

At a meeting of the WASHINGTON AREA COMMITTEE held at the USWORTH SIXTH FORM COLLEGE, STEPHENSON ROAD on THURSDAY, 10TH SEPTEMBER, 2009 at 6.00 P.M.

Present:

Councillor Kelly in the Chair

Councillors Chamberlin, A. Cuthbert, I. Cuthbert, Fletcher, Miller, I. Richardson, Snowdon, Trueman, P. Walker and Whalen

Acting Inspector Alan Pitchford; Acting Sergeant Simon Dobson – Police; Joe Cummings – T & WFRS; John Anderson – COSC; John Chapman – Gentoo; Lee Ferry, Pauline T. Sentas – YDG; Sheila Davidson – BRIDGE; Amy Anderson, Liz Jarvis – Victim Support; Jacqui Reeves – Washington Mind; Phil McAloon – Oxclose Young Peoples Project and Ken Tears – SAFC Foundation.

Janet Newton	-	Children's Services
Julie Russell	-	Community & Cultural Services
Vicky Happer	-	Office of the Chief Executive
Victoria Glass	-	Office of the Chief Executive
Irene Allan	-	Office of the Chief Executive
Sue Bartlett	-	Office of the Chief Executive
Vince Taylor	-	Office of the Chief Executive

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Scaplehorn, Stephenson, Timmins, Wake and Nonnie Crawford.

Minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 2nd July, 2009

Councillor Snowdon referred to the minute in relation to the Washington Wheeled Sports Park and informed the Committee that she had received a leaflet claiming that a particular party had fought for and achieved the location of the Wheeled Sports Park and not the Area Committee.

Councillor I. Cuthbert advised that the leaflet had been funded by the Conservative party and reflected his own views and beliefs, the agreement being that any Council funded literature would not be used for political gain.

Councillor Walker expressed his disappointment that such a leaflet had been produced, as the result of the Wheeled Sports Park had been a collective effort.

Councillor Miller also expressed his disappointment and commented that the Area Committee were supposed to be working as a team.

The Chairman commented that he felt the leaflet was a breach of what had been agreed and had stated previously that as Chairman, the Washington Area Committee would be non political for the good of the community.

Councillor I. Cuthbert referred to the minute in relation to Developing Community Communications to Support Area Committees 2009-10 and requested it be amended to read :-

Councillor I. Cuthbert gave his reserved support of Council produced literature.

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 2nd July, 2009 (copy circulated) be confirmed and signed as a correct record subject to the following amendment.

Councillor I. Cuthbert gave his reserved support of Council produced literature.

Declarations of Interest

Item 6 – Washington a Learning Area Summary

Councillor Fletcher declared a personal interest as a Washington Millennium Centre trustee.

Councillor Miller declared a personal interest through an associate having businesses interests in EBC.

Councillor Snowdon declared personal interests as Business Ambassador of EBC and also as a trustee of the Bridge Women's Project.

Councillor Trueman declared a personal interest as a trustee of the Oxclose and District Young People's Project.

Councillor Walker declared a personal interest as a Washington Millennium Centre trustee.

Item 7 – Washington Area Committee Work Plan – Feedback from Working Groups

Councillor Walker declared a personal interest as a Gentoo employee.

Item 9 – Financial Statements and Funding Requests

Councillor Kelly declared a personal and prejudicial interest as a Committee member of Usworth Colliery Banner Group.

Questions to Area Committee

There were no questions submitted to Area Committee.

Washington Road Safety Measures

The Director of Development and Regeneration submitted a report (copy circulated) to inform the Washington Area Committee of progress to date on traffic issues in Washington.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Craig Wilkinson, Senior Project Engineer, presented the report and briefed Members on the additional traffic issues raised by Members as set out in Appendix 1.

i) In response to Councillor Chamberlin's query Mr. Wilkinson advised that the parking problems at Kestrel Close would be escalated to either Heads of Service or the Director of Development and Regeneration with the Committee's comments attached.

ii) In relation to the 20 mph speed limits in vicinity of schools, the Chairman advised that the issue was fully supported by Area Committee.

