is a change to the use of Fitch and Moody's ratings. Further, the credit rating process will continue to utilise Credit Default Swap prices as an overlay to ratings in the new methodology.

3.7 The treasury management strategy statement and annual investment strategy sets out the Council's investment priorities as being:-

- Security of capital;
- Liquidity;
- Yield

3.8 The Council's priority is security of its surplus funds when investing with financial institutions. However the Council will always aim to achieve the optimum return (yield) on investments in line with its risk appetite and which is commensurate with proper levels of liquidity and of course security.

3.9 **Investments held by the Council** - in the current economic climate, it is a very difficult investment market in terms of earning the level of interest rates commonly seen in previous decades as rates are very low and in line with the 0.5% Bank Rate. Indeed, the Funding for Lending scheme has reduced market investment rates even further. The potential for a prolonging of the Eurozone sovereign debt crisis, and its impact on banks, prompts a low risk and short term strategy. Given this risk environment, investment returns are likely to remain low for the foreseeable future.

3.10 The average level of funds available for investment purposes during quarter 2 – 30 September 2014 - was £30,858,880. The level of funds available was mainly dependent on the timing of precept payments, receipt of grants and progress on the Capital Programme. The Council held core cash balances of £28,000,000 at Quarter 2 and £2,070,000 cash flow movement balances. Total investment balance at 30 September 2014 was £30,070,000.

3.11

Benchmark	Benchmark Return	Council Performance	Investment Interest Earned
7 day	0.35%	0.50%	£13,786
3 month	0.42%	0.85%	£108,308

Table 2: Investment performance for quarter 2 – latest information 30 September 2014

3.12 The table shows that the Council monitors its core cash against 3 month LIBID – London Inter bank Investment Rates – and its cash flow investments against the 7 day rate. The Council outperformed the 3 month benchmark by 0.43% and the 7 day benchmark by 0.15%

3.9 The Council's budgeted investment return for 2014/15 was approved at £300,000, this is being closely monitored and further information will be provided at quarter 3.

4.0 BORROWING 2014/15 – Mid Year Review Quarter 2

4.1 The following borrowing information is provided to ensure Members are updated with the interest rates available for borrowing and are kept informed with regards to the current position. Capita Asset Services – the Council's treasury management advisers – 25 year PWLB target rate for new long term borrowing for quarter 4 2014/15 has decreased by 0.1% to 3.90% and for 5 years has decreased by 0.2% to 2.50%.

4.2 As outlined below, the general trend has been a decrease in interest rates during the last six months across longer dated maturity bands, but a rise in the shorter maturities; this reflects in part the expected rise in the Bank rate.

4.3 The table below shows the Public Works Loans Board interest rates which were available for loans during quarter 2 of 2014/15. The Public Works Loans Board is the mechanism by which the Government allows local authorities to borrow at slightly lower interest rates than are available to other institutions. Certainty rates, as detailed in the table, are interest rates available to local authorities if they inform the Government of their borrowing requirements at the beginning of the financial year and are 0.02% (or 20 basis points) below Public Works Loans Board rates. This was introduced by the Government in October 2012.

	1 Year	5 Year	10 Year	25 Year	50 Year
Low	1.20%	2.48%	3.16%	3.74%	3.72%
Date	08/04/2014	28/08/2014	28/08/2014	01/09/2014	29/08/2014
High	1.49%	2.87%	3.66%	4.30%	4.28%
Date	16/07/2014	03/07/2014	20/06/2014	03/04/2014	02/04/2014
Average	1.35%	2.66%	3.47%	4.10%	4.07%

Table 3: Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) certainty rates, half year ended 30 September 2013

- 4.3 **Treasury Borrowing** – the Council remains debt free and undertook no external borrowing for cash flow purposes or capital financing purposes in the first six months of 2014/15.
- 4.4 **Rescheduling of Borrowing** – the Council has no debt and therefore undertook no rescheduling of debt during 2014/15.
- 4.5 **Repayment of borrowing** – the Council has no external loans and therefore no repayments were necessary.

5.0 COMPLIANCE WITH PRUDENTIAL AND TREASURY INDICATORS:

- 5.1 It is a statutory duty for the Council to determine and keep under review the affordable borrowing limits. The Council's approved Treasury and Prudential Indicators (affordability limits) were approved in the Treasury Management Strategy Statement by Cabinet on 11 February 2014 and are in compliance with the Council's Treasury Management Practices.
- 5.2 During the financial year to date the Council has operated within the Treasury and Prudential Indicators approved and are attached at Annex E.
- 5.3 Officers can confirm that the approved limits within the Annual Investment Strategy were not breached during the quarter ended 30th September 2014.

1.0 ECONOMIC UPDATE

1.1 Economic performance to date and outlook

1.1.1 U.K

After strong UK Gross Domestic product (GDP) quarterly growth of 0.7%, 0.8% and 0.7% in quarters 2, 3 and 4 respectively in 2013, (2013 annual rate 2.7%), and 0.7% in Q1, 0.9% in Q2 and a first estimate of 0.7% in Q3 2014 (annual rate 3.1% in Q3), it appears very likely that strong growth will continue through 2014 and into 2015 as forward surveys for the services and construction sectors, are very encouraging and business investment is also strongly recovering. The manufacturing sector has also been encouraging though the latest figures indicate a weakening in the future trend rate of growth. However, for this recovery to become more balanced and sustainable in the longer term, the recovery needs to move away from dependence on consumer expenditure and the housing market to exporting, and particularly of manufactured goods, both of which need to substantially improve on their recent lacklustre performance. This overall strong growth has resulted in unemployment falling much faster through the initial threshold of 7%, set by the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) last August, before it said it would consider any increases in Bank Rate. The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) has, therefore, subsequently broadened its forward guidance by adopting five qualitative principles and looking at a much wider range of about eighteen indicators in order to form a view on how much slack there is in the economy and how quickly slack is being used up. The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is particularly concerned that the current squeeze on the disposable incomes of consumers should be reversed by wage inflation rising back above the level of inflation in order to ensure that the recovery will be sustainable. There also needs to be a major improvement in labour productivity, which has languished at dismal levels since 2008, to support increases in pay rates. Most economic forecasters are expecting growth to peak in 2014 and then to ease off a little, though still remaining strong, in 2015 and 2016. Unemployment is therefore expected to keep on its downward trend and this is likely to eventually feed through into a return to significant increases in pay rates at some point during the next three years. However, just how much those future increases in pay rates will counteract the depressive effect of increases in Bank Rate on consumer confidence, the rate of growth in consumer expenditure and the buoyancy of the housing market, are areas that will need to be kept under regular review.

Also encouraging has been the sharp fall in inflation (Consumer Prices Index (CPI)), reaching 1.2% in September, the lowest rate since 2009. Forward indications are that inflation is likely to fall further in 2014 to possibly 1%. Overall, markets are expecting that the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) will be cautious in raising Bank Rate as it will want to protect heavily indebted consumers from too early an increase in Bank Rate at a time when inflationary pressures are also weak. A first increase in Bank Rate is therefore expected in Q2 2015 and they expect increases after that to be at a slow pace to lower levels than prevailed before 2008 as increases in Bank Rate will have a much bigger effect on heavily indebted consumers than they did before 2008.

The return to strong growth has also helped lower forecasts for the increase in Government debt by £73bn over the next five years, as announced in the 2013 Autumn Statement, and by an additional £24bn, as announced in the March 2014 Budget - which also forecast a return to a significant budget surplus, (of £5bn), in 2018-19. However, monthly public sector deficit figures have disappointed so far in 2014/15.

1.1.2 U.S

In September, the Federal Reserve continued with its monthly \$10bn reductions in asset purchases, which started in December 2013. Asset purchases have now fallen from \$85bn to \$15bn and are expected to stop on 29th October 2014, providing the economic outlook remains strong. First quarter Gross Domestic product (GDP) figures for the US were depressed by exceptionally bad winter weather, but growth rebounded very strongly in Q2 to 4.6% (annualised).

The U.S. faces similar debt problems to those of the UK, but thanks to reasonable growth, cuts in government expenditure and tax rises, the annual government deficit has been halved from its peak without appearing to do too much damage to growth, although the weak labour force participation rate remains a matter of key concern for the Federal Reserve when considering the amount of slack in the economy and monetary policy decisions.

1.1.3 Eurozone

The Eurozone is facing an increasing threat from weak or negative growth and from deflation. In September, the inflation rate fell further, to reach a low of 0.3%. However, this is an average for all Eurozone countries and includes some countries with negative rates of inflation. Accordingly, the European Central Bank took some rather limited action in June to loosen monetary policy in order to promote growth. In September it took further action to cut its benchmark rate to only 0.05%, its deposit rate to -0.2% and to start a programme of purchases of corporate debt. However, it has not embarked yet on full quantitative easing (purchase of sovereign debt).

Concern in financial markets for the Eurozone subsided considerably during 2013. However, sovereign debt difficulties have not gone away and major issues could return in respect of any countries that do not dynamically address fundamental issues of low growth, international uncompetitiveness and the need for overdue reforms of the economy, (as Ireland has done). It is, therefore, possible over the next few years that levels of government debt to Gross Domestic product (GDP) ratios could continue to rise for some countries. This could mean that sovereign debt concerns have not disappeared but, rather, have only been postponed.

1.1.4 China and Japan

Japan is causing considerable concern as the increase in sales tax in April has suppressed consumer expenditure and growth. In Q2 growth was -1.8% q/q and -7.1% over the previous year. The Government is hoping that this is a temporary blip.

As for China, Government action in 2014 to stimulate the economy appeared to be putting the target of 7.5% growth within achievable reach but recent data has raised fresh concerns. There are also major concerns as to the creditworthiness of much bank lending to corporates and local government during the post 2008 credit expansion period and whether the bursting of a bubble in housing prices is drawing nearer.

1.2 Interest rate forecasts

The Council's treasury advisor, Capita Asset Services, has provided the following forecast:

	Dec-14	Mar-15	Jun-15	Sep-15	Dec-15	Mar-16	Jun-16	Sep-16	Dec-16	Mar-17	Jun-17	Sep-17	Dec-17	Mar-18
Bank rate	0.50%	0.50%	0.75%	0.75%	1.00%	1.00%	1.25%	1.25%	1.50%	1.50%	1.75%	2.00%	2.25%	2.50%
5yr PWLB rate	2.50%	2.70%	2.70%	2.80%	2.90%	3.00%	3.10%	3.20%	3.30%	3.40%	3.50%	3.50%	3.50%	3.50%
10yr PWLB rate	3.20%	3.40%	3.50%	3.60%	3.70%	3.80%	3.90%	4.00%	4.10%	4.10%	4.20%	4.20%	4.30%	4.30%
25yr PWLB rate	3.90%	4.00%	4.10%	4.30%	4.40%	4.50%	4.60%	4.70%	4.70%	4.80%	4.80%	4.90%	4.90%	5.00%
50yr PWLB rate	3.90%	4.00%	4.10%	4.30%	4.40%	4.50%	4.60%	4.70%	4.70%	4.80%	4.80%	4.90%	4.90%	5.00%

Capita Asset Services undertook a review of its interest rate forecasts on 24 October. During September and October, a further rise in geopolitical concerns, principally over Ukraine but also over the Middle East, plus fears around Ebola and an accumulation of dismal growth news in most of the ten largest economies of the world and also on the growing risk of deflation in the Eurozone, had sparked a flight from equities into safe havens like gilts and depressed Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) rates. However, there is much volatility in rates as news ebbs and flows in negative or positive ways. This latest forecast includes a first increase in Bank Rate in quarter 2 of 2015.

Our Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) forecasts are based around a balance of risks. However, there are potential upside risks, especially for longer term Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) rates, as follows: -

- A further surge in investor confidence that robust world economic growth is firmly expected, causing a flow of funds out of bonds and into equities.
- UK inflation being significantly higher than in the wider European Union and US, causing an increase in the inflation premium inherent to gilt yields.

