

At a meeting of the SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE on TUESDAY, 14TH DECEMBER, 2010 at 5.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor S. Watson in the Chair

Councillors M. Dixon, Errington, Essl, Foster, Kay, Maddison, McClennan, Rolph and A. Wilson.

Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillor I. Richardson.

Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee held on 16th November, 2010

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 16th November, 2010 be confirmed as a correct record.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Performance Report Quarter 2 (April – September 2010)

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee with a performance update relating to the period April to September 2010, with regard to the following issues:-

- Progress in relation to the LAA targets and other national indicators;
- Progress in relation to the Review of Music Policy Review, Access to Housing Policy Review and Local Studies Policy Review Recommendations;
- Results of the annual MORI residents face to face survey which took place during May to July 2010.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Gillian Robinson, Corporate Performance Monitoring Manager, together with Paul Allen, Performance and Information Manager, presented the report.

With regard to housing performance, Members were advised that the number of homeless prevention cases continued to be at a historically high level, but, compared to the April to September period in 2009/10, the number of cases had declined from 386 to 318 cases in 2010/11. The reasons for the decline were still being explored. It was possible that it was linked to a lack of awareness of the service, that more households were provided with housing advice across the City as part of advice services, including the third sector and partner organisations such as Gentoo. This would serve to reduce the need for council supported prevention actions, with residents able to find their own solutions.

The number of homeless households living in temporary accommodation had improved when compared to the same period in the previous year from 12 to 7. This was primarily due to the relatively low number of households who required temporary accommodation provision. The Council however would need to further reduce the utilisation of families in bed and breakfast accommodation, although this remained relatively low.

The service was currently working with private sector landlords and social housing providers in the city to address issues of access to longer term accommodation through the access to housing review. Initiatives such as the development of the citywide and sub-regional Choice Based Lettings policies would enhance resident's housing options. Part of the review had focused on improving sign posting between agencies that would help residents receive improved outcomes.

With regard to performance in relation to culture, the number of visits to museums per 1,000 population had declined when compared to the same period the previous year this included visits in person and pupil visits.

At the end of September 2009 it was 908 per 1,000 population this has fallen to 893 per 1,000 population at the end of September 2010.

The number of pupils visiting museums and galleries in organised school groups had declined from 7,287 at the end of September 2009 to 5,214 at the end of September 2010. The visits by school children with their school were disappointingly low for the first six months of 2010/11. In order to address the concerns over school visits a working group of staff from the learning team had been established and they were consulting with teachers to consider how best to improve communication with, and services to, schools. Additionally, this group would investigate whether initiatives such as fund-raising to support transport costs would help address the problem. Staff were also planning visits to schools as an added benefit of the school visiting the museum.

With regard to Sport and Leisure, the City Council had continued to deliver and give priority to the following:-

- Developing modern, high class sport and swimming facilities that were comparable with most local authorities;

- Operating 7 Wellness Centres and 8 Community Wellness venues;
- Wellness service/preventative services, included:
 - Mums on the move
 - Wellness on 2 Wheels
 - Wellness Walking programme, Walks in the Park
 - Active Sunderland Project
 - Nordic Walking
 - Cycle Sunderland
 - Exercise Referral and Weight Management Programme
 - Lifestyle Activity and Food Programme
 - Workforce Health and Wellbeing Project

Specialist Services

- Specialist Weight Management Service
- Maternity Lifestyle Services
- Stop Smoking Service

- Football Investment Strategy, developing new facilities and pathways for participation;
- Specialist events and partnership working to deliver such activities such as the Active Sunderland Week, Niall's Mile, leisure centre's open weekend and the Beach Festival of Sports.

Members were advised that a comprehensive overview of the performance of Sport, Wellness, Aquatics and Play would be presented to the Scrutiny Committee in February 2011.

In conclusion Members were informed of the progress made in implementing the recommendations arising from the Committee's policy reviews into Access to Housing, the Review of Music and the Local Studies review.

Councillor Foster referred to page 16 of the agenda and the reference to developing new facilities and pathways for participation under the Football Investment Strategy and asked for a progress report. Members were informed that no significant progress had been made since the last report as funding from the Football Foundation was still awaited.

With regard to the Ipsos MORI Residents Survey and the Community Integration in Regeneration Areas question, Councillor Rolph asked if the responses reflected the additional Community Cohesion work being undertaken in the Coalfield Area. Ms. Robinson replied that the findings were gathered prior to this work being carried out, however it would be interesting to see how it was reflected in the next survey.

Councillor Rolph noted that there was no measure of resident's satisfaction with regard to all events and not just flagship ones like the Airshow and Friendship Festival.

Ms. Robinson confirmed that they had been removed from the survey this year, although there was no reason why they could not be reinstated in the future. The results had always been very positive in the past.

Councillor Rolph commended the amount of information provided regarding Museum visits but asked if future reports could include information on visits made by Sunderland residents to the Tyne and Wear Archives Service.

Councillor Errington asked whether the survey could include a question on residents' impressions of the Council's play facilities following the recent investment programme. Ms. Robinson advised that the survey did include such a question and informed Members that the information had been reported to the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee. There would be no problem in circulating the information to the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee if Members wished.

Councillor McClennan referred to the decline in school visits to Museums and suggested that schools be surveyed to ascertain the reasons. Was it for Health and Safety, staffing or safeguarding issues?

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Kay, Alan Caddick, Head of Housing, advised that he had asked for a report to be prepared which would provide a position statement with regard to repossessions and the predicted trajectory of increase. He advised that 75% of people in danger repossession had bought their properties under right to buy, had borrowed on the strength of their equity and now could no longer meet the repayments. The Government had indicated that they were minded to continue with the Mortgage Rescue Schemes. With regard to Councillor Kay's question as to whether people living in hostels were classified as homeless, Mr. Caddick advised that they were classed as being housed. Although the Council did not have a statutory duty to such people it could be argued that a moral duty remained. Hostel accommodation was not the best solution for their needs and Mr. Caddick believed that his service was there to provide the best possible options and outcomes for people.

With regard to the Housing Policy Review, Mr. Caddick advised that the 2nd Stage Consultation process was now under way. He advised that sessions would be arranged for Members in the new year and asked if Members wished him to arrange one specifically for this Committee. Members agreed that a specific session should be arranged for the Committee.

2. RESOLVED that:-

- i) the report be received and noted; and
- ii) a briefing session be arranged for the Committee as part of the 2nd Stage Consultation process for the Housing Policy Review.

