

Sunderland East Area Committee

21st July 2010.

Report of the Office of the Chief Executive

Community Action in Sunderland East – Progress Review

1. Why has it come to Committee?

- 1.1. The Committee has new governance processes which include reviewing progress on all outstanding issues and actions logged with Area Committee, including priorities from 2009-10 being rolled over into 2010-11 work plan.
- 1.2. The new reporting process allows Area Committee to map progress made by Lead Agents against area priorities and the new issues log (see Item 2), providing an arena to enable the development of a forward thinking programme of work, identifying potential resource requirements where appropriate. Area Committee will be identifying the relevant option(s) to implement, e.g. review or realign services, Call for Projects using SIB funding, approve funding proposals or Escalate to Scrutiny or Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) against each issue or action.
- 1.3. **Annex 1** provides the detail of all outstanding issues previously identified through 2009/10 and provides an update with regards to progress or completion. It also identifies any unresolved issues and actions and identifies where Area Committee will consider an SIB or SIP application for funding to address their work plan.
- 1.4. **Annex 2** includes Community Chest and Strategic Initiative Budget (SIB) and Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) financial statement see **Annex 2a**; provides a summary of spend, proposals received and balances for Community Chest, SIB and SIP. It also includes details of all applications received. Members are requested to consider those applications and refer to **Annex 2b** for Community Chest and **Annex 2c** for details and summary.

2. Performance Management

- 2.1 A number of sources have been utilised to evidence and identify the key issues and queries. Some of issues included in Annex 1 have been raised during the delivery of the 2009/10 Action Plans and Works Plan. Data sources include:

1. Safe Theme	Issues Log, Members queries, Local Multi Agency Problem Solving (LMAPS) Group, Northumbria Police Statistics, Safe Sunderland Partnership Local Confidence Survey and Children Services Delivery Plans.
2. Learning Theme	Issues Log, Members queries, Hanlon Data, Leaders Ward Visits.
3. Healthy Theme	Mosaic Data (Primary Care Trust), Director of Public Health Report, Ward Visits, Index Multiple Deprivation
4. Attractive and Inclusive	Members queries, LAP, Area Action Plans, Area Committee issues, Questions to Area Committee.
5. Prosperous	Ward Visits, Area Committee Issues Log, Hanlon, Tyne & Wear Research Institute, Working Neighbourhoods Fund

3. Progress Report

3.1 Safe theme

In September 2009 the Area Committee invited Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue (TWF&R) to submit a bid for an Arson Worker, totalling £25,000 per year, over a two year period. This has been on hold as an Arson Task Force Group was established. The aim of the Group was to review services currently being delivered to see if improvements can be made in working practices making it easier to work together and reduce the number of secondary fires in the area, without the need for employing a worker.

The Arson Task Force Group, made up of partners from across the area, (TWF&R, Northumbria Police, University, Council) all worked together to deliver an educational and enforcement campaign called Operation Charlie during May and June 10 in the Millfield and Hendon area, along with implementing and agreeing short and long term objectives to improve working practices across all organisations. Results from 'Operation Charlie' will be presented at a future meeting of Committee, along with recommendations on the £50,000 currently ring fenced for an Arson Worker in the East area for consideration.

Committee are asked to consider and identify projects within the East area which may benefit from referral into the Community Payback Scheme, delivered by Youth Offending Services, Children Services, for example, removal of graffiti, litter pick, etc.

One SIB funding proposal has been submitted, to employ a Victim Support Worker, with the recommendation to defer until October 2010.

3.2 Learning theme

The provision of youth and play services and facilities has previously been identified as an issue. Area Committee has been requested to fund a number of initiatives to bring additionality. Area Committee will receive updates and information where relevant via Area Action Plans and Ward Bulletins. Four SIP/SIB funding proposals have been submitted for approval to this meeting which address provision of facilities and introducing road safety measures around a play provision.

3.3 Health theme

During March 2010, Committee discussed and agreed the need to refresh and expand the priorities to include, smoking and alcohol, in addition to obesity, to directly increase life expectancy across the area.