Downside risks currently include:

- The situation over Ukraine poses a major threat to the Eurozone and world growth if it was to deteriorate into economic warfare between the West and Russia where Russia resorted to using its control over gas supplies to Europe.
- Fears generated by the potential impact of Ebola around the world
- UK strong economic growth is currently mainly dependent on consumer spending and the potentially unsustainable boom in the housing market. The boost from these sources is likely to fade after 2014.
- A weak rebalancing of UK growth to exporting and business investment causing a weakening of overall economic growth beyond 2014.
- Weak growth or recession in the UK's main trading partner - the European Union, inhibiting economic recovery in the UK.

- A return to weak economic growth in the US, UK and China causing major disappointment in investor and market expectations.
- A resurgence of the Eurozone sovereign debt crisis caused by ongoing deterioration in government debt to Gross Domestic product (GDP) ratios to the point where financial markets lose confidence in the financial viability of one or more countries and in the ability of the European Central Bank and Eurozone governments to deal with the potential size of the crisis.
- Recapitalisation of European banks requiring more government financial support.
- Lack of support by populaces in Eurozone countries for austerity programmes, especially in countries with very high unemployment rates e.g. Greece and Spain, which face huge challenges in engineering economic growth to correct their budget deficits on a sustainable basis.
- Italy: the political situation has improved but it remains to be seen whether the new government is able to deliver the austerity programme required and a programme of overdue reforms. Italy has the third highest government debt mountain in the world.
- France: after being elected on an anti austerity platform, President Hollande has embraced a €50bn programme of public sector cuts over the next three years. However, there could be major obstacles in implementing this programme. Major overdue reforms of employment practices and an increase in competitiveness are also urgently required to lift the economy out of stagnation.
- Monetary policy action failing to stimulate sustainable growth in western economies, especially the Eurozone and Japan.
- Heightened political risks in the Middle East and East Asia could trigger safe haven flows back into bonds.
- There are also increasing concerns at the reluctance of western central banks to raise interest rates significantly for some years, plus the huge Quantitative Easing measures which remain in place (and may be added to by the European Central Bank in the near future). This has created potentially unstable flows of liquidity searching for yield and, therefore, heightened the potential for an increase in risks in order to get higher returns. This is a return to a similar environment to the one which led to the 2008 financial crisis.

Prudential and Treasury Management Indicators

It is a statutory duty for the Council to determine and keep under review the affordable borrowing limits. The Council's approved Treasury and Prudential Indicators (affordability limits) are included in the approved Treasury Management Strategy Statement by Cabinet on 18 March 2014

The main purpose of the indicators is to control how much a Council needs to borrow and as this Council is debt free, the majority of the prudential indicators are nil.

1. PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS	2014/15	2014/15
Extract from budget and rent setting report	Original Budget	Actual Q2
	£'000	£'000
Capital Expenditure	2,126	2,543
Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream	Nil	Nil
Net borrowing requirement General Fund		
brought forward 1 April	Nil	Nil
carried forward 31 March	Nil	Nil
in year borrowing requirement	Nil	Nil
Capital Financing Requirement 31 March 2015	Nil	Nil
Incremental impact of capital investment decisions	£	£
Increase in Council Tax (band D) per annum	£0.06	£0.06

2. TREASURY MANAGEMENT INDICATORS	2014/15	2014/15
	original	actual
	£'000	£'000
Authorised Limit for external debt -		
borrowing	£5,000	£5,000
other long term liabilities	£1,000	£1,000
TOTAL	£6,000	£6,000
Operational Boundary for external debt -		
borrowing	£4,000	£4,000
other long term liabilities	£600	£600
TOTAL	£4,600	£4,600
Actual external debt	£0	£0
Upper limit for fixed interest rate exposure		
Net principal re fixed rate investments	90%	90%
Upper limit for variable rate exposure		
Net principal re variable rate investments	50%	50%
Upper limit for total principal sums invested for over 364 days (per maturity date)	£10,000	£10,000

Maturity structure of fixed rate borrowing during 2014/15	upper limit	lower limit
under 12 months	0%	100%
12 months and within 24 months	0%	0%
24 months and within 5 years	0%	0%
5 years and within 10 years	0%	0%
10 years and above	0%	0%

HAMBLETON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report To: Cabinet
2 December 2014

Subject: 2014/15 QUARTER 2 REVENUE MONITORING REPORT

All Wards

Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Finance: Councillor P R Wilkinson

1.0 PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the revenue budget position of the Council and the reserve funds at the end of September 2014.
- 1.2 The Quarter 2 monitoring for the Capital Programme and Treasury Management position is contained in a separate report on this Cabinet agenda.
- 1.3 This report focuses on three key areas:-
- (a) The changes to the revenue budget
 - (b) Additional Grant income received
 - (c) Reserve Funds

2.0 REVENUE BUDGET:

- 2.1 The Council set its budget on 11 February 2014 for 2014/15 at £7,463,150 in line with the approved Financial Strategy on 5 November 2013.
- 2.2 At Cabinet on 2 September 2014, the Quarter 1 revenue monitoring report revised the budget to £7,235,329. The approved budget at Quarter 1 in accordance with the Council portfolio themes is detailed below:
- 2.3

	£
Customer & Leisure Services	1,352,700
Environmental Services	4,212,069
Support Services	1,570,730
Drainage Board levies	99,830
Net Revenue Expenditure	<u>7,235,329</u>

3.0 BUDGET POSITION TO SEPTEMBER 2014:

- 3.1 Since the budget for 2014/15 was set in February 2014, adjustments to the budget outlook have occurred in the Revised Financial Strategy approved at Cabinet on 10 June 2014. At Quarter 1 the budget that was approved at Cabinet in September 2014 decreased from £7,463,150 to £7,237,347 – a saving of £227,821. The table below details the changes that have been approved through separate reports to Cabinet and also those that have been identified and are recommended to this Cabinet for approval at budget monitoring Quarter 2:

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
	£	£	£	£	£
Budget Outlook approved at Q1 2 Sept 2014	7,235,329	7,155,389	7,383,665	7,476,429	7,571,047
Changes to be approved by this Cabinet:					
Restructure Savings Adj	34,000	-34,000			
Support Services	15,200	-	-	-	-
Environmental Services	-77,660	-	-	-	-
Customer & Leisure Services	29,300	-	-	-	-
Budget Outlook Q2	7,236,169	7,121,389	7,383,665	7,476,429	7,571,047
Financial Strategy 10 June 2014	7,237,347	7,344,080	7,567,682	7,606,872	7,647,046
Budget Outlook Q2 Surplus / (Shortfall)	1,178	222,691	184,017	130,443	75,999

- 3.2 The recommended changes to the 2014/15 budget in Quarter 2 total a small increase to the budget of £840. Compared to the revised Financial Strategy approved in June 2014 there remains a small surplus at Quarter 2 of £1,178.
- 3.3 The changes to the budget in this quarter relate to one corporate change and also changes in the three service areas. For the corporate change, the table above shows that in relation to the restructure, savings of £34,000 will now be achieved in 2015/16 rather than in 2014/15 due to timing. The following paragraphs provide more detail of the budget changes in each portfolio theme.
- 3.4 Support Services – the overspend of £15,200 is as a result of increased costs and savings. Increased costs are attributable to the Health & Safety Service Level Agreement where previous savings had been reported but are now revised and reduced to £14,980, there is a requirement for the increase in the postage budget of £11,170. Increased costs are also seen in the reduced £12,050 of income received from market traders due to a number of market traders not attending Northallerton and Thirsk markets. The bad debt provision has increased by £17,000. The budget has reduced by £40,000 due to additional costs recovered from Council Tax payers when summonsed and taken to Court to seek repayments of outstanding debts.
- 3.5 Environmental & Planning Services – there is an overall underspend in the budget of £77,660 due to increased income of £73,760 as a result of £12,500 additional receipts from work done by the Council in regards to the Section 106 Agreements, a one-off VAT claim relating to Trade Waste of £61,260 and reduced expenditure of £30,000 in vehicle and travel costs due to lower than anticipated fuel prices. There is an overspend on the budget due to increased agency work totalling £77,100 within the Waste Collection and Recycling teams as a result of long-term staff sickness, suspensions and dismissals. This has, however, been off-set by the Homelessness project now being funded by the One-off Fund in 2014/15 as approved in previous Cabinet report in November 2012. In addition there is an overspend of £20,000 in Homelessness service mainly in connection with payments to Broadacres for periods of voids within Homelessness.
- 3.6 Customer & Leisure Services – there is an overall overspend of £29,300 due to an increase of £11,300 in Public Performance Licence music used in classes at the Leisure Centres as changes have occurred in regulations and CCTV increases of £18,000 in regards to previously identified savings not yet achieved due to a delay in the related capital scheme.
- 3.7 The revised changes to the budget at Quarter 2 listed above are detailed in the recommendations section of this report for approval by Cabinet and Council.

4.0 OTHER MATTERS – GRANTS:

4.1 The following grants have been allocated to the Council and paid into the One-Off Fund Reserve since the Q1 revenue monitoring report was approved in September 2014:

Description	Amount £
DWP Grant – Migrants Access to Benefits	2,000
Total	2,000

5.0 SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS:

5.1 Further to the recommendations for changes to the budget in this Quarter 2 monitoring report, this report also highlights where there are areas of budget uncertainty. This can give Members early warning of possible issues in the future. All areas will be monitored closely and an update provided for Quarter 3 as at this time there is too much uncertainty surrounding these figures to include them as an adjustment to the budget. Annex A attached details the sensitivity analysis.

6.0 RESERVE FUNDING:

6.1 The table below shows the revenue reserve position at 30 September 2014, Quarter 2, if the recommendations are approved in this Cabinet report. Three reserves have changed the Grant Fund, the Economic Development Fund and the One-Off Fund. Further detail is provided below.

Reserve Fund	Balance at 30 June 2014 Q1 £	Movement (from) / to Reserve Q2 £	Balance at 30 Sept 2014 £
General Fund	2,000,000	-	2,000,000
Council Taxpayers Reserve	2,773,475	-	2,773,475
Grants Fund	520,508	-3,000	517,508
Economic Development Fund	5,000,000	-94,640	4,905,360
One Off Fund	487,682	-4,360	483,322
Computer Fund	1,698,000	-	1,698,000
Repairs & Renewal Fund	4,082,986	-	4,082,986
Community Safety Partnership	74,327	-	74,327
Strategic Forum Reserve	14,399	-	14,399
Arts Grants Reserve	5,949	-	5,949
Total	18,262,063	-102,000	16,555,326

6.2 Grant Fund - £3,000 will be used from this fund to support the Over 50's and Hambleton Strollers activities; in line with the grants usage.

6.3 Economic Development Fund – At Quarter 1, Cabinet approved that the change in policy for the first hour at Applegarth Car Park to be free would be funded from the Economic Development Fund.

6.4 One Off Fund – the initial balance at the beginning of 2014/15 was £2,092,419, with movement of £1,604,737 being explained at Quarter 1. At Quarter 2, the movement in the reserve was £4,630. This is due to income of £2,000 being received, seen in paragraph 4.1 above; expenditure of £94,640 allocated at Q1 being reversed at Q2 due to the change in the parking at Applegarth car park policy now being funded from the Economic Development Fund, £91,000 is allocated to the District elections for May 2015 and £10,000 is to be allocated to Neighbourhood planning in lieu of a grant received in 2012. The expenditure to be allocated from the One-off Fund is detailed in the table below. The balance on the One-off Fund at year end is estimated at Quarter 2 to be £483,332.

Expenditure in 2014/15 from the One-Off Fund	Amount
Reversal of Applegarth 1 hour free parking to be funded from the Economic Development Fund not One-Off Fund	94,640
District Elections – Expenditure commences in March 2014	(91,000)
Neighbour Hood Planning Grant	(10,000)
Total expenditure recommended for approval at Q2	(6,360)

6.5 At Quarter 2, it is recommended to Cabinet and Council that the total allocation from the One-off Fund of £6,360 is approved.

7.0 LINK TO COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

7.1 The monitoring of the financial budget throughout the year and reporting the financial year end position assists in ensuring the Council's service requirements are met and contributes to the achievement of the priorities set out in the Council Plan.

8.0 RISK ASSESSMENT:

8.1 There are no major risks associated with this report.

9.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

9.1 The financial implications are dealt with in the body of the report.

10.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

10.1 It is a legal requirement under s25 of the Local Government Act 2003 to set a balanced budget and monitor the financial position throughout the year.