Sunderland Partnership Volunteering Strategy and Action Plan

The Executive Director of City Services submitted a report (copy circulated) which presented the draft Sunderland Volunteering Strategy to the Committee for Members' comments as part of the formal consultative process.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Graham Burt, Strategy Development Manager, presented the report providing Members with background information on the development of the Strategy and Action Plan together with details of the key elements of the Strategy itself.

David Curtis, Chief Officer of the Volunteer Centre, Sunderland was also present to assist with any questions or comments from Members.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Maddison, Mr. Burt advised that consultation with the Bangladeshi Community had been undertaken via the BME networks.

The Chairman asked whether there was a City Wide Network in addition to the five area VCS networks. Mr. Burt confirmed that there was and that an annual event was held at the Marriott each year for representatives from each network. Over the last 12 months the number of volunteers in the East had increased from 15 to 90, in the North from 30 to 100, in Washington from 50 to 60, in the West from 30 to 80 and in the Coalfield from 15 to 120.

Councillor Rolph stated that the figures were tremendously encouraging and reflected the excellent work being carried out by the Area Community Co-ordinators.

Councillor Rolph asked whether consultation was undertaken with people who did not volunteer with a view to removing barriers. Mr. Curtis confirmed that research had been undertaken with regard to this issue and the most popular response when asked why a person did not volunteer was that they had not been asked. With regard to an enquiry from Councillor Rolph regarding the impact of the Localism Bill, Mr. Burt advised that his service were still trying to extrapolate the likely effects.

Councillor Rolph highlighted the importance of students as volunteers. In times of job shortages students found an increasing need to enhance their CVs. This was often done through acting as a volunteer, however given the recent increase in student fees many may seek paid work rather than voluntary employment. She believed there was a need to improve people's understanding of the term 'volunteer' and questioned whether the use of the term 'hobby' and 'hobbyist' in the Strategy was belittling.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Foster, Members were advised that a Volunteering Tool Kit had been developed which included a CD Rom. To date over 400 kits had been dispatched. Mr. Curtis advised that the Volunteer Centre Sunderland had two development workers who could support people through the tool kit process.

Councillor McClennan referred to paragraph 4, page 10 of the Strategy and expressed concern that the Government may divert funding to other areas of the country where there were shortages of volunteers. Mr. Curtis replied that according to the MORI Survey, Sunderland were still seen as underperforming in this regard.

The Chairman highlighted her concern that local Councillors were not invited to attend meetings of the Area VCS Networks. Councillor Rolph concurred with this view and stated that it needed to be recognised that many local Councillors were volunteers too.

Councillor A. Wilson expressed a concern that the issue of CRB checks and their cost could be off-putting to potential volunteers. Mr. Curtis replied that no volunteer should have to pick up the cost of a CRB check and that the onus lay with the organisation concerned. Councillor McClennan stated that this was still a potentially large cost that small organisations may be unable to bear. Mr. Burt having confirmed that the Council did not have a budget to support organisations in this way, Councillor McClennan suggested that perhaps applications to the Ward Based Community Chest could be made for this purpose.

The Chairman having thanked Mr. Burt and Mr. Curtis for their report and their attendance, it was:-

3. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

Forward Plan – Key Decision for the Period 1st January, 2011 – 30th April, 2011

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide Members with an opportunity to consider those items on the Executive's Forward Plan for the period 1st January, 2011 – 30th April, 2011 which related to the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Rolph, Jim Diamond, Scrutiny Officer advised that the report on the Built Heritage would come to the Committee as part of the evidence for its Policy Review.

4. RESOLVED that the contents of the Forward Plan be noted.

Work Programme 2010-11

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which attached for Members' information, the current Work Programme for the Committee's work during the 2010-11 Council year.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

5. RESOLVED that the Committee's Work Programme for 2010-11 be received and noted.

The Chairman then closed the meeting having thanked everyone for their attendance and wishing them a safe journey home.

(Signed) S. WATSON,
Chairman.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CITY SERVICES

**THE ROLE OF CULTURE IN SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES –
POLICY REVIEW
ARCHIVES AND MUSEUMS UPDATE**

1.0 WHY HAS THIS REPORT COME TO THE COMMITTEE?

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update members on the work ongoing within Culture and Tourism with regard to the Archives and Museums offer in Sunderland and to provide evidence for the review the committee is undertaking in relation to Culture supporting sustainable communities.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Sunderland has a long and distinguished tradition of museum provision, having been the first local authority in the country to open a museum funded by a charge on the rates following the Museums Act of 1845. Thus it has the oldest publicly funded museum outside London.
- 2.2 Following the creation of the Tyne and Wear Metropolitan County, the museums belonging to the five Tyne and Wear authorities were managed under a single management organisation, Tyne & Wear Museums (TWM) and this arrangement remained in force after the disbanding of the county structure. In April 2009 Museums merged with the county-wide Archives service to form Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums (TWAM). Governance is by a Joint Archives and Museums Committee and operation is managed through a joint agreement and service level agreements.
- 2.3 In Sunderland TWAM manages Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens, Monkwearmouth Station Museum and on a seasonal basis subject to funding, Washington F Pit. In addition to operating museum venues, TWAM delivers an active programme of learning and outreach across Sunderland.
- 2.4 TWAM defines its mission as 'to help people determine their place in the world and define their identities, so enhancing their self-respect and their respect for others'.

TWAM's seven priority areas are currently:

Children and young people
Economy, Enterprise and Regeneration
Safer, Stronger and Healthier Communities
Lifelong Learning for All
Customer focused and learning organisation
Collections Stewardship and Access
Ensuring Sustainability.

Planning both on a corporate and district basis is carried out in accordance with these priority areas.

- 2.5 The cost of service delivery to the City Council is currently set at £1,598,700 for the current financial year (2010-11) of which £165,650 is allocated for the delivery of Archive services. A major review of the Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums Joint Agreement is to take place with discussions now underway and with TWAM already working with the City Council to realise efficiency savings which are being made across the Council.

3.0 CURRENT POSITION/OVERVIEW

3.1 Archives

Archives are working with Sans Street Youth and Community Centre and Living History North East Sunderland Young Roots project, giving young people the opportunity to be involved in intergenerational learning with older people brought up in Sunderland Orphanage, whose records are held in the Archives.

In 2011 Archives will work in Sunderland with the Parliamentary Archives on an outreach project 'People and Politics', aimed at increasing engagement with political decisions.

The Archives Learning and Outreach Manager runs a programme of activities for schools and groups from across the region.

Archives have an active programme of developing collections that reflect the diverse history of Sunderland, and application has been made to the National Cataloguing Grants Programme to support the cataloguing of records from the Sunderland shipyards, in order to make them more accessible for users regionally, nationally and worldwide. The Archives have been used extensively by the authors of the recent Victoria County History volumes on Sunderland.

