

**At a meeting of the EAST SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE, SUNDERLAND on MONDAY, 23<sup>rd</sup> APRIL, 2012 at 5.30p.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor Ball in the Chair

Councillors Emerson, Forbes, E. Gibson, Kay, McClennan, T. Martin, Mordey, Scanlan and Wood.

**Also Present:-**

- |                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Sarah Abernethy     | - Scrutiny and Area Support Officer, Sunderland City Council              |
| Abdul Amin          | - Youth Team Leader, Sunderland City Council                              |
| Andrea Baxter       | - Senior Project Officer, Groundwork North East                           |
| Musawwir Choudhary  | - Senior Policy Officer for Economy and Place, Sunderland City Council    |
| Hazel Clark         | - East VCS Representative   |
| Gary Clasper        | - Principal Planner, Sunderland City Council                              |
| Nonnie Crawford     | - Director of Public Health, Sunderland TPCT                              |
| Paula Hunt          | - East VCS Representative   |
| Chris Johnson       | - Manager, North East Sport CIC   |
| Janet Johnson       | - Deputy Chief Executive and Area Lead Executive, Sunderland City Council |
| Trish Lynn          | - Operations and Performance Manager, SNCBC                               |
| Kevin Marquis       | - Director, SES   |
| Vivienne Metcalfe   | - Area Community Coordinator, Sunderland City Council                     |
| Helen Peverley      | - Area Response Manager (City Centre), Sunderland City Council            |
| Bob Price           | - Member of the Public  |
| Nicky Rowland       | - Area Response Manager (east), Sunderland City Council                   |
| James Third         | - Community Relations Officer, Nexus                                      |
| Nicol Trueman       | - Area Officer, Sunderland City Council                                   |
| Jeremy Wicking      | - Media Officer, Sunderland City Council                                  |
| Lisa Wilson Riddell | - Manager, Box Youth Project  |

**Chairman's Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for Absence were received on behalf of Councillor Errington along with Peter Curtis, Richy Duggan, Martin Robson, Tony Semley and Ian Warne.

## **Declarations of Interest**

### Annual Report

Councillor Kay declared a personal interest as a Council appointed Member of St Mark's Community Association and as a governor of St. Aidan's RC School.

Councillor McClennan declared a personal interest as a member of Chance.

Councillor Wood declared a personal interest as a governor of St. Aidan's RC School.

### Strategic Initiatives Budget

Councillor Forbes declared a personal and prejudicial interest as a Council appointed Member of the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service

### Community Chest

Councillor E. Gibson declared a personal and prejudicial interest as a Member of Friends of Doxford Park.

Councillor T. Martin declared a personal and prejudicial interest as a member of Sans Street Youth and Community Centre

Councillor Mordey Declared a personal and prejudicial interest as a council appointed member of Sunderland Orphanage and Educational Foundation.

## **Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Committee held on 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2012**

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2012 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

## **East Sunderland Annual Report 2011/12**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which allowed Members to consider the Area Committee's Annual Report for 2011/12.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

The Chairman introduced the report and highlighted the work that had been done by the Committee over the last year as was detailed in the executive summary at the start of the annual report. There had been over £760,000 invested into the area by the Area Committee through SIB funding and by the Committee's partners. £446,177 of SIB funding had been contributed to supporting the delivery of the priorities in the Local Area Plan and to help improve quality of life for local residents.

As part of the Cleaner and Greener Streets priority there had been a Walk and Talk programme delivered supported by £36,000 of SIB; this had led to over 175 issues being identified for action; there had also been the Love Where You Live Campaign which had seen over 20 events such as litter picking and graffiti removal taking place supported by over 60 volunteers from the East VCS Area Network.

£124,392 was allocated to the Employment, Enterprise and welfare advice priority to provide activity aimed at targeting families and people not in receipt of benefits; to date it had helped 30 people move into employment, 19 businesses start up and 177 people received access to welfare advice and support.

The Chairman then introduced Kevin Marquis from Sustainable Enterprise Strategies (SES) who would be providing an update on the work that had been done in the area by SES in relation to the Employment, enterprise and welfare rights priority.

Mr Marquis advised that SES had recently moved to its new premises at the Container City in Hendon. The organisation provided employment support for residents of the East Area who were unemployed but not in receipt of benefits; the project had started in July 2011 following an award of £75,000 of SIB funding to provide employment, enterprise and money advice. The project had been extended and would now be continuing until September 2012. There had been a significant promotional campaign with leaflets and posters being distributed to all community venues in the area in addition to being handed to shoppers at Morrison's in Doxford Park and Asda at Grangetown. Leaflets had also been distributed to households in the area.