11.0 EQUALITY/DIVERSITY ISSUES:

11.1 There are no specific equality implications to this report.

12.0 RECOMMENDATIONS:

12.1 That Cabinet approves and recommends to Council:-

- (1) the budget surplus of £1,178 at paragraph 3.2 of the report;

(2) the return of funds to the One-off Fund at paragraph 6.4 of £84,640.

JUSTIN IVES

Background papers: Budget Monitoring Q2 working papers

Author ref: LBW

Contact: Louise Branford-White
Head of Resources
Direct Line No: 01609 767024

021214 Q2 Revenue Monitoring

BUDGET 2014/15 SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS – POTENTIAL SAVINGS / COSTS

Portfolio Area	Area of Sensitivity	Commentary
Support Services	Housing Benefit - civil penalty income not achieved	£65,000 income is expected to be received from claimants who do not notify the Council of a change in their circumstances. This is being continually monitored.
	Housing Benefit - payments overspend	There is a potential overspend of Housing Benefit where more people are claiming benefit that was estimated in the budget.
Environmental & Planning Services	Fuel prices increase / decrease	Any fluctuation in fuel prices will affect the budget in Waste and Street Scene.
	Planning Fee income not achieved	This is currently below budget for receipt of £700,000. At Q2 £292,971 (41.9%) had been received. This is a large income stream for the Council, so it will be continue to be closely monitored.
Customer & Leisure Services	Workspace Management – unpaid rent on two units at Lumley Close	The tenant is in the process of selling his business to pay off the arrears, however, if this is unsuccessful, the debt will need to be written off at £19,600
	Hambleton Leisure Centre – downturn in memberships income	Hambleton Leisure Centre is experiencing a downturn in membership fees. A specific action plan is being put into place and this will be closely monitored over the next few months.

HAMBLETON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report To: Cabinet
2 December 2014

Subject: "MAKE A DIFFERENCE" GRANTS FUND

All Ward(s)
Leader: Councillor M S Robson

1.0 PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND:

1.1 An opportunity has arisen to re-invest windfall savings back into the community and the Cabinet is asked to approve a new one-off community grants scheme.

2.0 BACKGROUND:

2.1 In 2013/14 the Council achieved an underspend against budget of £510,599. This saving was placed in the Council's One-Off Fund to be invested in future priorities. The proposed "Make a Difference" Grants Fund will be funded from this underspend. This Fund will invest in worthy local community projects which help improve life in neighbourhoods, and which support the work of the voluntary sector.

2.2 The attachment at Annex A sets out the scope of the scheme which has been entitled "The Make a Difference Fund".

2.3 In summary, this is a fund which will see elected members in 5 market towns (and their hinterlands) receive community applications and prioritise them against a £25,000 budget allocation (£125,000 across all five areas).

2.4 The five sets of local proposals will then be considered by Cabinet which will award the grants.

2.5 An approximate timescale is set out against the process plan, also detailed in Annex A.

3.0 LINKS TO COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES:

3.1 The funding will link to all the Council's priorities.

4.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 There are no risks associated with this report.

5.0 EQUALITY/DIVERSITY ISSUES

5.1 This grant's scheme will seek to reduce inequalities in the community.

6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There will be a one-off cost of £125,000 funded from the One-Off Fund.

7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS:

7.1 It is recommended that Cabinet approves the new grants scheme and applies the criteria and timetable set out in Annex A.

7.2 The scheme be funded by an allocation of £125,000 from the One-Off Fund.

DAVID GOODWIN

Background papers:

Author ref: DRG

Contact: David Goodwin
Director of Customer & Leisure Services
Direct Line No 01609 767147

021214 Make a Difference Grants Fund

“MAKE A DIFFERENCE” GRANT FUND – SUGGESTED SCOPE

Criteria

The scheme would require projects to meet a criterion. A suggestion is to use the Council priorities so that projects would need to meet at least one of the following:

- Supporting economic growth
- Improving health and wellbeing
- Improving access to services
- Supporting a changing population

The grant must not replace statutory funding that has been withdrawn.

The applicant must be from a not-for-profit organisation that is constituted with a bank account.

The grant can be awarded for capital or revenue and will provide up to 75% of the scheme costs.

The project must be delivered between 1st April 2015 and 31st March 2016.

Exclusions

The following groups would not be eligible for funding:

- Parish Councils
- Individuals
- Businesses
- Statutory organisations

Grant value

To keep administration to a minimum it is suggested that the minimum grant award would be £2,500.00 (this could be greater if there is an appetite for this from Members).

It is suggested that the upper limit would be the full £25,000.00 allocated for each sub-area – this would allow Members to award the full allocation to one project if this is appropriate or award up to 10 smaller grants.

Project summary form

The project summary form would ask for the following information:

- Name of organisation
- Lead contact and contact details
- Project name
- Project description – how has the need for the project been identified, what will the funding be used for, what difference will it make and how many people will benefit
- Start date for the project
- Project cost and match funding information

Selection criteria

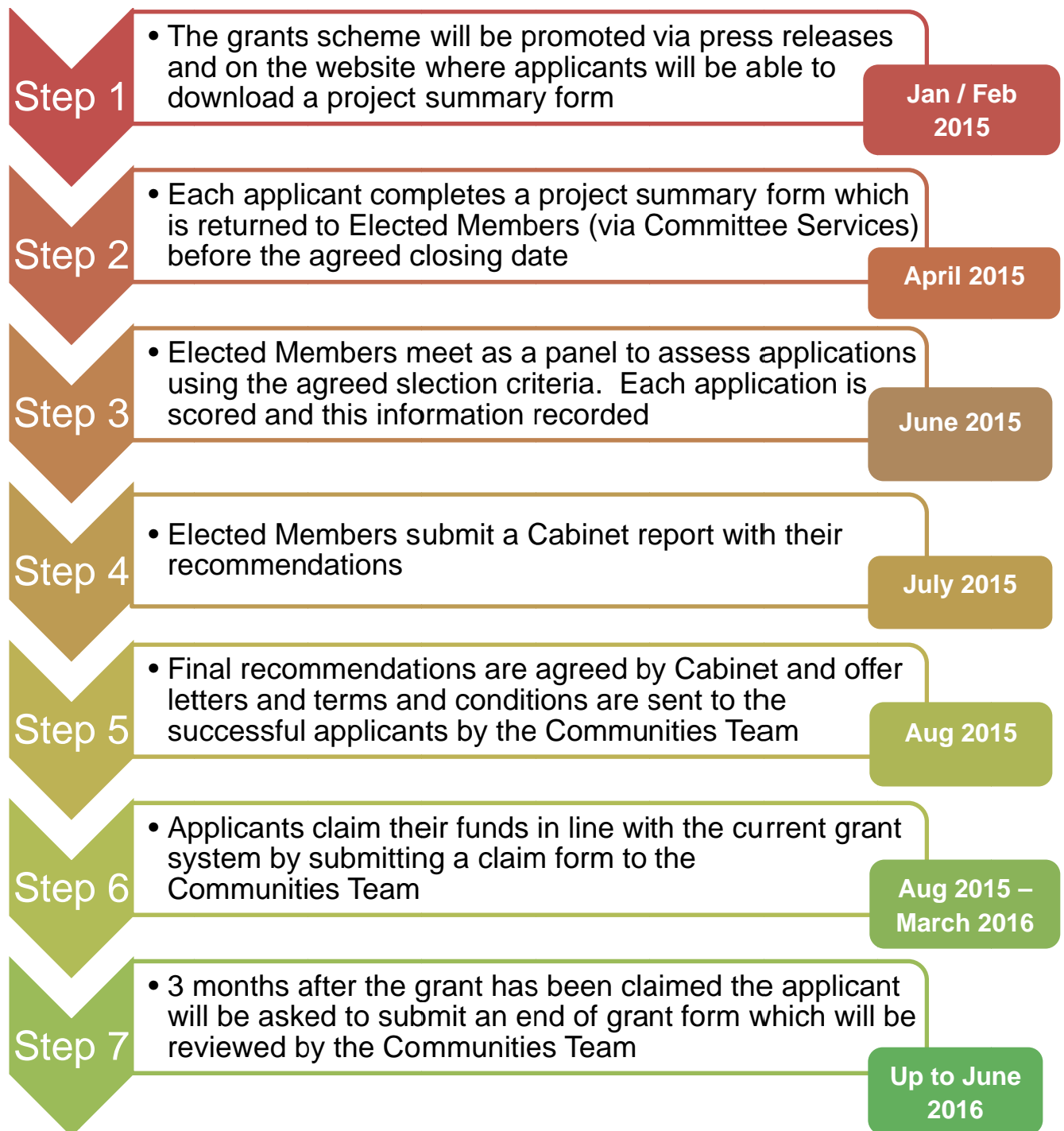
Elected Members meet as a panel to assess applications using the following selection criteria:

- The project meets at least one of the Council priorities
- Is there clear evidence of need based on community involvement
- Will the project make a difference to people's lives
- Does the project represent value for money
- How many people will the project benefit

Grant giving process

See flowchart attached for details.

PROCESS



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HAMBLETON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report To: Cabinet
2 December 2014

Subject: **BEDALE GATEWAY CAR PARK**

Bedale Ward
Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Finance: Councillor P R Wilkinson

1.0 PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 In April 2014 Cabinet considered the last in a series of reports on the possibility of providing a car park at North End, Bedale. Amongst other things, Cabinet resolved that the principle of a smaller Gateway car park be approved, that £400,000 be approved for the project and that the Auction Mart car park be disposed of to fund the remainder of the cost (Minute CA.111 refers).
- 1.2 Following concern from local Members it was decided to undertake public consultation on:
 - 1.2.1 the principle of providing a Gateway car park;
 - 1.2.2 whether either or both of the existing car parks in Bedale should be sold to part finance the new car park.
- 1.3 The consultation took place in October and this report provides feedback on the outcome and a suggested response to the outcome.

2.0 THE CONSULTATION:

- 2.1 The consultation involved a public event at Bedale Hall on 2 October, publicity on the Council's website and direct requests for feedback from local organisations and businesses. There was a good response with at least 238 replies to at least one of the questions posed. There were also a significant number of individual comments.
- 2.2 A copy of the consultation document and a summary of the responses are attached as an Annex to this report.
- 2.3 Those who responded were almost equally split on whether they thought there was a need for a new car park with 50% of those who expressed a view being in favour of the Gateway car park but 50% being either against or unsure.
- 2.4 A clear majority (58% of those who expressed a view) were against the use of either of the existing car parks to finance the new car park.

3.0 CONSIDERATIONS:

- 3.1 The proposed new car park has always been intended as a response to the possibility that the new Bedale and Leeming Bar Relief Road will divert vehicles (and particularly trade) from Bedale. Construction of the Relief Road will commence shortly and should be completed in 2016. The outcome of the consultation suggests that the public and organisations have doubts about the need for the car park. One response to this might be to cancel the project for the Gateway Car Park and remove funding from the Capital Programme.

- 3.2 Another option would be to retain the project in the Capital Programme, but not make a decision on whether to implement it until after the opening of the Relief Road to see if there is an adverse effect that needs addressing. Another alternative is to proceed although from the results of the consultation there is not clear support for this.
- 3.3 The cost of the project is currently estimated to be £612,000. Approximately £212,000 of this was due to be funded by sale/re-development of one or both existing car parks in the town. The consultation clearly shows a significant number of people are against this option.
- 3.4 It is clear that many of these people think there is an on-going need for the car parks even with a Gateway Car Park. This is a view which is not shared by officers. Whilst it may be more convenient for some residents and workers to retain the existing car parks, current evidence of usage suggests there is no need in capacity terms. The Gateway Car Park would replace any lost capacity and is not an unreasonable distance from the centre of the town.
- 3.5 Nevertheless the weight of local views should not be treated lightly. If the Council wished to support the local preference to retain the car parks it could seek to fund the whole project from capital reserves. This would require a further £212,000 to be committed to the project probably in 2019 or 2020.