Mediatheque, opened in July 2010 at Discovery Museum, Newcastle, is a joint project with the British Film Institute to make over 1800 film titles of various kinds accessible in digital format. It includes a selection of films relating to the North East, which contains significant Sunderland material, including footage of early derby matches between Newcastle and Sunderland, making material of this kind freely available for the public to view for the first time.

After a period of consolidation following the merger, archives are working to extend their offer to, and profile with, potential users throughout Tyne and Wear and this will be an important focus over the coming year.

3.2 Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens (SMWG)

SMWG is an extremely popular attraction, receiving 342,995 visits in 2009-10. As well as the permanent galleries and the Winter Gardens, it has a programme of changing exhibitions in its temporary exhibition gallery.

The Museum & Winter Gardens benefits from strong partnerships with national museums, in particular the National Portrait Gallery and the British Museum. The *China: Journey to the East* exhibition earlier this year was a touring British Museum exhibition which provided opportunities to highlight Sunderland's partnership with Harbin both in the exhibition and in collaborations with participating schools.

The North East Beat exhibition surveyed the history of the North East music scene since 1945. Outreach work in conjunction with the exhibition included local people from both ends of the age spectrum: whilst young people from the Sunderland Music Project and Youth Almighty in Sunderland and the CHAT Music Project in Newcastle produced a fanzine in conjunction with the exhibition, and a group of NEET young people from Pallion Action Group worked with a textiles artist to create outfits inspired by the exhibition, a digital storytelling project (Culture Shock) presented the memories of older people who had enjoyed going to local dance halls in the 1940s.

The current temporary exhibition, *Singh Twins Retrospective*, presents high-quality yet accessible art to a wide audience and has proved particularly successful with schools: it has provided stimulating opportunities for involvement and participation.

3.3 Monkwearmouth Station Museum

Monkwearmouth Station Museum is housed in a Grade II*-listed building, which was built by railway magnate George Hudson to be Sunderland's main railway station in the 1840s. It was opened as a museum of land transport in 1973, became a popular venue for families, and was completely refurbished in 2007 and reopened with a new focus on people's experience of travel. It attracted over 33,000 visits in 2009-10.

An enclosure to protect and display the two historic railway wagons on the site was recently completed with the support of DCMS capital funding allocated to TWAM. A Heritage Lottery-funded project to restore and interpret the wagons will begin in the New Year. This will offer an extension to the offer at the site and enable visitors once again to visit the sidings area.

3.4 Washington F Pit

Washington F Pit is normally opened on two weekends a year, including Heritage Open Days and for a schools week, which is popular with local schools.

3.5 Formal education

Sunderland Museums offer a programme of formal education and support for schools, colleges and universities at Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens, Monkwearmouth Station Museum, Washington F-Pit and Mowbray Park. Each year approximately 15,000 school pupils participate in learning activities linked to the museums collections and park environment. These cover National Curriculum subjects including literacy, natural and social history, art, science, geography and citizenship and use hands-on, active approaches to stimulate and engage learners.

School projects in 2010 included an exhibition called *Bright Young Things* at Monkwearmouth Station Museum in July in partnership with Southwick Primary School, where pupils' artworks including ceramics, collage, printing and animation were displayed in the special exhibitions gallery and received great public support.

The Boxes of Delight loan service provides schools with themed boxes of museum objects and resources for use in classroom and community teaching. There are 32 boxes based at Sunderland which are updated and added to each year. For example, a coal mining box containing artefacts connected to Sunderland's coal mining heritage is also used to support school and family workshops at Washington F-Pit Museum. New boxes added in 2010 included a Chinese New Year and Africa box, encouraging pupils to explore and learn about world cultures.

In Spring 2010 a Regional Museums Hub project to engage young people who are identified as pre-NEET and NEET (at risk of not being in education, employment or training) started across all Tyne & Wear Archives and Museums with set targets. Work undertaken to engage pre-NEET pupils under the age of 16 included a China project with 34 pupils from Farrington School's Green Pathway Project.

A Teaching China Conference took place on 5 May in partnership with the British Museum, the British Council and Sunderland City Council International Team.

Sunderland Museums continue to support students on College and University courses across the region, particularly those related to education, art, business and travel and tourism. In 2010 seven students from the Year 1 and Year 2 BA Education course at Northumbria University took part in three-day placements at Sunderland Museums to develop pilot sessions and resources for early years and foundation stage pupils visiting the museum.

3.6 Adult Learning

Adult learning is supported across Sunderland Museums through a variety of approaches tailored to suit different learners needs. The Friends of Sunderland Museums provide a programme of formal talks each month on exhibition and collection themes. In 2010 these have included:

- The Origins of Sunderland Museums with Les Jessop
- From Galf to Codex: Making Books in Bede's Northumbria with Prof. Richard Gameson, Durham University
- Unfair Trade with William Angawa, Sunderland University.

The Friends of Sunderland Museums also run family and social events at the museum and adults can volunteer to support the museum learning programme.

A programme of classes and self-help groups take place at Sunderland Museums throughout the year supporting life-long learners, encouraging people to improve their skills through social activities. These include Botanical Illustration, ESOL (English for speakers of other languages), Calligraphy, Quilting and University of the Third Age groups studying art, poetry, history and travel.

Drop-in textile workshops run by artists such as the monthly Knit and Natter group provides learning opportunities for adults, particularly those with special needs, in a relaxed and supportive environment. Many other events take place throughout the year, for example, Happiness and Wellbeing meetings on behalf of the Sunderland Health Partnership, including World Mental Health Day on 9 October.

3.7 Family Learning

Family learning opportunities are promoted across all the Museum sites in Sunderland. The range of activity includes under 5s groups, out of school groups and drop in activities at weekends and school holiday periods. The Regional Museums Hub supports this delivery by providing projects, training and networking events.

The Railway Rascals programme of workshops for children under 5 and their carers continues to be successful at Monkwearmouth Station Museum. The sessions encourage social interaction and skills development and take place in the specially designed Children's Gallery. In July 2010 holiday events at Monkwearmouth for families supported the popular *Build It: The Story of Construction Toys* exhibition and included Meccano Society displays, Bob the Builder appearances and craft workshops.

3.8 Young People

The Museum works in partnership with staff in the Youth Development Group to develop opportunities for young people to engage with museums. As part of the *North East Beat: Venues, Bands and Fans* exhibition in Summer 2010, young people from the Sunderland Music Workshops project worked with families to teach them drumming and percussion beats. Young people from Sunderland BME communities are working with Sunderland Museums on a *Stories of the World* project for the Cultural Olympiad in partnership with NERS (North East Refugee Service). The project aims to reveal the hidden stories of objects from the Museum ethnography collections through interpretation led by the young people, to create an exhibition in 2012. This will give a platform for the views of young people from diverse communities to be heard.

