

2nd December 2015**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 (2015/16) 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 Michael Essl
Barnes	Cllr Ian Galbraith
Pallion	Cllr Amy Wilson
Sandhill	Cllr Debra Waller
Silksworth	Cllr Philip Tye
St Anne's	Cllr Karen Waters
St Chad's	Cllr Darryl Dixon

4. Key Areas of Influence/Achievements up to 23 November 2015

4.1 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of influence / achievements of the West Place Board up to 23 November 2015.

Influence: Responsive Local Services, Streetscene	
Northumbria in Bloom and It's Your Neighbourhood	Members discussed opportunities to develop 'It's Your Neighbourhood' community entries into the regional Northumbria In Bloom competition. Pallion Traders applied to the It's Your Neighbourhood scheme for the first time this year, supported by local councillors to

<p>Winter Maintenance</p>	<p>promote the traders Incredible Edible Scheme. The traders were visited by 'In Bloom' Judges during the summer and have been awarded the RHS Level 3 'Developing' award and are working towards level 4/5 thriving/outstanding for next year.</p> <p>Members received an update on winter maintenance resources to keep highways open in the event of freezing temperatures or snow.</p> <p>The winter vehicle fleet comprises 15 Gritting / Snow Plough vehicles which cover the whole City. A compliment of 36 tractors and mini-tractors are also equipped with ploughs to undertake footpath treatments.</p> <p>Temperatures are constantly monitored over the winter period by Streetscene Responsive Local Services on a 24/7 basis and the winter fleet is deployed as appropriate on priority A and B routes to salt/grit the roads or to undertake snow clearance. In the event of snow staff from the service are deployed to manually clear priority locations, such a shopping areas, hospitals, bus stops and outside Schools.</p> <p>Depending upon the size of the snowfall, it is not always possible to clear all locations as the task is labour intensive and time-taking.</p> <p>Further to the update received members requested a copy of the A and B gritting routes for the city, which are now available on the www.sunderland.gov.uk website</p>
<p>Influence: Highways Maintenance</p>	
<p>The board received information on the process for members to influence and prioritise the areas of capital maintenance works for 2016/2017, with 25% of the capital maintenance budget identified for influence.</p> <p>Further information will be presented to the Place Boards in February identifying locations for consideration by members for inclusion in the capital maintenance programme. These areas have been identified from a number of sources including members, residents and Highways staff.</p>	
<p>Influence: Age Friendly City</p>	
<p>The ward Members continue to support the development of Age Friendly City projects such as Dementia Friends Training, Health Champions, Events as well as improvements to local shopping centres and green spaces to improve access.</p>	
<p>Area Priority: Shopping Centres</p>	
<p>Business Support</p>	<p>Pallion Traders - The traders have successfully fundraised, supported by Pallion Councillors to enable Christmas illuminations to be installed in Pallion for the first time this year. The community switch-on event which was held in Pallion in November was a great success, with plans and ideas already being developed for next year.</p> <p>St Anne's Councillors met with traders from the Broadway Shopping Centre during October. The meeting was successful and the partnership approach between the local ward councillors and the Broadway traders enabled the capital improvement scheme for the area to be bespoke and fit for purpose.</p>
<p>Capital Improvements</p>	<p>Area Committee agreed to financially support capital improvements across local shopping centres in the West.</p> <p>Each ward is in the process of identifying local shopping centres</p>

	which require capital improvements. The capital improvements will improve the visual appearance of the shopping centre. As part of the improvement program, Ward members are engaging with local traders and community groups to adopt flower planters and maintain them as well as agree to support keeping local centres clean and tidy.
Area Priority: Environment and Street Scene	
New Wear Bridge	The Place Board received a presentation on the New Wear Crossing which highlighted the programme of activity planned and the key milestones. The members were keen to understand and influence the bridge contractors Corporate Social Responsibility and how local traders and VCS can benefit from this local investment, either through increased trade or training and apprenticeship opportunities.
Walk and Talk Programme	The Walk and Talk programme continues to be incredibly successful and offers the opportunity to ward Councillors to be dynamic, flexible and implement small-scale people and place based projects, which have a huge positive impact on their local communities.
Maximising Greenspace and Improving Derelict Land	Proposals were developed and agreed by Area Committee in October 2014. Funding was allocated to support developments. Work continues to be undertaken with officers, members and partners including the VCS to develop the agreed spaces across the West, to improve the health and wellbeing of residents in the West. 1 project was presented and approved at the Place Board in November - Item 5 Annex 3

5. Recommendations

- 5.1 Note the content of the report.
- 5.2 Members are requested to consider the progress and performance update with regard to the West Place Board Work Plan for 2015/2016 **Item 2 Annex 1**.
- 5.3 Note the proposal agreed through the small grants process for Maximising Greenspace / Derelict Land activity, as described at **Item 5 Annex 3**.

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