4.0 RISK ASSESSMENT:

Risk	Implication	Prob*	Imp*	Total	Preventative action
Cancel Project	Long term damage to local economy if loss of visitors and trade	3	4	12	Advertising of Bedale as a place to visit

5.0 EQUALITY/DIVERSITY ISSUES:

- 5.1 The Council is required to consider the impact of its proposal on those with mobility difficulties. It is not considered that closing one of the town centre car parks would have a disproportionate effect on those with mobility difficulties as provisions could be made in the remaining car park. Clearly, if both car parks were retained these would be no issue.
- 5.2 Any design of a Gateway car park would need to take on board mobility and access issues.

6.0 LEGAL ISSUES:

- 6.1 There are no legal issues arising out of the consultation process.

7.0 FINANCIAL ISSUES:

- 7.1 If the project proceeds as planned there will be no further significant financial issues although because of the delay in commencing the project some expenditure may be pushed back.
- 7.2 If the project is cancelled then approximately £400,000 will become available for other projects. There would also be some revenue savings in staff time.
- 7.3 If the Gateway Car Park is deferred then the expenditure would be moved to later in the Capital Programme.

- 7.4 If neither of the existing car parks are used to part finance the project then the remaining finance of approximately £212,000 will have to come from the Capital Programme. Clearly, this will mean that that sum will not be available for other projects.
- 7.5 The impact on the Capital Programme of deferring the project and not selling the existing car parks is shown as follows:

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Total
Costs	£ 20,000	£ 160,000	£ 422,000	£ 10,000	£ 612,000
Financed by: Capital Programme	20,000	160,000	422,000	10,000	612,000

8.0 CONCLUSIONS:

- 8.1 The consultation process seems to reflect an uncertainty locally about the need for the Gateway Car Park and a clear preference for retaining the existing car parks.
- 8.2 Previous consultations (for the Local Development Framework) had not shown any significant objection to the loss of the existing car parks. However, the latest consultation has raised concerns. Consequently, it is recommended that Cabinet agree in principle not to sell either of the existing car parks and to fund the project in its entirety from capital.

9.0 RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 9.1 It is recommended that:
- (1) the Gateway Car Park project be deferred, the Capital Programme be adjusted accordingly and a further report be presented after the Relief Road has opened;
 - (2) an additional sum of £212,000 be included in the Capital Programme.

JUSTIN IVES

Background papers: Consultation Correspondence
Consultation Responses

Author ref: JI

Contact: Justin Ives
Director of Support Services
Direct Line No: (01609) 767022

021214 Bedale Gateway Car Park

BEDALE GATEWAY CAR PARK CONSULTATION

October 2014

The Council has developed plans for a Gateway Car Park in Bedale.

We would like to hear your views and suggestions and would be grateful if you would complete the following form to help inform the consultation process. Further information about the proposals can be found online at www.hambleton.gov.uk/bedalegateway

Please complete and return to the FREEPOST address overleaf.
 Alternatively, complete this form online at www.hambleton.gov.uk/surveys/bedale

Closing date: Friday 17 October 2014

Do you think Bedale needs the proposed new Gateway Car Park to respond to the introduction of the relief road?

- Yes
 No
 Not sure

If you ticked 'Yes', which of the following options would you prefer to help fund the project?

- The sale of the Auction Mart Car Park
 The sale of the Bridge Street Car Park
 Neither option

Any other option, please detail below:

If you have any other comments relating to Bedale Gateway Car Park, please enter them below:

Thank you for your comments

BEDALE GATEWAY CAR PARK CONSULTATION
October 2014

Final summary
93 online and 145 paper responses = 238 total

Do you think Bedale needs the proposed new Gateway Car Park to respond to the introduction of the relief road?	
107 (45.0%)	Yes
89 (37.4%)	No
18 (7.6%)	Not sure
24 (10.1%)	No reply
If you ticked 'Yes', which of the following options would you prefer to help fund the project?	
58 (24.4%)	The sale of the Auction Mart Car Park
7 (2.9%)	The sale of the Bridge Street Car Park
87 (36.6%)	Neither option
86 (36.1%)	No reply
Any other option, please detail below:	
86 responses received	
If you have any other comments relating to Bedale Gateway Car Park, please enter them below:	
155 responses received	

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HAMBLETON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report To: Cabinet
2 December 2014

Subject: RURAL HOUSING ENABLING 2015-2018

All Wards
Portfolio Holder for Environmental and Planning Services: Councillor B Phillips

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 This report seeks approval for the Council's continued participation in the North Yorkshire Rural Housing Enabler Programme from 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2018 which is based on a slightly amended business model to the current programme. It also seeks approval for the Council to continue to act as lead employer for the sub-regional team of Rural Housing Enablers
- 1.2 Other Local Authorities and Registered Provider partners have confirmed their support moving forward, following the programme review which took place in summer 2014.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 All stakeholders had an opportunity to engage in the review of the current and future service in summer 2014. This was led by a small task and finish Review Group including Local Authorities, the Homes & Communities Agency and Registered Provider representatives. Consultation included:
- On line survey of Rural Housing Enabler(RHE) Network members and stakeholders in July 2014
 - A workshop held at the Rural Housing Enabler Network meeting on 16th July 2014
 - Meeting with Registered Provider network funders on 7th August 2014
 - Discussion at Chief Housing Officers Group on 5th September 2014
 - Discussion at Local Government North Yorkshire and York Housing Board on 22nd September 2014
- 2.2 Response rates and participation in the consultation were high and representative of both funders and wider stakeholders. Overall, the consultation feedback was that funders and stakeholders were happy with the service; 90% of respondents rated the service as 'Good' or 'Outstanding' overall and 72% considered the service to offer 'Good' or 'Excellent' value for money.
- 2.3 On 22 September 2014 the Local Government North Yorkshire and York Housing Board agreed that Local Authority members supported the funding proposal in principle. Local Authority partners and the North York Moors National Park have subsequently confirmed their support in writing as have 10 Registered Providers to date.
- 2.4 Two of the funding sources for the current programme (Leeds City Region and NYCC) will not be available for 2015-18 and therefore the funding requirements need to be met by a smaller number of partners (although more Registered Providers have joined the Network since its inception).

2.5 Following consultation partners have agreed in principle to retain the existing funding model but with increased partner contributions:

- Local Authority contribution - £6,500 per year (from £5,000)
- Retainer element of the Registered Provider contribution to £3,000 (from £2,500)
- Capping the annual contribution by any one Registered Provider to a maximum of £30,000

2.6 Partners also support an approach that would explore other funding sources that could be used to reduce the shortfall/per unit contribution, for example to explore how services could be delivered to East Riding of Yorkshire Council, via consultancy work with other Local Authorities/Registered Providers and to investigate other funding which may be attracted via the Community Land Trust network if communities wish to engage in this.

2.7 Within the revised model the budget continues to have provision built in to provide for redundancy payments if required.

3.0 **LINK TO COUNCIL PRIORITIES:**

3.1 Providing affordable housing for Hambleton’s rural communities is a key priority of the Council. Provision of Local Homes for Local People helps sustain the vibrancy of our rural communities and also contributes towards the Council’s affordable housing targets.

4.0 **RISK ASSESSMENT:**

4.1 The risks in approving the recommendations are set out below:

Risk	Implication	Prob*	Imp*	Total	Preventative action
Partner(s) pulling out during the programme and/or the completion of fewer than expected homes, thereby increasing the cost per unit and some Registered Providers reaching the ‘cap’ amount.	Need to address any potential shortfall in contribution	3	4	12	Funding partners will be asked to sign up to a formal Service Level Agreement for the three year programme (with the option to give 12 months’ notice to leave the partnership). Scope to generate more income through increased consultancy work and/or widen the programme to East Riding to secure further funding through LEP will be investigated.

4.2 The key risk in not approving the recommendation is shown below:-

Risk	Implication	Prob*	Imp*	Total	Preventative action
If HDC was not to be part of a sub-regional programme or the sub regional programme was to be abandoned this could result in the loss of the Rural Housing Enabler post for the District and fewer affordable homes being delivered in rural areas.	Going it alone with or without a partner would be more expensive and more risky in terms of sustaining the service in lean delivery years. It is unlikely that a Registered Provider would join local programme rather than a sub- regional one which would offer better value for money and less risk.	4	5	20	Continue to participate in a sub-regional scheme.

Prob = Probability, Imp = Impact, Score range is Low = 1, High = 5

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 The current model (2011–14) is predicated on contributions from a range of partners including Local Authorities, Registered Providers (RPs), North Yorkshire County Council and the Leeds City Region (LCR). RPs, NYCC and the LCR currently contribute £115k per annum. The 7 North Yorkshire local authorities (excluding City of York) and the National Park Authorities collectively contribute a further £45,000; Hambleton’s contribution is currently £5000 per annum.

5.2 Whilst there is support to retain the existing business model moving forward there will be no funding from the LCR nor from NYCC. The model has therefore been revised to take this into account and new contributions calculated. Local authority contributions will increase from £5,000 to £6,500 and Registered Provider retainer contributions will increase from £2,500 to £3,000. The overall cap of £30,000 per Registered Provider (retainer plus per completed unit contribution) will remain.

5.3 Hambleton DC will be seeking to recoup a modest management/administration charge associated with its role of lead employer. This will be in the region of £6000 per annum. Overall the revenue effects of continued participation in the NY RHE Programme will be as follows:-

Revenue Effects	2015/16 £	2016/17 £	2017/18 £
Cost of LA contribution (based on current business model)	£6500	£6500	£6500
Income received from Management Fee	£6000	£6000	£6000
Shortfall	£500	£500	£500

5.4 It is proposed that the shortfall of £500 per year be financed from Homelessness Prevention Grant, which will be included as part of the revenue budget in 2015/16.

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

- 6.1 HDC has acted as lead employer for this programme since 2011 without issue. Moving forward the Council should formalise partner arrangements- e.g. enter into SLA's with Registered Provider partners and partnership agreements with Local Authorities and should seek to have these agreed by the end of January 2015.

7.0 EQUALITY/DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 7.1 The North Yorkshire Rural Housing Enabler Programme focusses its work in parishes of less than 3,000 population. Continued support of the programme will therefore help to meet the housing needs of residents in HDC's remoter communities who might otherwise be more disadvantaged than those living in our service centres where there is more scope to deliver affordable housing through the allocation of sites and negotiations on larger windfall sites.

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 8.1 It is recommended that Cabinet approves:
- (1) the Council's continued participation in the North Yorkshire Rural Housing Enabler Programme post 31 March 2015, based on the amended business model; and
 - (2) the Council continues to act as lead employer for the sub-regional team of Rural Housing Enablers.

MICK JEWITT

Background papers: None

Author ref: SWT

Contact: Sue Walters Thompson
Housing Manager
Direct Line No: 01609767176

021214 Rural Housing Enabling 2015-18

HAMBLETON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report To: Cabinet
2 December 2014

Subject: SETTLEMENT HIERARCHY AND HOUSING DEVELOPMENT IN THE RURAL AREAS – DRAFT INTERIM POLICY GUIDANCE NOTE

**All Wards outside North York Moors National Park
Portfolio Holder for Environmental and Planning Services: Councillor B Phillips**

1.0 PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 An Interim Policy Guidance Note (Appendix 1) has been prepared for consultation purposes to guide the Council in considering planning applications for new housing development in and around smaller settlements of the District's Plan Area.
- 1.2 The need for this note has arisen from Members' and community aspirations for more flexibility with respect to housing development within the smaller settlements. It also responds to the introduction of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) in 2012, which provides a greater emphasis on social and community aspects of sustainability than had previously been the case within Planning Policy Statements. Some recent appeal decisions have also allowed development outside of defined Development Limits where these have contributed to the vitality of local communities and provided support for local services. Therefore the note brings the Council's approach in line with national policy and makes the Development Management decision making process clearer for applicants.
- 1.3 The note has been informed by a survey of Parish Councils which was undertaken in 2013 and updates the Settlement Hierarchy. A further consultation was undertaken in Summer 2014 to gain the views of Parishes on the future development of their villages and to ensure the 2013 survey data was correct. From this, a revised Settlement Hierarchy to update that within Core Policy CP4 has been produced, see Appendix 1.
- 1.4 It is envisaged that by allowing appropriate development within the smaller settlements and outside of defined Development Limits, adjacent and well related to the built form, that there will be an increase in windfall sites which will help boost housing supply (potentially in the order of nearly 400 more dwellings delivered in the next 5 years (see Appendix 1). As a consequence, more affordable housing will be delivered at the current rates set out within Core Policy CP9 (i.e. 40 or 50%).
- 1.5 This note is to be read in conjunction with the whole Development Framework and does not change adopted policy, rather it interprets this policy in the light of more recent national guidance. It covers the plan period up to 2026. However, it is the intention of the Council to prepare a new Local Plan which will supersede this note and it is therefore seen as an interim measure and will apply over the next few years only.
- 1.6 At a Member's workshop held on 29 October, Members raised issues concerning i) whether to include additional smaller settlements in the list, ii) whether to list examples of the cluster villages or allow flexibility for more widespread clusters and iii) whether to define small scale development by reference to a 5% guide or by criteria for assessing scale. These matters will be referred to in the consultation questionnaire and covering letter accompanying the note as options and views will be sought on them.