It was to be noted that Councillor Fletcher had requested the Gladstone Terrace footway and not Councillor Chamberlin.

iii) At the request of Councillor Walker, Mr. Wilkinson advised that he would look into providing an update on how the Gladstone Terrace issue was progressing and also provide a more accurate and full response on the Emerson Road speeding traffic issue.

iv) Mr. Wilkinson gave a detailed breakdown of public responses for bus links at Brandy Lane, Parsons and Dunelm, which would be presented to the October meeting of the Cabinet for implementation.

v) In relation to the accident cluster sites, Mr. Wilkinson advised that there were 13 schemes, three of which were funded from the Local Transport Plan (LTP) and the remaining 10 sites to be developed with consultants.

Councillor P. Walker expressed concern that the Heworth Road traffic calming scheme had been planned some time ago and hoped it was not expected to come out of the current SIB budget.

Mr. Wilkinson advised that the scheme would be funded through the LTP and that the SIP funding was for a three year period, which gave the directorate the next financial year to deliver on the schemes.

Councillor Walker enquired if consultation was undertaken with parents, as well as the schools, on the schemes.

Mr. Wilkinson advised that consultation is made within the residential geometry of the proposed schemes and also with the schools with the belief that they would then consult with the students' parents.

Councillor I. Cuthbert enquired as to what had caused the delays in implementing the schemes.

Mr. Wilkinson commented that there had been delays, but hoped the Committee could appreciate that the directorate were still on course.

The Chairman advised that the directorate had experienced unforeseen staffing problems which had resulted in the delays and that Mr. Wilkinson would now be the designated officer for the Washington area.

vi) The Chairman requested that consideration be given for road safety measures in areas such as Sulgrave and so on, with joint funding through SIP a possibility.

vii) Councillor I. Cuthbert enquired as to when the Committee would receive an update on the citywide speed review.

Mr. Wilkinson informed the Committee that the 40 mph speed review had been undertaken with the 60 mph review currently being considered. The study was with the consultants and hoped to have the data imminently.

It was agreed that Members liaise with Nicol Trueman, Area Officer, in relation to the traffic issues.

2. RESOLVED that:-

- i) the report be received and noted;
- ii) the Committee approved the implementation of monthly meetings between the Area Officer and the Traffic and Road Safety Section Manager to provide regular updates on traffic issues raised by Washington Members.

Washington a Learning Area Summary

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) for the Committee to consider and discuss the priority of learning, as agreed in the Work Plan for the 2009/10 municipal year.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms. Trueman presented the report and advised the Committee that following an extensive programme of consultation, the agreed priorities for the learning theme were:-

- Improve and increase the variety of youth services available across Washington;
- Deliver holistic campaigns around healthier lifestyle choices delivered at schools/college, businesses, public venues;
- Plan training around jobs;
- Target people EET and young people who are NEET into education and employment.

In relation to the Youth Villages, Councillor Walker commented that he believed the Washington area was in the process of receiving a Youth Village and had heard good and bad reports, mainly weather related.

Councillor Walker believed the Area Committee should monitor how successful the current Youth Village is, before they submit further funding.

Lee Ferry, A690 Project Co-ordinator, advised that the Washington Youth Village would be up and running in October, and the application before the Committee was for Weekend Play.

The Chairman advised that if the Committee were to accept the report, it would only be to consider at a later date, no allocation of funding would be granted at this stage.

Councillor Miller expressed concern that the Area Committees' budgets may be used by directorates to make up their shortfall and believed the Committee needed to carefully manage their budget.

Councillor Trueman informed the Committee that he had visited a Youth Village and believed them to be a tremendous service and looked forward to seeing them introduced in Washington.

In relation to extending the Oxclose and District Youth Inclusion Project, Councillor I. Cuthbert enquired how well attended it was from outside of Oxclose.

The Chairman advised that the project covered the whole of Washington and was used by the Barmston and Concord areas for example.

The Chairman also advised that there was a report on the youth provision as a whole due next year, which the Committee needed to consider before it committed money.

3. RESOLVED that:-

- i) the Committee note the actions identified in Annex 1 of the report;
- ii) comments by Members to be received on the allocation of SIB/SIP (Youth Development Group) to be discussed further with the applicant, via the Area Regeneration Officer;
- iii) Review – Investigate and feedback to Area Committee on the feasibility of amending the procurement process to make the commissioning of youth services process more accessible;
- iv)
 - Escalate to Scrutiny or LSP – Strategic links to be made between the Business Investment Team, who can identify potential and current employers and Sunderland Learning Partnership, who can co-ordinate training and educational courses to address the needs of employers, if tailored appropriately it can be used to attract investors to Washington and the City (ALE).
 - Investigate how we engage with employers and encourage them to employ local people (ALE).
- v) the report be received and noted.