3.9 Events

Sunderland Museums run several large scale events through the year. These are often partnership-led events, working with national museums, local authority departments and other providers.

Examples of successful events have included the China Spectacular event on 13 February 2010 in partnership with Family, Adult and Community Learning in Sunderland where visitors enjoyed lion dancing, lantern making and Chinese art painting to celebrate Chinese New Year. Large festival events such as these help to bring people from different community backgrounds together.

The Fairtrade Festival on Saturday 23 October was planned with Sunderland Partnership to celebrate Sunderland's third birthday as a Fairtrade City. The event promoted community cohesion by raising awareness of Indian culture, particularly through music and art. Musicians from Gem Arts provided live Indian music, craft activities were themed to India and craft stalls sold fair-trade products. Over 750 people attended the event.

Sunderland Museums also supports events across Sunderland which encourages communities to gather together and feel a sense of pride and ownership in their local area. These included the History Fair in June, the Back on the Map Festival in Hendon and the East End in July, the International Friendship Festival in July and Washington Heritage Festival in September. Members of TWAM staff support these activities with learning activities connecting people to their history or culture through object handling, reminiscence and arts related activities. For example, at the Washington Heritage Festival on 18 September visitors explored coal mining photographs and objects from the Victorian period up to the 1980s and created two new mining banners for display at Washington F Pit Museum.

3.10 Outreach

TWAM has a dedicated Outreach Team with two members of staff based in Sunderland. One is funded by the North East Regional Museums Hub and works with a variety of groups, the other is supported by central government strategic commissioning funding to work specifically with Refugees and Asylum Seekers. Further input has come from a variety of funding streams, including the Heritage Lottery-funded *Culture Shock* project which has enabled people from many different backgrounds to create their own digital stories: for example, 10 clients from Vocational Services Washington, a mental health support service, took part in a Culture Shock project inspired by collections at Sunderland Museum and Winter Gardens. Work carried out over the past year includes: learning packs for ESOL learners based on SMWG and Monkwearmouth Station Museum, prepared in collaboration with ESOL classes; clients from the Alzheimer's Society Sunderland taking part in a project inspired by collections at Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens, Discovery Museum and the Shipley Art Gallery; and an arts programme in partnership with the North East Autism Society to provide summer activities for young people in Sunderland with autism spectrum disorders.

Ongoing work includes a group of homeless young people regarded as NEET from YMCA Sunderland taking part in a project inspired by fashion collections at Discovery Museum, Newcastle, and an Age UK Wellbeing Group at the Bradbury Centre taking part in a project to create a proggy mat inspired by the Textiles Traditions exhibition at Sunderland Museum and Winter Gardens.

3.11 Culture Track

Culture Track is an intensive volunteering programme focused on cultural volunteering to support skills for employability. TWAM ran this pilot programme funded by One North East for two years until Sep 2010 and is now actively seeking funding to continue the work. A volunteer from Sunderland with physical and learning disabilities undertook a placement at Discovery Museum. Travelling so far independently was a significant step for him, and he had a very positive experience of volunteering, leading on to temporary employment with Sunderland City Council, during which time he continued to volunteer with TWAM.

4.0 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The information provides a brief summary of the active and extensive Archives and Museums provision in Sunderland and further information and detail can be provided on request.
- 4.2 TWAM will continue to work with Sunderland City Council and with all sectors including community, voluntary, stakeholders, partners, businesses and potential funders, to ensure that Archives and Museum provision meets the needs of the city and its future development. In particular, ways will be sought to identify a sustainable future for the inclusive and accessible work that has been built up in recent years.
- 4.3 TWAM is also working closely with Sunderland City Council to ensure that efficiencies are realised in order that museum and archive services continue to be delivered more effectively, whilst ensuring quality services are retained. Obviously as with other services this may present significant challenges but the focus will be on putting the customer at the heart of re-designed services.

5.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 Members are asked to note the contents of this report and to receive further updates regarding Tyne & Wear Archives and Museums in the future.

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REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CITY SERVICES

THE ROLE OF ARTS AND CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT IN SUPPORTING
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES - POLICY REVIEW 2010/11

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: PROSPEROUS CITY

CORPORATE PRIORITIES: CI01: Delivery Customer Focused Services, CI02: Being 'One Council' CI03: Efficient and Effective Council, CI04: Improving partnership working to deliver 'One City'

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to outline the role of the Arts and Creative Development team in supporting the sustainable communities' agenda in Sunderland, to inform the committee review.

2.0 ARTS AND CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT TEAM

2.1 The Arts and Creative Development team delivers citywide, through its venues at Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art and Arts Centre Washington, through its Arts Development Function, and in its support for Creative Industries.

2.2 The Arts and Creative Development team deliver and support key outcomes for local communities and individuals with service planning and outcomes aligned to match Sunderland Partnership and City Council strategic objectives.

2.3 Our vision for the arts is to: **engage, inspire, create**

In order to sustain this vision, our strategic objectives for 2008 to 2012 have been:

- to support the development of Sunderland's creative sector in order to maximise the social and economic contributions it makes to our community
- to increase opportunities for Sunderland's residents, visitors and businesses to become involved in creative activity
- to develop and support creative projects which enhance the built and natural environment.

2.4 As part of the review of arts provision, the strategy will be updated to reflect the contributory role of the arts to the Economic Masterplan and strengthen linkages to other directorates and key stakeholders.

2.5 The Arts and Creative Development team comprises of specialist arts development officers and curators who work to promote and support a range of Art programmes,

initiatives and events that reflect the city's diversity of cultural interests and arts practice. The team works in partnership locally, regionally, nationally and internationally to maximise the impact of Arts activities and provision within the city.

The core functions include:

- directing and managing the delivery of an ambitious arts programme that increases choice and access to innovative contemporary art and artists
- facilitating the work of others and their contributions to the growth and development of arts and creative activities in the city
- devising and implementing policies and strategies that support the development, growth and sustainability of the arts and creativity in Sunderland
- providing advice, guidance and support in relation to the development, growth and promotion of arts within the city.

The Arts and Creative Development Strategy can be viewed at:

www.sunderland.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=1042

3.0 THE ROLE OF ARTS AND CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

3.1 The following detail examines how current arts provision supports sustainable communities, suggesting improvements to provision, and giving examples of best practice both from Sunderland and across the country.