It is evident that levels of deprivation, including child poverty, average educational attainment, affordable housing and worklessness are key themes identified alongside these three health priorities, and the likelihood is that all three would relate to the same individuals in similar circumstances.

After further discussions with the Teaching Primary Care Trust a recommendation has been received to identify an overall priority that would address all three, as health inequalities.

Health Inequalities forms part of the work plan for Health and Well Being Scrutiny and a recent policy review on tackling health inequalities was presented to Cabinet in June 2010. It is proposed that Committee refresh their health priority and receive updates via the Area Actions and Ward Bulletins.

Two SIB/SIP funding proposals have been submitted for approval to this meeting which provide more opportunities for people to take part in sport and exercise.

3.4 Attractive and Inclusive theme

A number of issues have been identified over the last 12 months and a range of mechanisms have been introduced to manage responses. Sunderland East Members have raised a number of queries with regard to empty properties in Middle Hendon, Hendon Beach, Holy Trinity Church and Fawcett Street.

With regard to empty properties the Council are now in the process of recruiting officers for the Neighbourhood Management Team which will be dedicated to the East area and in particular to delivering the selective licensing initiative in the Hendon area. The team will comprise of; Team Leader, Environmental Health Officer, Building Surveyor, Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) Officer and an Empty Property Officer. The team will focus on improving landlord practices, property conditions, reducing the number of empty properties and tackling ASB. They will be based at the Back on The Map office on Vilette Road in order to work in the heart of the area.

The selective licensing scheme went 'live' on the 1st July and landlords have started submitting their applications. The Team Leader has been appointed, with the remaining posts being recruited and in post over the Summer.

An update has been provided on Holy Trinity Church and Fawcett Street outside of Area Committee and the Lead Officer for the Task Group established to focus on Hendon Beach will provide an update for Committee during the meeting.

Three SIB/SIP funding proposals have been submitted for approval to this meeting which involve delivering a heritage regeneration project in the East End, re-tarmacing a car park at Ryhope Community Association and delivering improvements to Backhouse Park.

3.5 Prosperous theme

Increasing employment and enterprise opportunities is one of four key priorities for Sunderland East. Area Committee will receive updates and information where relevant via Area Action Plans and Ward Bulletins. Three SIB/SIP proposals have been submitted for approval to this meeting to encourage young people into further education or employment and help people to get a new or better job. A further SIB proposal has been submitted to deliver an intermediate labour market project targeting Not in Employment, Education and Training (NEET), although on this occasion it is recommended to reject the application.

4. Financial Statement

4.1 A financial statement detailing all Community Chest, SIP, and SIB approvals up to April 2010 is attached as Annex 2a. There are sixteen proposals for support from the 2010/11 Community Chest, five proposals to approve from SIP 2010/11, with seven proposals to approve, one proposal to defer and one proposal to reject from SIB 2010/11.

5. Recommendations

5.1 Members are requested to:

- Note that the results from 'Operation Charlie' will be presented at a future meeting of Committee, along with recommendations on the £50,000 currently ring fenced for an Arson Worker in the East area for consideration.

- Consider and identify projects within the East area which may benefit from referral into the Community Payback Scheme, delivered by Youth Offending Services, Children Services.
- Refresh the health priority from 2009/10 work plan from 'provide more opportunities for people to take part in sport and exercise' to 'reduce health inequalities'.
- Area Committee to receive updates from Health and Well Being Scrutiny's Policy Review on Tackling Health Inequalities via the Health Area Action Plan and Ward Bulletin.
- Note the update on Hendon Beach.
- Members are requested to approve funding for proposals as detailed in Annex 2 and to note the balances remaining for the remainder of this financial year.

6. Appendices

- 6.1 Annex 1: Community Action: Review Progress
- 6.2 Annex 2: Executive Summary: Financial Statements and Funding Requests
 - Annex 2a: Financial Statement
 - Annex 2b: Community Chest Applications
 - Annex 2c: Summary of SIP and SIB funding applications

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