Outreach provision continued to be available at locations across the area at locations including St Ignatius Job Linkage; SES Co-op centre; Community Link Shop, Villette Road; Chance Community Centre; Ryhope Community Association and Doxford Park Community Centre.

Trish Lynn then provided an update on the work that had been carried out by SNCBC; they had done work with families and since the project had launched in October 2011 they had helped 9 people into employment, 3 businesses to start up and had provided information, advice and guidance to 76 people.

On the Youth and Teenagers priority Nicol Trueman advised that there had been SIB funding of £50,000 allocated along with £25,000 from Children's Services. 11 groups had submitted applications as part of the call for projects

to deliver junior youth clubs in each of the five wards and to deliver positive activities during the school holidays. 5 organisations had been commissioned to deliver activities in July 2011; these were:

- The Box Youth Project, Doxford Ward
- Hendon Youth Initiative, Hendon and St. Michael's Wards
- St Mark's Community Association, Millfield Ward
- Blue Watch Youth Project, Ryhope Ward
- North East Sports, area wide.

Lisa Wilson Riddell provided an update on the work that had been done by the Box Youth Project. She advised that 241 children and young people had taken part in SIB funded activities and the new after school club on Fridays had seen 45 children under 13 attending; activities had included outdoor play, cookery, arts and crafts and sports challenges in addition to community work such as litter picks and charity work. There had been 4 local parents recruited as volunteers to assist with delivery of the junior programme.

Chris Johnson, Manager of North East Sports, presented an update on the work done by North East Sports. Mr Johnson advised that they were now based within the East Area as they had relocated to the Container City in Hendon. They delivered a wide range of activities which included:

- Delivering coaching qualifications to teenagers and NEETS
- Providing healthy holiday activities to children
- Working with schools to deliver quality physical education

New volunteers had been attracted to the project and they had won funding to enable them to train another 10 teenage volunteers and help them to achieve recognised coaching qualifications.

Andrea Baxter then delivered a presentation on the work done by Groundwork on the Championing the East project which had tackled antisocial behaviour in Hendon, focusing on secondary fires. It was a 2 year project and there was a partnership with the Council and Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service to deliver the project using SIB funding. The project intended to create a network of local groups, organisations and Community Champions who would work together to prevent and tackle antisocial behaviour.

Councillor T. Martin commented that SES had a fantastic track record over the years. It was good to see that they were now based in the Container City; this was an excellent, innovative facility.

In response to a query from Councillor Forbes Mr Marquis stated that it was difficult for businesses to start up at the moment given the poor economic conditions; the people helped by SES had not encountered any problems beyond those faced by other people.

Ms Lynn added that the project had been a big change in the way services were delivered.

Mr Marquis then added that all of the groups involved were local social enterprises and that they often struggled to compete with the larger organisations when applying for funding or for the delivery of services.

Councillor E. Gibson stated that the money provided to the Box Youth Project had been money well spent; there had been a significant reduction in antisocial behaviour in Doxford and the area was now noticeably quieter. It was good that the young people involved were getting involved in doing community work; she thanked the staff at the project for their hard work.

Ms Wilson Riddell stated that the project had a commissioning contract with the youth development group and as part of this they had been able to recruit young people.

Councillor T. Martin stated that he had been involved with the Phoenix project for 2 years. This project had always been well attended by young people. He also stated that it was important to instil bin discipline into residents; there was a need to get the message across to residents about not leaving bins out except when they were being emptied.

Councillor Emerson commented that it was good to hear these success stories; there had been a lot of hard work done and the outcomes had been excellent.

Nicol Trueman, Area Officer, then presented the overview of the financial allocations for the year. There had been £404,986 of SIB funding allocated and £41,191 of Community Chest allocated; the funding had been split 79 percent proactive and 21 percent speculative funding bids, this was close to the 80/20 target and a huge improvement over the previous years. The proactive bids were for projects identified and developed by the area committee while the speculative bids were from organisations that had developed a project to meet an identified need. There were 29 ongoing projects and annex 2 of the report detailed the performance of these projects.

Vivienne Metcalfe, Area Community Coordinator, thanked everyone for their support of the Sunderland in 2012 programme. She asked that if anyone had any events taking place that they inform her so that she can attend in order to record the number of people from the area taking part. The swimathon had been a big success and it was hoped that the upcoming hula hoop event at Herrington Country Park would attract a number of residents from the area; she asked that anyone who was interested in taking part contact her outside of the meeting.

Councillor Mordey stated that he and other residents from the East Area had taken part in the zip wire event at the Stadium of Light.

