

28th JULY 2011

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

COMMUNITY ACTION IN WASHINGTON – PROGRESS REVIEW

Progress Report on 2011/12 Workplan

1 Why has it come to Committee?

- 1.1 The report provides an update of progress against agreed actions in the current year's (2011/12) Work Plan (**Annex 1**).

2 Background

- 2.1 The purpose of the work plan is to clearly identify the key priorities for Area Committee to discuss, deliver actions and monitor throughout the year, with the overall outcome to improve the quality of life for residents within the Washington area.
- 2.2 Area Committee identified 2 new key priorities for 2011/12 and established Task Groups to take forward the work plan actions. Those Task Group updates have been presented to Committee as Items 2a and 2b.
- 2.3 This report presents an update and progress with regard to the other priorities carried forward from 2010/11.

3 Tackling Health Inequalities

- 3.1 Work continues through the Washington Health Champions project, which will report to each Area Committee meeting. As of 1st July a total of 442 people either working city wide or in Washington had enrolled on the Health Champion's programme. Of these, 103 workers are from Washington, and of these 56 were from the voluntary sector. There are now 12 health champions from Washington, but around 70 health champions across Sunderland.
- 3.2 A celebration event is planned for the 13th October and people who have completed all five modules as well as key stakeholders will be invited. This event is primarily to thank the people who have been through the Health Champion's programme, and also to showcase the Area Committee funded project as a very successful example of community development and partnership working.

4 Attractive Neighbourhood

- 4.1 Service requests, complaints and resident surveys and satisfaction levels indicate that an attractive and cared for environment is still a priority for the area. Responsive Local Services continue to work with and report to Area Committee through the Area Response Manager. A verbal report will be presented at the meeting highlighting key successes, issues and activity.
- 4.2 Area Committee has also maintained an influencing role with regard to roadways, highways and traffic management issues. That role will be maintained with regular

reports and updates to Area Committee together with the co-ordination of Members Requests for Service.

The Bus Links Removal Scheme experiment was completed in June. In response to the formal publication of proposals for the closure to Brandy Lane, 4 objections have now been received. The process requires these objections to be presented to the Planning and Highways Committee for consideration, provisionally September 20th, before a decision is made with regard to implementation.

5. Equality, Community Inclusion and Engagement

- 5.1 To develop the capacity and influence of the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) across the City, Area Networks have been established and delegates represent each Area Network at Area Committee taking forward issues on behalf of the whole VCS in the area and reporting back, providing a two-way flow of communication between SCN and the Area Committee.
- 5.2 Washington Area Network delegates will present a verbal report to each Area Committee meeting informing Members of activity, progress, issues and concerns of the sector.

Recommendations:

Members are requested

- To note the report and the updates for the Work plan attached as **Annex 1**

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