Washington Area Committee Work Plan – Feedback from Working Groups

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to update Members on the key actions from the Safe theme, which was discussed at the Area Committee meeting in July 2009.

The report also included a number of proposals to be developed/reviewed for the Committee to agree upon, as identified in Annex 2/2a.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Station Manager Joe Cummings of the Sunderland West Community Fire Station gave a Powerpoint presentation in relation to the Phoenix Project proposal and was on hand to answer Members' queries.

Councillor Trueman enquired that as the proposal was a Citywide project, could it still go ahead in Washington, if approval were not to be given by the other Area Committees.

Mr. Cummings advised that he would look into the matter and report back to Committee.

Councillor Miller enquired if there was the possibility to show the success of the project in the way of reducing crimes etc.

Mr. Cummings advised that he prepared quarterly and end of year performance reports which were published on the internet. The information could also be supplied at the station.

Mr. Cummings also commented that there had been a massive reduction in the figures and he believed the introduction of the Phoenix project had been a main factor.

Councillor Walker congratulated the Fire Authority on the project and commented that it was alarming to see the percentage of young people in Washington enrolled on the project, and hoped the percentage would drop in the future.

Phil McAloon, Oxclose and District Young People's Project, advised that the service was used more by people in Washington as organisations had good effective links with the Fire Authority and not all young people enrolled had committed an offence.

The scheme was very positive for young people and helped a great deal with their self esteem.

The Chairman advised that the percentage of costs were higher for Washington as the area had used the project more in the past. This application was for future funding and therefore it could occur where the Washington Area funds the most amount but sees lower attendances in the future.

The Chairman also commented that if the other areas did not approve funding of the project, he would like to see the scheme implemented specifically to Washington.

In relation to the Positive Futures Proposal, Julie Russell, Sport and Leisure Partnership Manager, was on hand to answer Members' queries.

The Chairman commented that there was a desperate need for activities catered for girls in the Washington area as most are male focussed.

Ms. Russell advised that they were targeting schemes which need extra support.

Councillor Miller commented that the directorate needed to investigate and consult on the provision of a Positive Futures social inclusion programme for Washington and then give Members a variety of options for consideration.

The Chairman commented that he would also like to see partners and organisations to feed in to the project as it would benefit them also.

In respect of the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme proposal, Acting Inspector Alan Pitchford was in attendance to answer Members' queries.

Councillor Miller commented that as a Co-ordinator for the Teal Farm Scheme, it would be useful to receive more leaflets and better advertising would also be helpful.

Councillor Chamberlin enquired if the event to be held at The Galleries would include Neighbourhood Watch meetings.

Acting Inspector Pitchford advised that the event would help in collecting people's details to enable them to get together in particular areas and assist in setting up/organising meetings.

Acting Inspector Pitchford advised that he would speak to Councillor I. Richardson outside of the meeting to discuss a recent Neighbourhood Watch Scheme that had ceased through lack of support.

Councillor Trueman commented that he was happy to see that the Police were showing commitment to the scheme as many had lost faith through the departure of the Neighbourhood Co-ordinator and he was delighted to see that confidence was to be restored with residents.

Acting Inspector Pitchford informed the Committee that they have spoken to the previous Neighbourhood Co-ordinator for advice.

Acting Inspector Pitchford also informed the Committee of changes that were occurring to the Neighbourhood Team and advised that all officers had been asked to provide their contact details via posters, leaflets etc, which would be circulated to Members.

Councillor Walker wished to thank Acting Inspector Pitchford and his colleagues for their support in relation to the Banner people traffic management.

Acting Inspector Pitchford also briefed the Committee on the anti social behaviour initiative, operation Heat, which provided patrols through hotspot areas over four weekends in August/September 2008.

As a result of the initiative there had been roughly 20% reduction in incidents.

Areas identified as hotspots would continue to be patrolled with discussions ongoing to introduce flash cams.

Councillor Miller commented that the flash cams had been utilised in Washington South with huge success and enquired how many there were.

Acting Inspector Pitchford advised that the figures indicated at present that there were five spare flash cams and that they ran at a cost of £4,000 but would confirm that amount.