2. RESOLVED that the content of the Annual Report and financial Performance Report be noted and agreed.

## **Community Action: Reviewing Progress and Agreeing Next Steps**

### Community Chest and Strategic Initiative Budget (SIB) – Financial Statement and Proposals for Further Allocation of Resources

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which allowed Members to consider the allocation of SIB and Community Chest funding to support initiatives which would deliver activities against the priorities for 2011/12.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Nicol Trueman, Area Officer presented the report, taking Members through each application and answering questions from Members upon them.

Ms Trueman advised that there were 31 Community Chest proposals which were recommended to be supported and 2 which were recommended for refusal. There were 4 applications for SIB funding with 3 recommended for approval and 1 recommended to be deferred.

2. RESOLVED that:-
  - a. the financial statements as set out in annex 1 and 3 of the report be noted;
  - b. approval be given to the 31 proposals for funding from the Community Chest totalling £13,016 from the 2011/2012 budget as set out in annex 2 of the report;
  - c. the 2 proposals for Community Chest recommended for refusal be rejected;
  - d. The 3 applications recommended for approval for SIB funding as set out in annex 4 of the report be approved;
  - e. The application for SIB funding for Durham Heritage Coast Partnership be deferred until the new municipal year.

## **Influencing Practice, Policy and Strategy**

### Provision of XL Village Youth Activity

The Executive Director of Children's Services submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided Members with information on the current position in relation to the XL Youth Village provision and highlighted proposals for amendment to the delivery model in order to provide better value for money. The report also sought Members approval of the intended summer sites as proposed by the East Area Youth Task and Finish Group.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Andrew Carton, East Locality Manager, presented the report and advised that the project had originally been started to tackle the problems raised in the March 2008 Fear of Crime survey. The aims of the project had included the

provision of highly visible, safe and attractive places for young people to spend their leisure time where they could be involved in a range of positive activities and to reduce antisocial behaviour. The full list of aims was detailed in paragraph 1.3 of the report.

The project was governed by an overall citywide steering group and five operational groups, one for each area, which met on a monthly basis and determined the locations for the provision.

There would be a new model of the delivery of the project commencing and this was detailed in section 4 of the report. In addition to the exiting provision for youth villages and the youth bus there would be a second youth bus provided and there would be a new scheme of detached youth work to establish relations with the young people and to provide support for the local community. In total in the East Area there would be 84 sessions a year with provision being provided on every Friday and Saturday for 42 weeks of the year.

There had been work to identify potential sites done by the task and finish group and they had identified Hall Farm and Mowbray Park as potential sites for the XL villages.

3. RESOLVED that:-

- a. The proposed changes to the delivery model be noted.
- b. The proposed sites for the XL Villages be agreed.
- c. A further report be received on the progress and outcomes of the project.

City of Sunderland Local Development Framework: Core Strategy Revised Preferred Options and Supporting Evidence Papers

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which offered Members the opportunity to be consulted on plans and strategies which were relevant to the area.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Gary Clasper, Principal Planner, presented the report and delivered a powerpoint presentation detailing the work that had been carried out and the work that would be undertaken.

Work had commenced in 2005 with consultation taking place on the core strategy issues and options. Work had been undertaken continuously since then and adoption of the final plan was programmed for February 2014.

The core strategy would replace the Unitary Development Plan as was a long term planning document which would be in use until 2032. It would assist with the delivery of the Sunderland Strategy and the Economic Masterplan.

Since the work had commenced there had been changes to planning policy which had seen the removal of Regional Spatial Strategies and an emphasis on neighbourhood planning. There would be a duty to cooperate with neighbouring councils.

Within the East Area there would be work to regenerate the central area and city centre, including the development of the Vaux site. Major development would be taking place in Holmeside and Sunnyside; the port; south Ryhope and the Cherry Knowle site. Regeneration would be taking place in Hendon and the East End.

Councillor T. Martin welcomed the working with neighbouring authorities; there were some sites within the city which were owned by other councils and it was good that the councils would need to work together with these sites.

Councillor McClennan stated that it would have been better if the presentation had been more area focused. She asked that a more detailed presentation be brought back to the committee.

Janet Johnson, Deputy Chief Executive and Area Lead Executive, advised that the Core Strategy had been submitted to Cabinet the week before this meeting. There were no allocations plans as yet only assessments against the feasibility of delivering developments on sites over the next 5 years. If the committee wished there could be a session arranged during the next year to allow Members to see more detailed information on the subject.

Councillor Kay stated that Cabinet Members received regular updates on any developments; other Members did not receive as much information, only receiving the plans once they were completed. He felt that it would be beneficial to be provided with more detailed information on this matter.

4. RESOLVED that consideration be given to the information provided on the LDF.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.

(Signed) E. BALL,  
Chairman.