

8th October 2014**REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE PLACE BOARD****Place Board Progress Report****1 Purpose of Report**

1.1 To provide an update of progress against the current year's (2014/15) Place Board Work Plan.

2. Background

2.1 Earlier this year the Local Area Plan's priorities associated with Place were referred to the West Place Board to action on behalf of the Area Committee. The Place Board continue to initiate action on those priorities and **Item 2 Annex 1** outlines progress to date.

3 Area Governance Arrangements

3.1 The Area Committees are part of the Council's Executive Function and have two key roles:-

- a. Influencing decisions on services delivered at a local level; and
- b. Identification of key priorities for their areas, in the context of supporting the delivery of the Council's Corporate Outcomes Framework at a local level and ensures maximum impact where necessary through utilizing its own resources.

3.2 Area Place and People Boards were set up to support the Area Committee in identifying areas of priority and ensure action in line with those priorities.

3.3 Each ward has one elected member representative, whose role it is to liaise with their ward colleagues in between meetings and feedback collective views into the Board meetings. Members will work alongside key officers in what will be practical action orientated groups. It should be noted that the Board is not a decision making body and the work / recommendations of the Board will be presented to the Area Committees for final endorsement. Elected member representation on the Place Board for this Area Committee is as follows:-

Ward	Place Board Membership
Chair	Cllr Philip Tye
Barnes	Cllr Michael Essl
Pallion	Cllr Amy Wilson
Sandhill	Cllr Debra Waller
Silksworth	Cllr Peter Gibson
St Anne's	Cllr Jacqui Gallagher
St Chad's	Cllr Darryl Dixon

4. Key Areas of Influence/Achievements up to 30 September 2014

4.1 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of influence / achievements of the West Place Board up to 30 September 2014.

Action Taken	Outcome
Influence: Responsive Local Services Streetscene	
Weedspraying	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members received an update in July on progress against the weed spraying to date by contractors and the follow up work of RLS to remove debris. • Members identified locations where weed spraying had not been undertaken to enable this to be included.

Waste and Refuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members received an update on refuse collection resources, including where they were currently used and how provision for future housing developments was identified. • Members received an update on the bulky waste collection service and the impact of charges applied. • Further to the updates members made some observations about how education and information may support the waste and refuse service in terms of residents understanding what was available and how they could use services, with a recommendation for information to be made available in Community News.
Influence: Housing	
Housing Renewal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members received information on the Sunderland Accredited Landlord scheme, including the benefits of this for both landlords and tenants and the current position regarding accreditation in the city. • Members suggested the education of the VCS on 'Tenants Rights' to support residents to address unsafe/unhealthy living conditions and a member of the Housing Team will attend the next West VCS meeting. • Information was also presented regarding the work undertaken on identified hotspot locations in each area. • Members were updated on how hotspot locations were identified in which targeted work would be undertaken and the timescale for next year's workplan.
Area Priority: Shopping Centres	
Business Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A derelict shop at Pallion has now been revitalised with input from the owners, local voluntary and community sector organisations and volunteers. The volunteers involved gained experience in joinery and painting skills as part of the support package they receive to improve employment outcomes. • The traders continue to prioritise the following issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Crime and Disorder - Cleanliness and public realm - Marketing and Communication • The traders group confirmed the roles and responsibilities of the group moving forward. • Initial discussions have commenced with Silksworth traders to gauge interest in establishing a traders group with Pallion Traders offering to discuss what they have done and the benefits of a local traders group.
Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work is underway with the Pallion Traders to establish further environmental improvements on St Lukes Terrace and the shopping parade with partners. • An initial proposal is to develop a green route building upon the work of Gentoo and Millfield and Pallion Community Shop around Incredible Edible.
Area Priority: Environment and Street Scene	
Capital Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval was given in Area Committee for the delivery of capital improvement programmes in Barnes Extension,

	<p>Bishopwearmouth Cemetery and the Baby Cemetery.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Street scene works included raising the canopies on the trees to improve the physical appearance and assist in maintenance have been carried out in Barnes extension. • The highways improvement works in Barnes extension and Bishopwearmouth cemetery have now been completed. • The improvement works to the baby cemetery are proceeding. The external footpath is now complete following some changes to design and securing additional match funding. Internal works will be proceeding in the next two weeks.
Walk and Talk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following the increase in the budgets allocated for walk and talk in January Committee, ward members continue to identify local People and Place improvements which utilise the local walk and talk budget and add value to the derelict land and maximizing greenspace works.
Derelict Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 priority areas in each ward have been identified by ward members and recommended for approval to commence works on these sites in line with proposals contained within Item 2 Annex 2. • Land searches have commenced on those plots of land privately owned. • Letters have been issued to those private owners who we have knowledge of to arrange to meet to discuss the derelict land and potential improvements. • Initial meetings with partners have been undertaken /arranged and match funding identified to support improvements on joint programmes with partners.
Maximising Greenspace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work has been undertaken with officers, members and partners including the VCS to consider how greenspace can be used to improve health and wellbeing of residents in the West. • Proposals were developed based upon these discussions and feedback received on a ward by ward and area wide basis as outlined in Item 2 Annex 3. • Health funding of £20,000 was allocated to support the maximising greenspace improvements and the members of the Place Board made a recommendation to match fund these improvements with the detail being contained within the financial report.

5. Recommendations

5.1 Note the content of the report.

5.2 Consider and agree the recommendation to approve the priority works for derelict land as described at **Item 2 Annex 2**.

5.3 Consider and agree the recommendation to approve the proposals for maximising greenspace work as described at **Item 2 Annex 3**.

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