1.7 In order to give weight to the document, full consultation with stakeholders is necessary in addition to that recently carried out with Parish Councils. Approval is therefore sought to go out for consultation on this draft note. Responses will be reported back to Members and taken into account in the Council adopting a final Interim Policy Guidance Note.

2.0 LINK TO COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

2.1 The review of the Settlement Hierarchy and the introduction of an Interim Policy Guidance Note for new housing in the rural areas have several links to corporate priorities, for example it would help to meet the housing needs of all sections of local communities, help protect and provide local services and facilities, support sustainable economic growth and development and help to meet housing needs, including affordable housing.

3.0 RISK ASSESSMENT:

3.1 There are no significant risks arising from this report.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

4.1 The Policy Guidance will increase planning application submissions and pre-application advice receipts for the Council. Allowing more housing to be built will increase New Homes Bonus and Council Tax payments to the Council, as well as from the forthcoming Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 The Interim Policy cannot be given the same weight in planning decisions as up-to-date and adopted Local Plan policy or national policies but weight can be attached to it provided it is consistent with these.

6.0 EQUALITY/DIVERSITY ISSUES

6.1 There are no Equality/Diversity issues associated with this report.

7.0 RECOMMENDATION:

7.1 That Cabinet approves the Draft Interim Policy Guidance Note on the Settlement Hierarchy and Rural Housing Development for public consultation.

MICK JEWITT

Background papers: Local Development Framework Core Strategy, 2007
National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), 2012
Audit of Village Services, September 2014

Author ref: CLB

Contact: Clare-Louise Booth
Planning Policy & Conservation Officer
01609 767045

021214 Interim Policy Guidance Note

Draft Interim Policy Guidance Note

Settlement Hierarchy and Housing Development outside of Development Limits

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This Interim Policy Guidance Note has arisen from Hambleton Council Members' and community aspirations for more flexibility with respect to development, particularly housing development, within smaller settlements of the District. Core Policy CP4 was written in accordance with national Planning Policy Statements (PPS), which at that time was more restrictive and focused upon sustainable travel than the later National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, 2012), which now offers a more flexible approach with a greater emphasis on the community dimension of sustainable development, supporting strong, vibrant and healthy communities.
- 1.2 In Summer 2013 a survey of Parish Councils was undertaken to update the Settlement Hierarchy. This was further informed through consultation in Summer 2014 when Parish Councils/Meetings were asked additional questions relating to the future development of their settlements. This work has contributed to this Interim Policy Guidance Note.
- 1.3 This Note is intended to demonstrate how Hambleton District Council will consider development in and around smaller settlements both within and outside the hierarchy to ensure it is sustainable economically, socially and environmentally, taking account of the greater emphasis on the vitality of rural communities introduced by the NPPF and some recent appeal decisions within the District, which have allowed developments outside of defined Development Limits. It therefore sets out how the Council will assess development proposals in those locations to ensure that its decisions have due regard to the Development Plan and national policy.
- 1.4 The Council has recently agreed to progress work on a new Local Plan for Hambleton. Whilst this is in preparation, the Interim Policy Guidance Note explains the Council's approach to new development outside of the defined Settlement Hierarchy to accord more closely with the NPPF.

2.0 The Local Development Framework (LDF)

- 2.1 Hambleton LDF Core Strategy - Spatial Principle 3 introduces a sustainable hierarchy of settlements with the aim of concentrating development in those settlements with the best range of local services, allowing people to carry out many of their daily tasks without the need for significant travel. The approach taken in the LDF is based on:
- concentrating development in the Market Towns, which are defined as Service Centres;
 - supporting limited development in Service Villages and Secondary Villages where this supports a local need and contributes to the sustainability of the local community;
 - defining settlements beneath the level of Secondary Village as "Other Locations", being treated in policy terms in the same way as countryside due to their low level

of service provision where no development apart from in exceptional circumstances is acceptable.

- 2.2 Core Policy CP4 ‘Settlement Hierarchy’ names the towns and villages defined in Spatial Principle 3, except for ‘Other Areas’. Other Areas are those for which there are currently no defined development limits, consisting of smaller settlements with no or limited services and the open countryside. The policy also states that development or activities of a scale and nature appropriate to secure the sustainability of each settlement, as identified in Spatial Principle 3 and in the Core Strategy policies will be supported within the Development Limits of the settlements in the hierarchy table. The Development Limits in many cases are considered to be tightly defined, offering limited scope for development. Defined Development Limits of all settlements within the LDF Settlement Hierarchy can be found in the Allocations DPD Annex 5: Proposals Map document.

3.0 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, 2012)

- 3.1 The NPPF must be taken into account in the preparation of Local Plans and Neighbourhood Plans and is also an important material consideration in the determination of planning applications. At the heart of this document is the presumption in favour of sustainable development, which has three dimensions; economic, social and environmental, and for development to be sustainable it must encompass all three of these factors.
- 3.2 For decision-taking this means approving development proposals which accord with the development plan. However, where the development plan is absent, silent or relevant policies are out-of-date, permission should be granted unless any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in the NPPF, or if specific NPPF policies indicate that development should be restricted.
- 3.3 Paragraph 55 of the NPPF states that housing should be located where it will enhance or maintain the vitality of rural communities. For example, where there are groups of smaller settlements, development in one village may support services in a village nearby. However, local planning authorities should avoid new isolated homes in the countryside unless there are special circumstances.

4.0 Core Policy CP4 and NPPF

- 4.1 The NPPF introduces a number of sustainability considerations which impact upon how Core Policy CP4 should be applied. The NPPF requires local authorities to locate housing where it will enhance or maintain the vitality of rural communities. Core Policy CP4 does not allow for new housing development outside of the Settlement Hierarchy and therefore the approach needs to be adjusted in order to support the sustainability of rural communities. Core Policy CP4 does, however, contain clear exceptions for allowing new homes in the countryside in special circumstances, which remain applicable.
- 4.2 Therefore, this Note sets out the Councils’ approach to housing development outside of Development Limits and within the villages which fall outside of the defined Settlement

Hierarchy. This Note also updates the Settlement Hierarchy in the table that accompanies LDF Core Policy CP4, based on the 2014 Audit of Village Services Review (see **Annex A**).

5.0 Development Limits

5.1 The approach to the consideration of development outside Development Limits should depend in the first instance on the nature or number of services within the village where the development is proposed. Service Villages and Secondary Villages are considered 'sustainable settlements'. Other Locations (Other Settlements) may also meet the sustainability requirements as the recent Audit of Village Services shows that some of these have a comparable level of service provision to some existing Secondary Villages. These Other Locations (Other Settlements) currently have no defined Development Limits and therefore development proposals will be assessed using the criteria within section 8 of this Note. The Audit of Village Services 2014 provides an up-to-date assessment of facilities, which will subsequently be kept under review through the Annual Monitoring Report.

5.2 For development outside of Development Limits to be considered sustainable it must relate well to the built form of the settlement. This should generally mean it directly adjoins the Development Limits where these exist or the core built form of settlements without Development Limits. However, it may not necessarily adjoin the Development Limits, especially where they have been very tightly defined and therefore a sensible decision must be taken as to whether the development is appropriate taking into consideration all other Core Strategy and Development Policies, particularly the criteria within Development Policy DP8 such as the scale, form, character and setting of each settlement.

6.0 Identifying Other Settlements

6.1 In line with NPPF paragraph 55, housing should be located where it will enhance or maintain the vitality of rural communities. Core Policy CP4 allows for new development in 'Other Locations' if it meets one of the exceptions criteria. For the purpose of this document such locations are referred to as 'Other Settlements'. This approach was very restrictive and based on the now superseded Planning Policy Statement PPS3 which followed a policy of restraint in a time of a rising property market. Therefore to align Core Policy CP4 more closely with the NPPF, new development will now be permitted in Other Settlements (subject to other elements of this guidance and other LDF policies) where it would support communities economically, socially and environmentally. For the purpose of this guidance, 'Other Settlements' are to be defined as follows:

"Settlements with an identifiable built form and settlement character and which have a recognisable sense of community". A list of those settlements can be found at **Annex A**, which reflects the categorisation of settlements within the former District Wide Local Plan, 1999.

6.2 Development in Other Settlements will only be acceptable if it can be demonstrated by its nature, scale and location to provide significant support to the services of the village or a village nearby. It is likely that such Other Settlements could form a cluster with a Service or Secondary Village.

6.3 Housing elsewhere will not be supported as this would result in isolated dwellings in the countryside, contrary to the NPPF concept of sustainability. This includes very small “settlements” with a dispersed loose knit form and where there are very few residential buildings and a lack of any sense of community, such as a cluster of farmsteads. Only development which meets the exceptions criteria of Core Policy CP4 will be acceptable in such locations.

7.0 Defining Cluster Villages

7.1 NPPF paragraph 55 states that “where there are groups of smaller settlements, development in one village may support services in a village nearby”. Therefore, the concept of Cluster Villages will be used to identify those circumstances where villages have a long association and are linked economically and socially e.g. through the use of primary schools, shops and community facilities and can work together to promote more sustainable living. Such clusters are likely to normally consist of one principal settlement defined as either a Service Village or Secondary Village within the Settlement Hierarchy. Access to services within these sustainable settlements will determine whether or not a lower order settlement (Other Settlement) can be considered as part of a cluster, allowing development within that Other Settlement to support the services in a village nearby. A list of settlements is included at **Annex A**.

7.2 It is not the purpose of this guidance to provide a definitive list of those villages to be considered as Cluster Villages, this will be developed through application of the policy, however the following should be used to guide decision making.

“Cluster Villages should be comprised of nearby settlements, one of which should normally be a Service or Secondary Village, given the wider level of services available. If Other Settlements are to form a cluster, these must have a good collective level of shared service provision. Settlements should be linked to each other by convenient public transport, walking or cycling, where the combined settlements offer a range of services contributing to a sustainable community. This could include the sharing of facilities such as a school, post office, health facility or village shop. However it is unlikely to constitute a sustainable community if there are very few services or if there are significant distances (over 2km) or barriers between settlements (e.g. rivers with no crossing)”.

7.3 Examples of Cluster Villages include:

- Alne and Alne Station
- Borrowby and Knayton
- Burneston and Carthorpe
- Great Broughton and Kirkby in Cleveland
- Huby and Sutton on the Forest
- Hutton Rudby and Rudby
- Ingleby Arncliffe and Ingleby Cross
- Kirkby Fleetham and Great/Little Fencote

- Leeming and Leeming Bar
- Linton on Ouse and Newton on Ouse
- Morton on Swale and Ainderby Steeple with Thrintoft
- South Otterington and Newby Wiske

7.4 Consideration will be given to settlements on the edge of the Local Planning Authority area and their relationship to settlements in neighbouring Districts and the National Park.

8.0 Criteria for considering developments within the Settlement Hierarchy

8.1 Proposals which provide a natural infill within an existing settlement (e.g. the construction of a building or buildings on a vacant parcel of land located predominantly within the 'built form' of a settlement) that achieves the small scale, logical development of a settlements' form will be considered favourably, provided that there is consistency with other LDF policies.

8.2 In instances where proposed development sites adjoin the built form of a settlement, the level of affordable housing requirement will remain in line with Core Policy CP9. The development will be assessed using the criteria of Development Policy DP8 (see **Annex B**), the criteria of which are addressed below.