Acting Inspector Pitchford also advised that he would look into and confirm the cost of installing the flash cams purely in the Washington Area as enquired by Councillor I. Cuthbert.

4. RESOLVED that the Committee agree:-
- i) to all of the actions identified in Annex 1 of the report;
 - ii) the proposals identified in Annex 2/2a be developed for the allocation of SIB/SIP in relation to the Phoenix Project and the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme;
 - iii) for a review to investigate and consult on the provision of a positive futures social inclusion programme for Washington, identifying delivery partners, venues, costs and for a report to be brought back to a future meeting of this Committee.

Washington Wheeled Sports Park

The Director of Community and Cultural Services submitted a report (copy circulated) to outline the progress on the development of the Washington Wheeled Sports Park.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Julie Russell presented the report and requested Members' consent to proceed once the planning permission had been granted.

A representative from the group 'Friends of Princess Anne Park', requested that investigations be made into the surrounding area of the Wheeled Sports Park to be used as a dedicated sports area for youngsters, as Washington did not have a running track and the area would be ideal for field events.

The Chairman requested that Ms. Russell look into the issue and enquired if the Council had yet received a response from Prudential as the biggest land owner.

Ms. Russell advised that 17 sites for equipped play provision were being delivered through Play Pathfinder.

There was a number of covenants and issues with the surrounding land of the sports park and needed due consideration. In relation to the athletics track, the village green area was not allowed anything permanent.

Ms. Russell also advised that Prudential had been pursued and that she would follow up on the issue.

Councillor Snowdon commented that there had been a sports track at Princess Anne Park previously and advised of a leaflet detailing the footprint of the track. Councillor Snowdon commented that it would be nice to look at reinventing the site.

Mike Poulter, Head of Project and Service Development, advised that the Council were looking to meet with Prudential on the progress of reinstating facilities.

John Anderson, Usworth Sixth Form, advised that he was due to attend a meeting to discuss the use of the surrounding land around the College and would update Members' accordingly.

5. RESOLVED that:-
- i) the Committee agreed for progression of the Washington Wheeled Sports Park once planning permission had been granted;
 - ii) investigations be made into utilising the surrounding area and that the Committee be updated at a future meeting on the outcomes of meetings with Prudential and the college.

Appointment of Chairman

The Chairman having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in relation to the Community Chest, it was necessary to appoint a Chairman, it was:-

6. RESOLVED that Councillor Miller be appointed Chairman for the following application.

Financial Statements and Funding Requests

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) outlining current expenditure from the Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB), Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) and Community Chest and applications for funding from these budgets in order to support new initiatives, which would benefit the area and the delivery of the Local Area Plans.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Committee was requested to approve:-

- 46 proposals for support from the 2009/10 Community Chest (as detailed in Annex 1);
- One proposal from the 2009/10 SIP totalling £15,000;
- the new emergency protocols for assessing SIB and SIP funding.

Having approved the 46 proposals for support from the 2009/10 Community Chest, Councillor Kelly wished to comment that consideration needed to be given on funding applications on a 'year to year' basis as many applications funded over several years had not provided results.

7. RESOLVED that the Committee:-

- i) approve the 46 proposals for support from the 2009/10 Community Chest as detailed in Annex 1;
- ii) approve £15,000 as a contribution from the 2009/10 budget for the development of Wheeled Sports Park at Princess Anne Park; and
- iii) agree the new emergency protocols for accessing SIB and SIP funding subject to the amendment in paragraph 7.4: The Deputy Chief Executive, in consultation with Chair and Vice Chair will then action the decision in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

Developing an Economic Masterplan for Sunderland

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which updated Members on the progress that had been made on developing an Economic Masterplan for Sunderland and sought the views of the Members on the economic vision that is emerging.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr. Vince Taylor, Head of Strategic Economic Development, gave a presentation (copy circulated) which set out the options and preferred direction for Sunderland as well as the key propositions and next steps in developing the Economic Masterplan.

Mr. Taylor explained the three scenarios developed and advised that these were not designed as options where one should be picked, but more so they were designed to set out possible parameters for the City's development.

Councillor Walker commented that the vision looked very good and would accept any of the scenarios but felt the major issue to enable them to succeed is transport. Until the right rail network/infrastructure was in place, Washington would always suffer and requested that the issue be looked at.