3.2.1 Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art (NGCA) works in a number of ways to address the agenda of supporting sustainable communities. Firstly, by widening access:

- through working with schools from almost every part of the city to ensure diverse communities, socially and geographically, have access to arts provision.
- through audience development: the galleries exhibitions attract between 20-50% of first-time visitors, ensuring access is constantly broadening. Up to one-third of visits have been from outside the city.
- through programme: NGCA has worked with artists based in the city who look at regional and local identities and at the distinctiveness of social and natural environments.

3.2.2 NGCA is currently investigating taking on a more expansive role working outside of the gallery space, and will examine how to make use of unused or underused spaces in the city, in order to engage non-attenders as directly as possible. A good example of this working well is through the Brighton Photo Biennale which made use of both large unused spaces and prominent civic spaces such as both vacant department stores and shop fronts and billboards, in order to attract attention to the role of the arts in the city and to galvanise different communities in the city.

3.3.1 Arts Centre Washington (ACW) provides a high quality programme of accessible,

affordable and enjoyable events in all art forms: theatre, music, visual arts, dance, comedy, etc. ACW encourages access by all sectors of the local and wider Sunderland community to a full range of arts activities such as classes, courses, workshops and projects.

The Arts Centre:

- Delivers a high quality programme of events and activities specifically for children and young people giving a wide range of artistic experiences that help build confidence, widen horizons and promote aspiration.
- Helps Sunderland-based emerging artists to develop their practice through sharing resources, showcasing work and advice and provides resources for community arts groups, e.g. spaces to meet on a regular basis and present their work.
- Has created a volunteering programme enabling volunteers of all ages to become involved in the life of the arts centre.

3.3.2 In addition the Gallery at ACW regularly exhibits work from locally based artists providing a regional showcase for artists and crafts people.

3.3.3 In order to improve on this agenda, ACW, through grant applications, will be seeking to:

- Introduce a Film programme providing local residents with a more accessible cinema venue.
- Improve customer services via a computerised box office system.
- Improve physical resources, e.g. stage lighting equipment to improve quality and standards of events.

3.4.1 Arts and Creative Development engage in a wide range of initiatives to support the sustainable communities agenda, including:

- Individual projects which engage the general public in free positive activities which help combat social exclusion.
- Projects and activities can take place in local venues and localities. This allows the public to engage with arts activities at a local level initially, rather than depend on entering a traditional 'arts space' such as a gallery or theatre to access arts programmes. This progression route channels audiences towards engaging with even more creative experiences, again helping to combat social exclusion.
- Projects and activities bring communities and cross-generations together which contributes to community cohesion, while reinforcing and celebrating the community's identity.
- Providing opportunities for creative professionals to develop their practice and contribute to footfall within the city and the community's economy.
- Working with partners both within and outside the Council and with the community and voluntary sector to help deliver their outcomes through creative interventions, e.g. the wellness agenda, skills development, diversionary activities for young people at risk of offending, improving the public realm, supporting the city's economy, etc.

3.4.2 In order to improve the work in these areas the team are:

- Developing more partnerships in more communities to ensure meaningful projects are devised in collaboration to meet the needs of all parties.
- Increasingly utilising other teams areas of expertise and contacts to engage communities in creative activities and achieve crosscutting objectives by working in partnership, e.g. Youth Development Projects, Sports Development Team, Diversity and Inclusion Team.
- Delivering advance art workshops with communities attached to the Council's festivals and events programme, e.g. free art workshops leading up to the International Friendship Festival, SHINE and AV Festival to engage audiences in advance of and during these events.

3.4.3 Examples of projects devised and delivered by the team include:

- Empire Theatre Centenary Project - working with a range of groups, few of whom had entered the Sunderland Empire before. Photography and creative writing workshops took place initially in the group's own spaces and then moved to the theatre. An exhibition of their work is on permanent display at the theatre and participants were offered tickets to see a performance.
- Houghton Feast lantern parade workshop programme and opening event. Workshops take place with a range of community groups in their locality who then contribute to the opening ceremony where they also access live performances. Communities develop a relationship with the artists and the Arts Education and Outreach Officer.
- The Sunderland Live events have developed over the past two years working closely with local youth project facilitators, music promoters and musicians. Skills and confidence of these individuals have increased to provide a stronger music infrastructure for the city, meaning less support is required from the Council.
- Working with the Planning and Regeneration Officers to deliver improvements to public realm and engage communities to participate in the process and contribute to the developments within the built environment e.g. the Seachange Project along Marine Walk.

3.4.4 An example of national good practice is the 'Towner on the Town' project in Eastbourne. This arts outreach project links to the programme of the Towner Art Gallery, and is delivered as part of the East Sussex Youth Offending Team Intensive Supervision and Surveillance Programme. The programme aims to develop young people's personal skills, increase self-esteem and confidence in making choices. Indirectly, the programme aims to steer young people away from criminality through encouraging an interest in art. Eastbourne Council were awarded Beacon Status in 2006 for their work with hard to reach groups through this programme.

3.5.1 Our Public Art Programme commissions high quality, exciting art in public places to help transform the experiences of both residents and visitors, by:

- Installing temporary artworks in green spaces and coastline areas, creating a testing ground for more permanent projects.
- Commissioning art that celebrates the area's heritage, creating intriguing and appealing visual focal points.
- Increasing opportunities for residents, visitors and businesses to become involved in creative activity through community consultation events, online voting forms and inclusion on selection panels.
- Creating a 'collection' through exhibitions, events, publications, websites and developing strong connections between artwork, artists and the communities in which work is placed.

3.5.2 Example projects are:

- In 2009 the Ryhope Development Trust working with Sunderland City Council commissioned artist Andrew Burton to create two gateway features for the village. Working to the Trust's brief, Andrew created a piece that symbolizes elements of Ryhope's farming and mining past, and provides a notable entrance to the village
- With Support from ONE NorthEast and Sustrans, Sunderland City Council commissioned a series of artworks by Andrew Small to greet cyclists as they reach the final leg of the C2C cycle route. The project was completed in 2010.
- Two new twenty-five-metre community swimming pools were built in Hetton and Silksworth. Commissions were undertaken to create bespoke designs for the glazed sections of the pools. This work was funded through the Area Committees.

4.0 REVIEW OF ARTS AND CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

4.1 The Art and Creative Development provision is currently under review to ensure it is fit for purpose and able to respond to the City Council's strategic priorities and corporate objectives in the future.

4.2 The Arts Council of England received significant cuts to its budget from the Government and this has impacted on the Regular Funded Organisations across the country. In Sunderland this includes the City Council, Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art (NGCA) and the National Glass Centre (NGC). The cuts to grants for 2011/2012 equates to 6.9% which will need to be managed within cash limit. Arts Council funding for organisations beyond March 2012 will be through a new funding scheme to which the city council must apply if NGCA is to continue.

