

Item 2b
SUNDERLAND NORTH AREA COMMITTEE

11th July 2011

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

COMMUNITY ACTION IN SUNDERLAND NORTH – PROGRESS REVIEW
Work Plan 2011/12: Heritage

1. Why has it come to Committee?

- 1.1 The report provides an update of progress against agreed actions in the current year's (2011/12) work plan, **Annex 1**.

2. Heritage and Learning

- 2.1 The group discussed a heritage project to be delivered within the North area Primary schools in partnership with Beamish.

- 2.2 The proposed project is based around Sunderland Football Club with links to the community, people, place and industry allowing each school to adapt the project to focus on an area of heritage they would wish to progress.

- 2.3 The aims of the project are:
- To enable children to understand their heritage better and appreciate what Sunderland was like in the past.
 - To engage the wide family in the heritage of the area.
 - To improve community cohesion within the area as a result of different generations working on a project enabling participants to better understand each other.

- 2.4 The project will be delivered over a one year period within the academic year and will include teacher planning with Beamish, community heritage meetings to establish how the community can work with the schools, visits from the community and local history groups to schools, outreach support from Beamish along with information, activity based work within the school and curriculum and on visits to Beamish. Final activity and work would be displayed at Beamish, in schools and as part of heritage open days as well as a Sunderland football match being played in period costume.

- 2.5 The Task and Finish Group agreed the proposal of £20,000 funding be allocated from the 2011/2012 Strategic Initiatives Budget to support the delivery of this project throughout the North subject to full application, consultation and appraisal.

3. Focus of the Task and Finish Group

- 3.1 The Task and Finish Group discussed the heritage priority and what actions could be taken forward in the North area. Discussion took place regarding heritage sites and how these could be used to deliver

events to promote sites and increase awareness and people visiting heritage attractions.

- 3.2 It was acknowledged as part of these discussions that an action plan for delivery was needed identifying what the Area wanted to achieve and how this could be progressed.
- 3.3 The Task and Finish Group discussed and agreed the proposal for the recruitment of a Heritage Community Development Worker for a 1 year period who would form part of the Task and Finish Group and take forward agreed actions as part of an action plan for the North Area. The worker would also be responsible for sourcing external funding to deliver against an action plan and support other organisations to source funding.
- 3.4 The Task and Finish Group proposed allocating £25,000 for the recruitment of a Heritage Community Development Worker through a call for projects from the 2011/2012 Strategic Initiatives Budget subject to full application, appraisal and consultation.

4. Roker Park Lodge

- 4.1 CEED an environmental charity currently occupy Roker Park Lodge as an office base. The lease for Roker Park Lodge is currently being renegotiated with CEED to extend this further.
- 4.2 As part of the extension of the lease CEED are looking to physically improve the appearance and use of the Lodge and bring it back into a usable and accessible building.
- 4.3 CEED in discussion with the Council are looking to physically improve and renovate the lodge inside and out. This would include an extension to the building at the rear, incorporating improved office space for CEED, an education/conference room for use by the community and voluntary sector as well as CEED and the creation of a café and toilets that could be used by visitors to the park.
- 4.4 CEED have requested assistance in developing the plan to ensure it fulfils the requirements of CEED, the council, voluntary and community sector, local community and any future plans that may involve developing the park overall. Once the plan is fully developed CEED would seek external funding to complete the refurbishment and extension of the Lodge.
- 4.5 The group agreed to propose the allocation of £15,000 from the 2011/2012 Strategic Initiatives Budget to support a feasibility study and the development of plans to improve Roker Park Lodge subject to full application, appraisal and consultation.

Recommendation

- Note the contents of the report.
- Agree the allocation of £20,000 SIB funding from 2011/2012 budgets subject to full application, consultation and appraisal to the development and delivery of a heritage project within primary schools in the North Area.
- Agree the allocation of £25,000 SIB funding from 2011/2012 for the recruitment of a Heritage Community Development Worker through a call for projects.
- Agree the allocation of £15,000 SIB funding to complete a feasibility study and develop plans for the refurbishment and extension of Roker Park Lodge.

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