8.3 **Scale** - Small scale development adjacent to the main built form of settlements will be supported where it does not exceed an approximate 5% cumulative increase on the number of dwellings built in the settlement overall as at 1 April 2014 (see **Annex C**). The period of growth runs to the end of the Plan Period (2026), however it is envisaged that a new Local Plan will be in place within the next 5 years. Any development resulting in an increase above 5% will need to be supported by clear evidence of how it will enhance the vitality of the local community by addressing impact upon local facilities such as schools, health, meeting spaces, public open space, village shops and pubs.

8.4 In calculating the scale of increase, account should be taken of any deliverable extant planning permissions or housing allocations in the settlement at the time of the application, plus any dwellings which have been completed since 01/04/2014 (Published SHLAA, October 2014). The distribution of such development could be from several individual building plots or a small self-contained site.

8.5 **Form and Character** - Proposals will be assessed for their impact on the form and character of a settlement. Consideration should be given to the built form of a settlement, its historical evolution and its logical future growth and how the proposal relates to this. Where proposals do not adjoin a settlement then wider consideration must be given to the special physical characteristics of the surrounding area as well as the settlement which sets it apart from its surroundings and contributes to its individuality (e.g. architecture, landscaping, setting, natural features, open space, types and styles of housing, number and size of roads and footpaths) and how the proposal addresses this. Small gaps between buildings should be retained where these provide glimpses to open countryside beyond and contribute to the character and appearance of the area.

8.6 **Protection of the Countryside** - Any detrimental impact on the character, appearance and environmental quality of the surrounding area should be avoided and development should

not compromise the open and rural character of the countryside. Environmental quality can be assessed by using a set of characteristics that relate to the natural and built environment (e.g. noise, air quality, landscape, water quality, density, design, diversity and distance to accessible services) and considering the potential effects which such characteristics may have on physical and mental wellbeing.

8.7 **Prevent outward spread** - Proposals which provide a natural infill within a settlement and which achieve the small scale, logical development of its form will be considered favourably, provided that there is consistency with other LDF policies. Similarly, proposals which provide a natural extension to the built form of a settlement and which relate well to the existing form and character of the settlement, the landscape and landform of the surrounding area and can be easily accessed from the settlement should be favourably considered, provided that there is consistency with other LDF policies. Development which results in ribbon development or has an irregular relationship with the built form will not be acceptable.

8.8 **Coalescence** - The coalescence of settlements, where two or more settlements are situated in close proximity of each other, should be avoided to protect their individual character and identity. Proposals should not reduce the level of physical separation between them in order to retain the distinct form and character of those settlements.

9.0 Rural Exception Sites

9.1 Core Policy CP9A allows for the development of small scale sites for 100% affordable housing outside but adjacent to the Development Limits of Service Villages (except Great Ayton as defined in CP9A) and Secondary Villages where there is a locally identified need. This approach is supported by the NPPF.

9.2 By allowing some development outside of the defined Development Limits or in Other Settlements, the delivery of affordable housing is envisaged to increase as a total number of housing growth. Nevertheless, Rural Exception Sites remain an important mechanism in the delivery of affordable housing in Hambleton.

9.3 Rural Exception Sites outside but not adjoining the built form of Service Villages and Secondary Villages will be supported if they:

- relate well to the built up area;
- have regard to natural boundaries such as hedgerows, tree groupings, water courses, topography and ditches;
- are of a small scale appropriate to the settlement's character and form;
- are well connected to the settlement, including a safe and convenient footpath connection or potential for a connection;
- are capable of being accommodated within the capacity of the existing/planned infrastructure network;
- do not lead to inappropriate ribbon development and/or the coalescence of settlements; and
- are of a design and quality equal to market housing to promote community cohesion

- 9.4 In Other Settlements the development of Rural Exception Sites will be supported where, in addition to the above criteria, they:
- have an identifiable built form and a recognisable sense of community identity;
 - meet an established local need that cannot be met within a nearby higher order settlement, in line with CP9A; and
 - relate well to the character of the settlement and to its built form.
- 9.5 The exception site must be the most suitable, available and deliverable. Where more than one site is put forward for development at the same time, consideration should be given to the need for development, the scale and how well the site relates to the built form. Rural Exception Sites will not be included within the 5% growth calculation.
- 9.6 The community should be engaged in the site selection process and their views will be an important consideration by the applicant in determining the preferred site. Further guidance is available in the Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), 2015.
- 9.7 There may be some circumstances when the most suitable site may not necessarily be within the settlement with the identified need. This may be the case where there are identifiable clusters of settlements. In these cases development of a site in one village may assist to meet the need established in another village within the cluster.

Service Villages

	LDF	2014 Review
Appleton Wiske		
Borrowby		
Brafferton & Helperby		
Brompton		
Carlton Miniott		
Crakehall		
East Cowton		
Great Ayton		
Great Broughton		
Huby		
Husthwaite		
Hutton Rudby		
Kirkby Fleetham		
Linton-on-Ouse		
Morton-on-Swale		
Shipton		
Snape		
Stillington		
Tollerton		
Topcliffe		
West Tanfield		

Secondary Villages

	LDF	2014 Review
Alne		
Bagby		
Burneston		
Crathorne		
Crayke		
Dalton		
East Harlsey		

KEY:

	Service Village
	Secondary Village

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	Other Settlements
	National Park

Great Smeaton		
Ingleby Arncliffe		
Knayton		
Leeming		
Leeming Bar		
Pickhill		
Raskelf		
Sandhutton		
Scruton		
Sessay		
South Kilvington		
South Otterington		
Sutton-on-the-Forest		
Thornton Watlass		
Well		
West Rounton		

Other Settlements



	LDF	2014 Review
Ainderby Quernhow		
Ainderby Steeple		
Aldwark		
Alne Station		
Balk		
Brandsby		
Burrill		
Carlton Husthwaite		
Carthorpe		
Catton		
Clifton on Yore		
Cowesby		
Danby Wiske		
Deighton		
Easby		

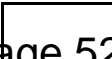

KEY:

	Service Village
	Secondary Village

Page 51	Other Settlements
	National Park



East Rounton		
Ellerbeck		
Exelby		
Farlington		
Felixkirk		
Firby		
Flawith		
Gatenby		
Great Busby		
Great Fencote		
Great Langton		
Great Thirkleby		
Hackforth		
Holme		
Hornby		
Howe		
Hutton Sessay		
Kepwick		
Kilburn		
Kirby Wiske		
Kirkby-in-Cleveland		
Kirklington		
Langthorne		
Little Fencote		
Little Thirkleby		
Londonderry		
Low Worsall		
Maunby		
Middleton-on-Leven		
Myton-on-Swale		
Nether Silton		
Newby		
Newby Wiske		



KEY:	 Service Village
	 Secondary Village

Page 52	 Other Settlements
	 National Park

Newton-on-Ouse		
Nosterfield		
Oulston		
Over Dinsdale		
Over Silton		
Picton		
Potto		
Rudby		
Seamer		
Sinderby		
Skewsby		
Skipton-on-Swale		
Stearsby		
Streetlam		
Sutton Howgrave		
Sutton-under-Whitestonecliffe		
Tame Bridge		
Theakston		
Thimbleby		
Thirlby		
Thirn		
Tholthorpe		
Thormanby		
Thornborough		
Thornton-le-Beans		
Thornton-le-Moor		
Thornton-le-Street		
Thrintoft		
Upsall		
Welbury		
Yafforth		
Yearsley		

KEY:

	Service Village
	Secondary Village

	Other Settlements
	National Park

North York Moors National Park

	LDF	2014 Review
Boltby		
Carlton-in-Cleveland		
Coxwold		
Faceby		
Ingleby Greenhow		
Kildale		
Kirby Knowle		
Osmotherley		
Swainby		

KEY:

	Service Village
	Secondary Village

Page 54	Other Settlements
	National Park

Settlement Hierarchy 2014

Service Centres	Thirsk (with Sowerby)	Bedale (with Aiskew)	Easingwold	Stokesley
Northallerton (with Romanby)				
Service Villages				
Appleton Wiske Brompton East Cowton Morton on Swale	Borrowby Carlton Miniott Topcliffe	Crakehall Kirkby Fleetham Snape West Tanfield	Brafferton/Helperby Huby Hustwaite Linton on Ouse Shipton Stillington Tollerton	Great Ayton Great Broughton Hutton Rudby
Secondary Villages				
East Harlsey Great Smeaton Scruton West Rounton	Bagby Dalton Knayton Pickhill Sandhutton Sessay South Kilvington South Otterington	Burneston Leeming Leeming Bar Thornton Watlass Well	Alne Crayke Raskelf Sutton on the Forest	Crathorne Ingleby Arncliffe

DP8 Development Limits

DP8 Permission for development will be granted within the settlement Development Limits as defined on the Proposals Map, provided that it is consistent with other LDF policies.

Development Limits are defined for each settlement in the hierarchy identified in Core Policy CP4, in order to achieve the following:

- i. to relate development opportunities to the scale and appropriate distribution of housing (and other developments) proposed to be met by the sustainable hierarchy of settlements during the LDF period;**
- ii. to ensure that new development is sympathetic in scale and location to the form and character of settlements;**
- iii. to protect the countryside;**
- iv. to prevent the outward spread of development from settlements;**
- v. to prevent the coalescence of neighbouring settlements.**

The location of the Development Limit around each settlement will ensure that development within the Limit will:

- a. be a natural infill to or extension of the settlement compatible with its position within the settlement hierarchy (defined in Core Policy CP4), and its size, character, location and setting, or otherwise be an intensification/ redevelopment of an existing use;**
- b. not lead to the coalescence of distinct and separate communities;**
- c. not have a detrimental impact on the character, appearance and environmental quality of the adjacent countryside, or otherwise conflict with the environmental policies of the LDF;**
- d. meet the development needs of the area, and can be accommodated within the capacity of existing infrastructure and facilities.**

Justification (DP8)

- 3.8.1 Development Limits are identified for each settlement identified in the hierarchy (Principal Service Centres, Service Centres, Service Villages and Secondary Villages) established by Policy CP4.
- 3.8.2 Policy CP4 identifies the names of settlements in the hierarchy – Policy DP8 establishes the principles that are used in defining the limits to development of each settlement, or effectively its boundary. Within Development Limits, proposals for development will be accepted, provided that they reflect the other Policies of the LDF, particularly concerning the appropriate locations for development, and in terms of design, reflect the requirements concerning amenity (Policies CP1 and DP1), and design (Policies CP17 and DP32).
- 3.8.3 Development Limits have a number of objectives, which are set out fully in the Policy, and which will direct the designation of the boundaries themselves. The approach adopted in the preceding District Wide Local Plan was to identify specific boundaries on the Proposals Map. This approach is retained in the LDF, but the boundaries concerned are being reviewed: the proposed Development Limits will be advanced through revisions to the Proposals Map, and will be published for comment as part of the progression of the Allocations DPD. Until the Allocations DPD is formally adopted, the Development Limits established by Policy L1 in the District Wide Local Plan will continue to apply to those settlements in the hierarchy identified in Policy CP4.
- 3.8.4 In reviewing the boundaries, and taking account of the objectives set out above, the Development Limits will be defined in precise locational terms to guide the appropriate shape and form of each designated settlement, based on the principles set out in the Policy. Should monitoring of the LDF indicate that further review of Development Limits is required, this will be conducted as part of a formal review of the Allocations DPD, based on the purposes and principles set out in Policy DP8.



Implementation (DP8)

3.8.5 The main agent for the implementation of this Policy will be the District Council, through its role as Local Planning Authority in bringing forward the definition of the Development Limits through the Allocations DPD, in consultation with local communities and the Parish Councils. In relation to development proposals within the Development Limits it will involve developers (advancing specific development proposals), and the District Council in its role as Local Planning Authority, determining planning applications, in consultation with Town and Parish Councils.

