

30 MARCH 2011

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**COMMUNITY ACTION IN COALFIELD  
2011/12 Priorities and Workplan**

**1. Why has it come to Committee?**

1.1 This report updates Members on the progress of developing the 2011/12 Workplan and the priorities that have been identified for the Coalfield Area through this process.

**2. Progress**

2.1 A meeting was held with elected members for the Coalfield Area where discussion took place regarding the issues within the Coalfield. Initial priorities for a one year work plan for 2011/12 were provisionally agreed as follows:

- Activities for young people (to be incorporated into the current youth disorder priority)
- Support for older people (suggest a Task and Result group be formed)
- Empty properties (suggest the relevant officers consult and report to Area Committee)
- Public transport (suggest escalation to LSP or scrutiny with regular input/feedback)
- Neglected land (suggest a Task and Result group be formed)

It was agreed the following priorities would be carried over from the existing work plan:

- Heritage
- Local shopping centres
- Youth disorder (activities for young people as above to be incorporated)
- Allotments and gardens
- Child poverty
- Unadopted roads
- Play provision
- Speeding and dangerous traffic

2.2 A Task and Finish Group has been established with elected members from the Coalfield Area, the Area Lead Executive, Area Officer, Council Officers and Partners relevant to the identified priorities.

The Task and Finish Group will:

- Provide information to validate the identified priorities.
- Consider the issues that exist within each of these priorities that may need to be addressed.
- Identify strategies, plans or actions that are in place to address the priorities and issues.
- Identify the gaps in addressing the priorities and issues where Committee can add value.
- Create a draft annual work plan based upon the findings which will be shared with Area Committee for discussion and input.

Based upon the identified priorities, a meeting of the Task and Finish Group was arranged and asked to consider:

- What are the issues
- What is currently being done

- What can Area Committee do to provide additionality
- 2.3 The information collected has been collated and is attached at Annex 1. This will be used by the Task and Finish group at their next meeting to propose specific actions to be included in the 2011/12 workplan.
- 3. Next Steps**
- 3.1 Local residents and the Community and Voluntary Sector will be given the opportunity to express their views on the identified priorities for the area.
- 3.2 The views received from this exercise, along with other qualitative research available within the Council, will be used within the Task and Finish Group to add value and support the development of priorities and the 2011/12 workplan.
- 3.3 A final design of the 2011/12 workplan will be provided to members for input.
- 3.4 The final plan will be presented to June Committee for agreement.
- 3.5 It is proposed that, where relevant, Task and Result groups will be set up to develop and progress actions against each priority and that a maximum number of three elected members are part of each Task and Result group. It is requested that all members consider being a member of one Task and Result group to ensure even representation from all parties and wards.

**Recommendation**

- Note the update on the development of the 2011/12 workplan and progress made.
- Agree to receive the final plan at June Committee for agreement.
- Consider membership of emerging Task and Result groups for each new priority

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