4.3 Performing arts development, particularly music, has been highlighted as a priority for the city and this area of work is currently being explored with key stakeholders including the Stadium of Light and regional and national promoters and musicians. The budget to support this area of work will need to be identified from within existing resources in addition to outside grant funding where available and partnership working.

4.4 Arts Centre Washington is exploring the potential of becoming a regional hub for creativity and children and young people. This will be subject to an application to Arts Council and will involve competition from a large number of other organisations currently working with children and young people in the region.

5.0 CONCLUSION

5.1 The information and examples provided above highlight the work that is currently ongoing in relation to Arts and Creative Development and the role played in supporting sustainable communities.

6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Members are requested to note the above for information.

**FORMER VAUX BREWERY SITE – SUNDERLAND CITY
CENTRE**

REPORT OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Strategic Priorities: SP1 Prosperous City, SP5 Attractive City

**Corporate Priorities: CIO1: Delivering Customer Focused Services, CIO4:
Improving partnership working to deliver 'One City'.**

1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1 To provide the Committee with an update on the former Vaux Brewery site.

2. Current Position

- 2.1 Colin Clark, Head of Land and Property will be in attendance to provide the Committee with a verbal update.

3 Recommendation

- 3.1 That Members note the update report on the former Vaux Brewery Site.

Contact Officer: james diamond, Scrutiny Officer
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SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS FOR THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2010 – 30 APRIL 2011

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

18 January 2011

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To provide Members with an opportunity to consider those items on the Executive's Forward Plan for the period 1 January 2010 – 30 April 2011

2. Background Information

- 2.1 Holding the Executive to account is one of the main functions of Scrutiny. One of the ways that this can be achieved is by considering the forthcoming decisions of the Executive (as outlined in the Forward Plan) and deciding whether Scrutiny can add value in advance of the decision being made. This does not negate Non-Executive Members ability to call-in a decision after it has been made.
- 2.2 To this end, it has been agreed that, on a pilot basis, the most recent version of the Executive's Forward Plan should be included on the agenda of each of the Council's Scrutiny Committees. The Forward Plan for the period 1 January 2010 – 30 April 2011 is attached marked **Appendix 1**.

3. Current Position

- 3.1 Following member's comments on the suitability of the Forward Plan being presented in its entirety to each committee it should be noted that only issues relating to the specific remit of the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee are presented for information and comment. Due to agenda and publication deadlines a revised copy of this information will be circulated at the meeting reflecting any amendments.
- 3.2 In the event of Members having any queries that cannot be dealt with directly in the meeting, a response will be sought from the relevant Directorate.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 To consider the Executive's Forward Plan for the period 1 January – 30 April 2011.

5. Background Papers

None

Contact Officer : James Diamond 0191 561 1396
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**Forward Plan -
Key Decisions for
the period
01/Jan/2011 to
30/Apr/2011**



**E Waugh,
Head of Law and Governance,
Sunderland City Council.**

14 December 2010

Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Jan/2011 to 30/Apr/2011

No.	Description of Decision	Decision Taker	Anticipated Date of Decision	Principal Consultees	Means of Consultation	When and how to make representations and appropriate Scrutiny Committee	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Tel No
01466	To agree an amended purchase price for the sale of land at Camberwell Way, Doxford Park.	Cabinet	17/Jan/2011	Head of Law and Governance, Director of Financial Resources	Email and report.	To contact officer by 20 December 2010 - Management Scrutiny Committee	Cabinet Report	Nick Wood	5612631
01379	To approve a capital equipment grant to Company B to support economic development and job creation (Part II Item - Exempt Information)	Cabinet	17/Jan/2011	Appropriate Portfolio holder	correspondence	Via the Contact Officer by 20 December 2010 - Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee	Cabinet Report	Janet Snaith	5611166
01409	To approve the Employment Strategy.	Cabinet	17/Jan/2011	Stakeholders will include Working Neighbourhoods Board LSP partners, Portfolio Holder and Delivery Partners.	Series of Stakeholders events Council's Consultation Website, Working Neighbourhoods Board.	Via Contact Officer by 20 December 2010 - Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee.	Cabinet Report and Employment Strategy	Allison Patterson	5611474

Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Jan/2011 to 30/Apr/2011

No.	Description of Decision	Decision Taker	Anticipated Date of Decision	Principal Consultees	Means of Consultation	When and how to make representations and appropriate Scrutiny Committee	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Tel No
01475	To agree any key decisions relating to posts graded under spinal column point 42 or equivalent arising from a review of the establishment (Part II exempt information)	Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development	17/Jan/2011	Relevant Portfolio Holders, Executive Management Team and Trade Unions	Reports	Via the contact Officer by 20 December 2010 - Management Scrutiny Committee	Report	Sue Stanhope	5611722
01450	To recommend to Council the level of Council Tax Base to be included in the 2011/2012 Budget	Cabinet	17/Jan/2011	None	N/A	Via the Contact Officer 20 December 2010 - Management Scrutiny Committee	Cabinet Report	Fiona Brown	5611811
01449	To consider any key decisions arising from the Revenue Budget and Trading Services Third Quarterly Review	Cabinet	17/Jan/2011	Directors and third parties affected by the virement proposals	Report will be made available on the Intranet and emailed to Directors	Via the Contact Officer by 20 December - Management Scrutiny Committee	None	Sonia Tognarelli	5611851

Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Jan/2011 to 30/Apr/2011

No.	Description of Decision	Decision Taker	Anticipated Date of Decision	Principal Consultees	Means of Consultation	When and how to make representations and appropriate Scrutiny Committee	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Tel No
01467	To rescind previous cabinet decision and agree land swap at Newcastle Road, Sunderland to regularise site boundaries and provide uniform development site.	Cabinet	17/Jan/2011	Head of Law and Governance and Director of Financial Resources	Email and report	To contact officer by 20 December - Management scrutiny.	Cabinet report	Nick Wood	5612631
01470	To agree any key decisions relating to posts graded on or above spinal column point 42 or equivalent arising from a review of the establishment (Part II exempt information).	Cabinet	17/Jan/2011	Relevant Portfolio Holders, Executive Management Team and Trade Unions	Reports	Via the Contact Officer by 20 December - Management Scrutiny Committee	Report	Sue Stanhope	5611722
01474	To approve the procurement via a framework for the provision of Independent Foster Care Providers	Cabinet	17/Jan/2011	Corporate Procurement, CS Placement Commissioning Manager	Meetings	To the contact officer by 20 December - Children, Young People and Learning	Children Act 1989, Children and Young Persons Act 2008	Nick Murphy	5663235

Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Jan/2011 to 30/Apr/2011

No.	Description of Decision	Decision Taker	Anticipated Date of Decision	Principal Consultees	Means of Consultation	When and how to make representations and appropriate Scrutiny Committee	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Tel No
01448	To consider any key decisions arising from the Capital Programme and Treasury Management Third Quarterly Review	Cabinet	17/Jan/2011	Directors and third parties affected by the virement proposals	Report will be made available on the Intranet and emailed to Directors	Via the Contact Officer by 20 December - Management Scrutiny Committee	None	Sonia Tognarelli	5611851
01458	To approve a response to the consultation on the Tyne and Wear Local Transport Plan 2011-2021.	Cabinet	17/Jan/2011	Elected Members; General Public; People who have an interest in Transport	Briefings; E-mails; Web Events	To contact Officer by 20 December - Environment and Attractive City Scrutiny Committee	Report ; Tyne and Wear Local Transport Plan 2011-2012 draft response to consultation	Bob Donaldson	5611517
01471	To consider the results of the Care Quality Commission Ratings.	Cabinet	17/Jan/2011	Cabinet, Service Users and Ward Members, Portfolio Holders	Briefings and /or meetings with interested parties	Via the Contact Officer by 20 December - Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee	Report	Graham King	5661894

Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Jan/2011 to 30/Apr/2011

No.	Description of Decision	Decision Taker	Anticipated Date of Decision	Principal Consultees	Means of Consultation	When and how to make representations and appropriate Scrutiny Committee	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Tel No
01480	To approve the delivery of the ERDF Low Carbon Energy Demonstration project pending the confirmation of funding.	Cabinet	17/Jan/2011	Deputy Chief Executive, Head of Law and Governance, Director of Financial Resources, Corporate Risk Manager	Circulated by email	Via the Contact Officer by 20 December 2010 - Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee	Cabinet Report	James Garland	5611158
01481	To consider budget proposals for the 2011/2012 Revenue Budget for the Council	Cabinet	17/Jan/2011	Directors, Relevant Portfolio holders, EMT, Chamber of Commerce, Trades Unions, Citizens' Panel and Education Stakeholders	Briefings, meetings, presentations	To contact officer by 20 December - Management Scrutiny Committee	Report and supporting papers	Sonia Tognarelli	5611851
01453	To seek approval to adopt the Community Assets Policy for Sunderland City Council	Cabinet	16/Feb/2011	Corporate Capital Strategy Group; Head of Land and Property; Voluntary and Community Sector; Portfolio Holder for Responsive Services & Customer Care; Elected Members	Draft Community Assets Strategy via Consultation Database; e-Newsletters; Report; Focus Groups; Forums; Area Networks	Via the Contact Officer by 21 January - Management Scrutiny Committee	Report and Strategy	Julie Gray	5617574

Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Jan/2011 to 30/Apr/2011

No.	Description of Decision	Decision Taker	Anticipated Date of Decision	Principal Consultees	Means of Consultation	When and how to make representations and appropriate Scrutiny Committee	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Tel No
01462	To recommend the Capital Programme, Prudential Indicators and Treasury Management and Investment Strategy for 2011/2012 to the Council	Cabinet	16/Feb/2011	Representatives of Business Ratepayers and Unions	At Special Meeting in February	At Special Meeting and otherwise to the Contact Officer 21 January - Management Scrutiny Committee	Cabinet Report	Sonia Tognarelli	5611851
01479	To approve the Appointment of Frank Haslam Milan and Three Rivers Housing Association as development partners to develop a Core & Cluster scheme on Council owned land at Redcar Road, Sunderland	Cabinet	16/Feb/2011	Cabinet, Service Users and Ward Members, Portfolio Holders	Briefings and/ or meetings with interested parties.	Via the contact officer by 21 January - Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee	Report	Alan Caddick	5612690
01463	To recommend the level of Council Tax to Council	Cabinet	16/Feb/2011	Representatives of Business Ratepayers and Unions	At Special Meeting in February	At Special Meeting and otherwise to Contact Officer by 21 January - Management Scrutiny Committee	Cabinet Report	Sonia Tognarelli	5611851

Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Jan/2011 to 30/Apr/2011

No.	Description of Decision	Decision Taker	Anticipated Date of Decision	Principal Consultees	Means of Consultation	When and how to make representations and appropriate Scrutiny Committee	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Tel No
01477	To approve the appointment of contractors to deliver the Marine Walk public realm improvements (Sea Change).	Cabinet	16/Feb/2011	Appropriate Chief Officers	Report	Via the contact office by 21 January - Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee	Report	Dan Hattle	5612439
01454	To approve the Sunderland Partnership Volunteering Strategy for Sunderland City Council.	Cabinet	16/Feb/2011	All Heads of Service; Corporate Communities Group; Voluntary & Community Sector; Elected Members; Area Cttees; Scrutiny Cttees; Sunderland Partnership Organisations; Inclusive Communities Thematic Group	Draft Volunteering Strategy and Action Plan including consultation questions circulated via Consultation Database; e-newsletters and distributions lists; reports; Websites; printed copies; face to face contact	Via the Contact Officer by 21 January - Management Scrutiny Committee	Report and Strategy	Julie Gray	5617574
01461	To recommend the Revenue Budget 2011/2012 to Council	Cabinet	16/Feb/2011	Reps. of Business Ratepayers, Unions, Headteachers, Governors, Youth Parliament, Citizens Panel	Presentations, Meetings, Surveys	At meetings arranged and otherwise to Contact Officer by 21 January - Management Scrutiny Committee	Cabinet Report	Sonia Tognarelli	5611851

Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Jan/2011 to 30/Apr/2011

No.	Description of Decision	Decision Taker	Anticipated Date of Decision	Principal Consultees	Means of Consultation	When and how to make representations and appropriate Scrutiny Committee	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Tel No
01464	To recommend the level of Council Tax Collection Fund 2011/2012 to be taken into account to Council	Cabinet	16/Feb/2011	None	N/A	To the Contact Officer by 21 January - Management Scrutiny Committee	Cabinet Report	Sonia Tognarelli	5611851
01451	To agree the Low Carbon Homes Strategy	Cabinet	16/Feb/2011	Cabinet, Service Users and Ward Members, Portfolio Holders	Briefings and/or meetings with interested parties	Via the contact officer by 21 January - Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee	Report	Alan Caddick	5662690
01400	To agree the Access to Housing Project - Allocations Policy	Cabinet	16/Feb/2011	Cabinet, Service Users and Carer Groups, Portfolio Holder, Adult Services Staff and Partners	Briefings and/or meetings with interested parties	Via the Contact Officer by 21 January - Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee	Full Report	Alan Caddick	5662690

Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Jan/2011 to 30/Apr/2011

No.	Description of Decision	Decision Taker	Anticipated Date of Decision	Principal Consultees	Means of Consultation	When and how to make representations and appropriate Scrutiny Committee	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Tel No
01403	To consider the outcome of Public Consultation (March - June 2010) in relation to the Accessible Bus Network Design Project	Cabinet	16/Feb/2011	Portfolio Holder for Attractive and Inclusive City; Nexus; Appropriate Chief Officers	Briefings; Meetings; e-mails	Via the contact officer by 21 January - Environmental and Attractive City Scrutiny Committee	Cabinet Report	Bob Donaldson	5611517
01424	To agree the Review of the Sunderland Private Landlords Self Accreditation Scheme	Cabinet	16/Feb/2011	Housing Portfolio Holder, Ward Members, Residents and Owners of property	Briefings and/ or meetings with interested parties	Via the Contact Officer by 21 January - Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee	Report	Alan Caddick	5662690
01428	To consider the Review of Job Linkage, including the options for the ongoing provision of a Council-led Employability Service. To agree the preferred option.	Cabinet	16/Feb/2011	Council officers, LSP partners and relevant stakeholders, delivery providers, service users	Meetings, briefings, emails	Via Contact Officer by 21 January - Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee	Cabinet report and Review of Job Linkage	Karen Alexander	5611339

Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Jan/2011 to 30/Apr/2011

No.	Description of Decision	Decision Taker	Anticipated Date of Decision	Principal Consultees	Means of Consultation	When and how to make representations and appropriate Scrutiny Committee	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Tel No
01412	To approve the procurement of specialist vehicles to be used in the waste and cleaning service.	Cabinet	16/Feb/2011	Procurement; Appropriate Chief Officers; Portfolio holder for Attractive and Inclusive City	Report; Briefings	Via Contact Officer by 21 January - Environment and Attractive City	Report	Les Clark	5614540
01438	To agree the Social Care Contributions Policy for Personalisation	Cabinet	09/Mar/2011	Cabinet, Service Users and Ward Members, Portfolio Holders	Briefings and/or meetings with interested parties	via the Contact Officer by 21 February - Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee	Report	Neil Revely	5661880
01452	To agree the revised Financial Assistance Policy	Cabinet	09/Mar/2011	Cabinet, Service Users and Ward Members, Portfolio Holders	Briefings and/or meetings with interested parties	Via the contact officer by 21 February - Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee	Report	Alan Caddick	5662690

Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Jan/2011 to 30/Apr/2011

No.	Description of Decision	Decision Taker	Anticipated Date of Decision	Principal Consultees	Means of Consultation	When and how to make representations and appropriate Scrutiny Committee	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Tel No
01436	To agree for the Council to assist with and facilitate the transfer of NTW's learning disability homes to a Registered Social Landlord.	Cabinet	09/Mar/2011	Cabinet, Service Users and Carer Groups, Portfolio Holder, Adult Services Staff, Health Partners	Briefings and/or meetings with interested parties.	Via the Contact Officer by 21 February - Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee	Report	John Fisher	5661876

WORK PROGRAMME 2010-11

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Strategic Priorities: SP1 Prosperous City, SP5 Attractive City

Corporate Priorities: CIO1: Delivering Customer Focused Services, CI04: Improving partnership working to deliver 'One City'.

1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1 The report attaches, for Members' information, the current work programme for the Committee's work during the 2010-11 Council year.
- 1.2 The work of the Committee in delivering its work programme will support the Council in achieving its Strategic Priorities of Safer City, support delivery of the related themes of the Local Area Agreement, and, through monitoring the performance of the Council's services, help the Council achieve its Corporate Improvement Objectives CIO1 (delivering customer focussed services) and C104 (improving partnership working to deliver 'One City').

2. Background

- 2.1 The work programme is a working document which the Committee can develop throughout the year. The work programme allows Members and officers to maintain an overview of work planned and undertaken during the Council year.

3. Current position

- 3.1 The work programme reflects discussions that have taken place at the 8 June 2010 Scrutiny Committee meeting. The current work programme is attached as an appendix to this report.

4. Conclusion

- 4.1 The work programme developed from the meeting will form a flexible mechanism for managing the work of the Committee in 2010-11.

5 Recommendation

- 5.1 That Members note the information contained in the work programme and consider the inclusion of proposals for the Committee into the work programme.

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	JUNE 15.06.10	JULY (REARRANGED) 13.07.10	SEPTEMBER 21.09.10	OCTOBER 19.10.10	NOVEMBER 16.11.10	DECEMBER 14.12.10	JANUARY 18.01.11	FEBRUARY 15.02.11	MARCH 15.03.11	APRIL 12.04.11
Cabinet referrals and responses			Progress on Policy Review - Access to Housing (Cllr Truman/Alan Caddick)	Progress on Policy Review – Local Studies (Cllr D Wilson/Jane Hall)						
Policy Review	Proposals for policy review (Scrutiny Officer)	Scope of review (Scrutiny Officer)	Scope and approach to review (Scrutiny Officer)	Progress on Review (Scrutiny Officer/Jane Hall)	Policy Review – History and Heritage (Jane Hall)		Policy Review – Libraries and Museums Services (Jane Hall) Policy Review - Arts and Creative (Jane Hall)	Policy Review – Sport and Leisure Events and Tourism (Scrutiny Officer) Community Cohesion (Sal Buckler) Annual Sport and Leisure Report (RL) Policy Review – Built Heritage (Mike Lowe)	Draft report (Scrutiny Officer)	Final Report (Scrutiny Officer)
Performance			Performance & VfM Assessment (Gillian Robinson)			Performance Framework Q2 including Progress on policy reviews				Performance Framework Q3 including progress on policy reviews

Scrutiny	Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan	Economic Masterplan (Janet Johnson) Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan	Empire Theatre Annual Report (Jane Hall) World Heritage Bid Update (Michael King) Extra Care Accommodation Management Guide (Alan Caddick) Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan	Play and Urban Games Strategy (Carol Lewis) Affordable Housing (Neil Cole) Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan	Weather and Climate Risk Management Strategy (Neil Cole) Housing and Neighbourhood Renewal Enforcement Policy – Update on Selective Licensing (Alan Caddick) Sunderland Housing Priorities Plan (Alan Caddick) Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan	Sunderland Volunteering Strategy (Julie Gray) Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan	Former Vaux site – Update (Colin Clark) Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan	Housing Update (Alan Caddick) Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan	Low Carbon Homes (Alan Caddick) Access to Housing Project - Allocations (Alan Caddick) Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan	Annual Report (Review Coord) Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan
CCFA/ Members items/Petitions										