Settlement	Dwelling Numbers	5% Growth	Allocation		Permissions at 2014-04-01	Actual based on 5% Growth
Ainderby Quernhow	22	1			1	0
Ainderby Steeple	85	4			2	2
Aldwark	61	3				3
Alne	191	10			1	9
Alne Station	48	2				2
Appleton Wiske	190	10				10
Bagby	185	9			3	6
Balk	15	1				1
Borrowby	149	7				7
Brafferton & Helperby	319	16			1	15
Brandsby	37	2			1	1
Brompton	907	45	NH3	20	11	14
Burneston	122	6			7	0
Burrill	28	1				1
Carlton Husthwaite	70	4				4
Carlton Miniott	379	19	TH5	36	40	0
Carthorpe	84	4			1	3
Catton	31	2				2
Clifton on Yore	10	1				1
Cowesby (Part NYMNP)	25	1				1
Crakehall	241	12	BH7	15	1	0
Crathorne	56	3				3
Crayke	125	6			3	3
Dalton	223	11	TH4	30	41	0
Danby Wiske	58	3				3
Deighton	23	1			1	0
Easby	18	1			1	0
East Cowton	230	12	NH4	48	1	0
East Harlsey	95	5				5
East Rounton	17	1				1
Ellerbeck	14	1				1
Exelby	76	4				4
Farlington	33	2				2
Felixkirk	28	1				1
Firby	12	1				1
Flawith	28	1				1
Gatenby	10	1				1
Great Ayton	2168	108	SH4	60	15	33
Great Broughton	388	19	SH3	20	3	0
Great Busby	13	1				1
Great Fencote	31	2				2
Great Langton	43	2			2	0
Great Smeaton	102	5			3	2
Great Thirkleby	36	2				2
Hackforth	61	3			10	0

Settlement	Dwelling Numbers	5% Growth	Allocation		Permissions at 2014-04-01	Actual based on 5% Growth
Holme	19	1				1
Hornby	48	2			2	0
Howe	9	0				0
Huby	398	20			2	18
Husthwaite	155	8	EH5	20	1	0
Hutton Rudby	701	35	SH5	30	9	0
Hutton Sessay	30	2				2
Ingleby Arncliffe	121	6				6
Kepwick (Part NYMNP)	15	1			1	0
Kilburn (Part NYMNP)	86	4				4
Kirby Wiske	33	2				2
Kirkby Fleetham	118	6			3	3
Kirkby-in-Cleveland	89	4				4
Kirklington	84	4				4
Knayton	102	5				5
Langthorne	22	1				1
Leeming	211	11				11
Leeming Bar	365	18	BE1, BH9 & BM4	65		0
Linton-on-Ouse	247	12			20	0
Little Fencote	21	1				1
Little Thirkleby	21	1				1
Londonderry	44	2				2
Low Worsall	83	4			1	3
Maunby	46	2			1	1
Middleton-on-Leven	17	1				1
Morton-on-Swale	242	13	NH5	42	9	0
Myton-on-Swale	49	2				2
Nether Silton (Part NYMNP)	25	1				1
Newby	77	4			1	3
Newby Wiske	62	3				3
Newton-on-Ouse	222	11				11
Nosterfield	48	2				2
Oulston	35	2				2
Over Dinsdale	20	1				1
Over Silton	24	1				1
Pickhill	136	7			3	4
Picton	37	2				2
Potto	77	4				4
Raskelf	159	8			4	4
Rudby	125	6				6
Sandhutton	94	5			1	4
Scruton	154	8			1	7
Seamer	122	6			3	3
Sessay	100	5			1	4
Shipton	255	13	EH4	10	2	1

Settlement	Dwelling Numbers	5% Growth	Allocation		Permissions at 2014-04-01	Actual based on 5% Growth
Sinderby	56	3				3
Skewsby	32	2				2
Skipton-on-Swale	26	1			2	0
Snape	143	7	BH8	20	1	0
South Kilvington	103	5				5
South Otterington	112	6				6
Stearsby	11	1				1
Stillington	334	17	EH6	30	5	0
Streetlam	11	1				1
Sutton Howgrave	30	2			1	1
Sutton-on-the-Forest	215	11			2	9
Sutton-under-Whitstonecliffe	95	5				5
Tame Bridge	61	3				3
Theakston	13	1				1
Thimbleby	15	1				1
Thirlby	43	2				2
Thirn	29	1			1	0
Tholthorpe	87	4				4
Thormanby	41	2				2
Thornborough	48	2				2
Thornton Watlass	82	4				4
Thornton-le-Beans	81	4				4
Thornton-le-Moor	119	6			1	5
Thornton-le-Street	27	1				1
Thrintoft	49	2			1	1
Tollerton	361	18			2	16
Topcliffe	215	11			2	9
Upsall	14	1				1
Welbury	70	4				4
Well	83	4			3	1
West Rounton	52	3			1	2
West Tanfield	130	7	BM3	40		0
Yafforth	52	3			1	2
Yearsley	30	2				2

HAMBLETON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report To: Cabinet
2 December 2014

Subject: **HAMBLETON ECONOMIC STRATEGY 2014-2024**

All Wards
Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Finance: Councillor P R Wilkinson

1.0 PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 To seek approval for the final version of the Hambleton Economic Strategy and Investment Plan 2014-2024, attached as Annex A to the report.
- 1.2 In July 2013 Cabinet agreed investment of £100,000 to conduct an Economic Study of the district to inform the development of an Economic Development Strategy. This work was concluded and final reports published in April 2014.
- 1.3 The key findings from the Study, together with Member priorities, Community Infrastructure Levy priorities and previous Renaissance Market Town Plan priorities have informed the development of the Draft Economic Strategy and 10 Year Investment Plan.
- 1.4 To ensure alignment of the Investment Plan 2014 – 2024 with other service strategies and policies within the Council, internal consultation took place with all directorates. Informal soundings have also taken place with the Local Enterprise Partnership, the Federation of Small Businesses.
- 1.5 An external consultation resulted in 56 responses representing 56% from the business sector and 40% community sector. A third of the consultees indicated a willingness to be involved in the delivery of the priority themes, with Business Support and Vibrant Market Towns being seen as a priority for funding followed by Driving Growth. The Key outcomes ranked as the most important were supporting new and existing business, the economic vitality of market towns and creating employment opportunities for young people which reflect the interests of the sectors who responded to the survey. Further detail on the consultation results can be found in Annex B.
- 1.6 The resulting Strategy aims to support the sustained growth of Hambleton's Economy and ensure businesses are resilient, it identifies 5 priority areas of activity: Business Support, Inward Investment, Driving Growth, Vibrant Market Towns and Supporting Activity. The supporting Investment Plan outlines a more detailed programme of projects to be delivered under each one.

2.0 LINK TO COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

- 2.1 The Strategy will support the delivery of the Councils objective to support local economic growth, through the identification and alignment of a programme of projects and investment against the 5 priority areas identified in the Strategy.

3.0 RISK ASSESSMENT:

3.1

Risk	Implication	Prob*	Imp*	Total	Preventative action
Economic development work undertaken is not based on a coherent strategic approach	Future action and investment by the Council has limited impact	3	4	12	Develop and adopt Economic Strategy and Investment Plan

- 3.2 The key risk in not approving the recommendation is that the Council could have economic development work being undertaken in a non-strategic, incoherent manner.
- 3.3 There are no significant risks associated with approving the recommendation.
- 3.4 The Council has identified economic growth as one of its key priorities and to date has invested time and financial resource to ensure that future work delivered by the Council and its partners in this area, meets an identified need, is cost effective and delivers maximum benefit. It is therefore essential that a range of partners, particularly the private sector are given the opportunity to contribute to the development of the Strategy and that the final Strategy is comprehensive, relevant and robust.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

- 4.1 Significant investment will be required to deliver the Economic Strategy. In anticipation of this, in June 2014 Cabinet agreed to establish a £5,000,000 Economic Development Fund to support its delivery.
- 4.2 The successful delivery of the Strategy will also rely upon the Councils ability to lever in match funding from a wide range of public and private sector sources, including European, National and Local Enterprise Partnership funding programmes. In order to maximise external investment, as part of 'Supporting Activity', the Council will develop internal knowledge and expertise in identifying securing funding. Potential external investment is shown in the table below:-

Theme	HDC Investment £ Million	Potential External Investment £ Million	Potential Investment Total £ Million
Business Support	0.43	0.44	0.87
Inward Investment	0.07	0.01	0.08
Drive Growth	3.90	22.4	26.3
Vibrant Market Towns	0.30	1.26	1.86
Supporting Activity	0.30	0	0
TOTAL	5	24	29

- 4.3 Detailed revenue and capital implications for the Council are identified by theme in the table below:-

Theme	Revenue	Capital	Total	% Of Total Revenue	% Of Total Capital
Business Support	£372,600.00	£60,000.00	£432,600.00	86.1	13.9
Inward Investment	£66,000.00	£0.00	£66,000.00	100.0	0.0
Drive Growth	£60,000.00	£3,842,000.00	£3,902,000.00	1.5	98.5
Vibrant Market Towns	£30,000.00	£265,000.00	£295,000.00	10.2	89.8
Supporting Activity	£304,000.00	£0.00	£304,000.00	100.0	0.0
TOTAL	£832,600.00	£4,167,000.00	£4,999,600.00	16.7	83.3

5.0 EQUALITY/DIVERSITY ISSUES

5.1 Consultation on the Draft Strategy and Investment Plan will be designed to ensure ease of access for key stakeholders, business and representatives of the community enabling them to contribute effectively.

6.0 RECOMMENDATION:

6.1 It is recommended that Cabinet approves and recommends to Council the Economic Strategy and Investment Plan 2014-2024 for adoption.

DAVE GOODWIN

Background papers: Hambleton A Place to Grow – Economic Strategy and Investment Plan 2014 – 2024

Author ref: SJS/NP

Contact: Sam Swinbank/Nicole Patterson - Business & Economy Manager
Direct Line No: 01609 767233

021214 Hambleton Economic Strategy 2014 to 2024

OBJECTIVE: INWARD INVESTMENT

Projects	years									
	1 2014/15	2 2015/16	3 2016/17	4 2017/18	5 2018/19	6 2019/20	7 2020/21	8 2021/22	9 2022/23	10 2023/24
HDC Lead										
I1	Develop 'Hambleton - a place to grow' brand									
I2	Develop investor information									
a	High quality website									
b	Detailed sites and premises information									
c	Investor packs & site marketing									
I3	Promote District and its unique selling points									
a	Targeted marketing in key sectors									
I4	Business Leaders Programme - creating District ambassadors									
HDC Enable										
HDC Co-ordinating										

KEY

Feasibility

Preparation - e.g. Planning, securing investment etc.

Delivery

Potential Prep

Potential Delivery

OBJECTIVE: DRIVE GROWTH

Projects	Years	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Project Delivery Plan & HDC investment profile											
HDC lead											
G1 Improve infrastructure (incl.Transport)											
a Dalton Bridge											
b Central Northallerton											
c North Northallerton Road & Bridge											
d Broadband / 4G											
G2 Improve access to training											
a Engage with Uni. of Teesside, Sunderland and Yorkshire Universities											
G3 Sector support											
a Sectors of competitive advantage											
b Important sectors facing challenges											
c High Growth Sectors											
G4 Industrial Park reviews - Ensuring forecast growth requirements are met											
a Leeming											
b Dalton											
c Stokesley											
d Thirsk											
e Northallerton											
HDC Enable											
G5 Exploit regional & extra regional opportunities											
a Biovale											
b Food & Environment Research Agency											
c Offshore & Engineering											
G6 Enterprise in Education - develop a culture of enterprise											
HDC Co-ordinating											
G7 Skills Development - workforce equipped with right skills											

KEY

Feasibility

Preparation - e.g. Planning, securing investment etc.

Delivery

Potential Prep

Potential Growth

ECONOMIC STRATEGY CONSULTATION
 October 2014

 25 September-3 November 2014
 56 online responses received

YOUR CONTACT DETAILS

Organisation name:	56 responses received
Address:	55 responses received
Telephone:	53 responses received
Email address:	56 responses received
Your name:	55 responses received
Please tick which of the following sector(s) you represent:	
35 (56.5%)	Business
2 (3.2%)	Stakeholder
25 (40.3%)	Community

Q1	Would you be interested in becoming involved in the delivery of the Strategy? Please indicate below if you would be willing to get involved in any of the following:	Yes	No	No reply
	Activity to attract Inward Investment	16 (28.6%)	30 (53.6%)	10 (17.9%)
	Business Support	19 (33.9%)	28 (50.0%)	9 (16.1%)
	Development of Market Town Investment Plans	21 (37.5%)	27 (48.2%)	8 (14.3%)
	Driving Growth	12 (21.4%)	33 (58.9%)	11 (19.6%)
	Enterprise in education	15 (26.8%)	33 (58.9%)	8 (14.3%)
	Support to other businesses in the area	19 (33.9%)	27 (48.2%)	10 (17.9%)

Is there anything else you would be willing to get involved in to support the delivery of the Strategy?	
	<p>1) The only way, in my opinion, to answer the fundamental statements you put forward is on a face to face with business`s like ours. The infrastructure in this area and specifically Leeming Bar Industrial Estate is very poor. The utilities are only interested in change if the cost is paid for by business. We are a very independent company so do not seek help other than support for our planning applications!</p> <p>2) WE HAVE A KEEN INTEREST IN TRYING TO ATTRACT VISITORS TO THE AREA AND ANY HELP WE CAN OFFER WE WOULD.</p> <p>3) The voluntary sector is part of the overall economy and NDVSA as the Local Development and Support Organisation is very happy to be involved in a representative role as appropriate.</p> <p>4) I am short on time but if I am able to help I will. At this very moment I could do with some guidance from the Council myself on a development issue but as things stand I understand that I need to make an appointment to discuss, lead time approx.. 2 weeks and also need to pay £250.00 These are both two barriers to progress.</p> <p>5) Our business already helps community events as much as is possible for a small business. In fact more commitment than is prudent, given our resources. I could not sign up to a public project without adequate reimbursement for the time and effort involved; just as the Consultants, Officers and Councillors are paid for their time and expenses.</p> <p>6) Charities and businesses working together.</p> <p>7) We could provide a consulted I.T support function to help small businesses who aren't using I.T systems become more efficient. Perhaps provide services to install networks, PC's, servers, websites, social media marketing and reducing telephone/internet utility costs.</p> <p>8) The company is winding down towards retirement.</p> <p>9) Council schemes which attract and support business growth in the insulation and renewable energy sector, both of which would bring real benefits to Hambleton communities, particularly those homes who do not benefit from mains gas. This will also drive growth by releasing resident's spending power as their utility bills are reduced as a result of improvements. Work with the estate agency / lettings sector to improve the energy efficiency of homes, hence adding to their value and supporting this sector.</p> <p>10) The Council could publicise this in its Annual Newsletter that is distributed to all households in Brompton Parish - approximately 1,100 properties</p> <p>11) Why, as Northallerton is the "County Town" of North Yorkshire, are such things as Local Parks for Residents and adequate Toilet Facilities in the town for residents and visitors alike, ignored in such surveys? Even small villages in the county have such basic facilities for visitors but there are none in the "County Town" to its shame.</p>

Q2 Funding to deliver our priorities is limited. Please rank the four themes below in order of importance to you (1=most important and 4=least important)						
		1	2	3	4	No reply
	Business Support	19 (33.9%)	16 (28.6%)	10 (17.9%)	8 (14.3%)	3 (5.4%)
	Driving Growth	5 (8.9%)	15 (26.8%)	11 (19.6%)	22 (39.3%)	3 (5.4%)
	Inward Investment	5 (8.9%)	12 (21.4%)	23 (41.1%)	13 (23.2%)	3 (5.4%)
	Vibrant Market Towns	25 (44.6%)	10 (17.9%)	8 (14.3%)	11 (19.6%)	2 (3.6%)

Q3 If you had to prioritise funding and resources to deliver the following key outcomes, in what order of importance would you rank them? (1=most important and 6=least important)								
		1	2	3	4	5	6	No reply
	Creating employment land for development	3 (5.4%)	2 (3.6%)	5 (8.9%)	5 (8.9%)	5 (8.9%)	34 (60.7%)	2 (3.6%)
	Creating employment opportunities for young people	7 (12.5%)	13 (23.2%)	9 (16.1%)	12 (21.4%)	9 (16.1%)	3 (5.4%)	3 (5.4%)
	Economic vitality of market towns	19 (33.9%)	8 (14.3%)	8 (14.3%)	6 (10.7%)	8 (14.3%)	3 (5.4%)	4 (7.1%)
	Jobs created	5 (8.9%)	11 (19.6%)	10 (17.9%)	10 (17.9%)	13 (23.2%)	5 (8.9%)	2 (3.6%)
	New and existing businesses supported	17 (30.4%)	9 (16.1%)	8 (14.3%)	9 (16.1%)	6 (10.7%)	5 (8.9%)	2 (3.6%)
	Securing investment to support economic growth	3 (5.4%)	11 (19.6%)	14 (25.0%)	12 (21.4%)	12 (21.4%)	4 (7.1%)	0 (0.0%)

Q4 Is there anything additional we could do or any innovations associated with the delivery of the Strategy that you would like to highlight?	
	35 responses received

Please tick as appropriate below:	
11 responses received	Please do not contact me in the future about initiatives to grow the Hambleton economy.

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HAMBLETON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report To: Cabinet
2 December 2014

Subject: **SOWERBY SPORTS VILLAGE**

Sowerby Ward
Portfolio Holder for Customer & Leisure Services: Councillor Mrs B S Fortune

1.0 BACKGROUND:

1.1 Through a long history of negotiations the Council has signed a S106 Agreement in relation to the South West Thirsk housing area which includes:-

- Transport infrastructure;
- On-site children's play;
- On-site public open space;
- Various elements relating to cycling;
- Public art;
- Education; and
- Off-site recreational scheme.

1.2 This report relates purely to the final one of these the off-site recreational scheme and sets out progress with the delivery of this element which covers the transfer of 9.745 acres of land and £1.5 million.

2.0 CURRENT POSITION:

2.1 The Council has established a local stakeholder group which includes the adjacent secondary school, local sports clubs, youth organisations and Sowerby Parish Council.

2.2 There is a shared vision to create a 'sports village' which encompasses existing adjacent facilities as well as the new provision. It would be mainly outdoor facilities with associated changing and social buildings, and would need to be complementary to other existing facilities in the Sowerby & Thirsk area rather than to compete.

2.3 The Council is taking the lead in implementing the scheme using its project management methodology and has appointed design agents to help it to undertake Phase 1 of the project which is effectively a feasibility and planning phase.

2.4 There is a high level of engagement and involvement of local community organisations as it is envisaged that ultimately the site will be managed by a sustainable voluntary organisation.

2.5 The Council has led a process involving the key stakeholders through two rounds of public consultation and as a result has produced a preferred scheme.

2.6 This preferred scheme was submitted as a planning application and approved by Planning Committee held on 13 November 2014.

2.7 To allow the project to proceed there are two pieces of land which need to transfer to the Council. One is from the developer, the other from NYCC; both land transactions are under way and are expected to be complete early in the New Year.

3.0 RESULTS TO DATE:

3.1 A plan has been produced which has been submitted for planning permission; this is shown at Annex A.

3.2 The delivery of the concept plan has been costed at approximately £4m and it is envisaged that the balance of £2.5m funding will come from external grants such as the Sports Lottery, Sport England and the various governing bodies of the sports involved. Firmed up assessments of these will inform an implementation plan which could deliver the concept in phases over several years.

3.3 The production of the concept plans have been informed by local stakeholder consultation, governing body of sport liaison and discussions with both the main developer and Council Planning Officers.

4.0 NEXT STEPS:

4.1 The next steps include:-

- Developing an implementation plan
- Undertaking design work
- Submitting external funding bids
- Establishing a new umbrella body to oversee and manage the operation of the site in future

4.2 There is already a public relations plan for this project which links into the Communications Plan for the South West Thirsk housing project itself.

5.0 LINK TO COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

5.1 This links to the Council's Health priority as it will increase participation in physical activity amongst young people in particular.

6.0 RISK ASSESSMENT:

6.1 There is no significant risk associated with this report.

7.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

7.1 There are no financial implications for the Council associated with this report.

8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

8.1 The only legal implications are in relation to the S106 Agreement previously covered.

9.0 EQUALITY/DIVERSITY ISSUES:

9.1 An equality impact assessment will be undertaken prior to any investment.

10.0 RECOMMENDATION:

10.1 It is recommended that Cabinet endorses the progress on the Sowerby Sports Village and the next steps be approved.

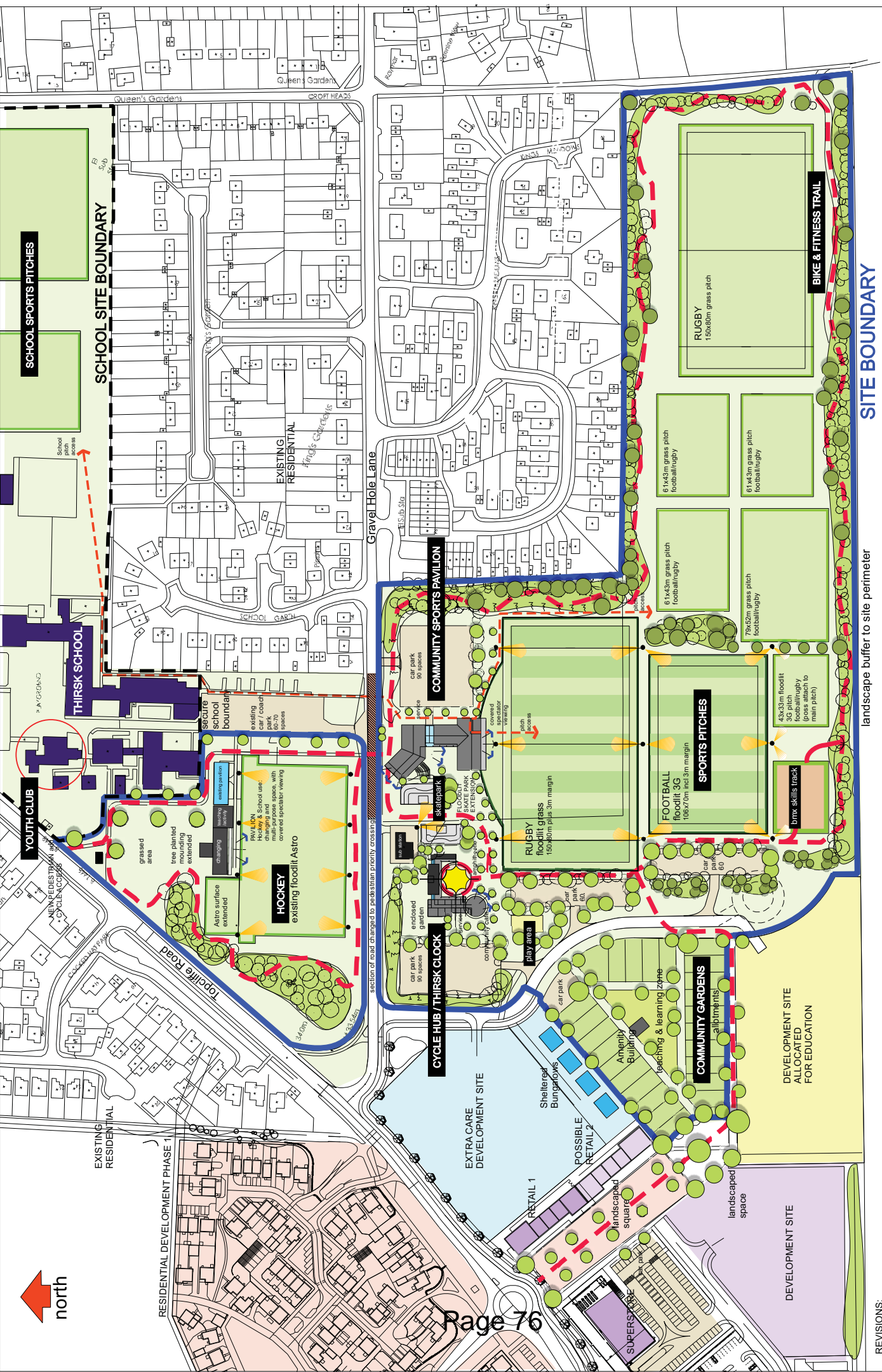
DAVID GOODWIN

Background papers: None

Author ref: DRG

Contact: David Goodwin
Director of Customer & Leisure Services
Direct Line No 767147

021214 Sowerby Sports Village



landscape buffer to site perimeter

REVISIONS:
A. Hockey/school pavilion amended following Stakeholder meeting. MD 15 Oct.2013



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