Councillor Trueman also commented on the need for the Metro at Washington and for the unused trading estates to be cleaned out to maximise the business potential.

Mr. Taylor advised that the reopening of the Leamside line for freight was included in the scenarios. A marker needed to be put down as the Metro should go to Washington.

The revamping of the unused trading estates was being considered but Mr. Taylor admitted it was not easy.

Councillor Miller commented that we were lucky to have the University but questioned whether they could deliver on everything the report suggested in relation to driving the economy.

Mr. Taylor advised that the capability of the University needed to be tested, but had worked in other areas.

Councillor Miller also commented that the lack of a transport infrastructure would not help in attracting local business investment and added that he was not convinced the models put forward were the best ones as they did not deal with the business needs of Washington and the City.

Councillor I. Cuthbert agreed with Councillor Miller, that he welcomed the model, but the details needed to be looked at further.

Councillor I. Cuthbert also commented on the importance of receiving the Metro in Washington and that the reopening of the Leamside line for freight was a step forward, but needed to be available for passengers also.

Councillor I. Richardson commented that it was cheaper to travel to Newcastle on the bus, than it was to Sunderland.

The Chairman commented that there was a great deal of pride in Washington but found it difficult to be associated with Sunderland even though it contributed some of the largest amounts of business rates and Council Tax, etc.

There was not a great deal that connected Washington to Sunderland and there had been a number of good developments in the City Centre, which the Chairman would like to see in Washington.

The Chairman also advised that issues of the Metro/Leamside line and bus rates needed to be addressed before Washington could feed into the report.

In relation to the transport issues, Mr. Taylor believed it was possible to enhance. If the base was correct but needed to prove success in order to justify investment.

8. RESOLVED that the report be received and Members' comments be noted.

Update on Community Communications to support Area Committees 2009-10

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to update the Committee on the development of the Community Communications action plan.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Victoria Glass, Corporate Communications Officer, presented the report and advised that newsletters would be piloted in October and November for each of the areas, with input needed from Members.

Councillor Walker enquired as to who would decide what went in to the newsletters.

Ms. Glass advised that the editorial decision would be made amongst the Corporate Communications Team.

Councillor Walker commented that the Area Committee should have an element of control over the input in the area newsletters.

The Chairman advised of a meeting he had attended where it was discussed if the newsletter would be split into wards rather than Washington wide.

Councillor I. Cuthbert expressed his concerns over Washington wide newsletters and would request that the Ward Councillors write the content.

Councillor Miller commented that he wished to see approval from Ward Councillors on content.

The Chairman advised that the newsletter would not be politicised and was for the benefit of the public to show what was happening in the area specific to them. If the publications were Washington wide, with only a small part focussing on the wards, then the point of the newsletter would be lost.

The Chairman also commented that the newsletter was for the partners to contribute to also.

Councillor Chamberlin commented that the publication needed to focus on the wards so that the public could read about the areas they were interested in.

Councillor Snowdon commented that having fold out maps of the area was an excellent idea.

Ms. Glass requested Members' input on locations for photographs to be included in future publications.

The Chairman requested that Members email Ms. Glass with their suggestions.

Ms. Glass also informed the Committee in relation to posters, which would be specific to Washington and that she would provide feedback on the suggestion of T-shirts at a later date.

9. RESOLVED that:-

- i) the current plan of work be noted;
- ii) Members' comments be fed into the Community Action Plan and that;
- iii) further consideration be given on the Washington Area newsletter.

(Signed) J. KELLY,
Chairman.

Washington Area Committee

5th November 2009

Report of the Chief Executive

Washington a Healthy Area Summary

1. Why has it come to committee?

1.1 At its last meeting in June, the committee agreed its work plan for the 2009/10 municipal year and the Healthy priority is the third to come to committee for discussion and consideration.

2. Description of Decision (Recommendation)

2.1 Area Committee is asked to:-

- Note the **actions** identified in Annex 1
- Agree which of the following **proposals** (identified in Annex 1) will be developed
 - **Allocation of SIB/SIP:**
 - Allocation of SIB/SIP: Committee is requested to agree the provision of £15,000 to enable the continuation of the project between March 2010 to March 2011.
 - **Review**
 - To receive a further report on the “Personalisation Agenda” in relation encouraging independent living.
 - To consider the Washington Profile with regards to health improvement and refresh the priorities under the theme to take account of the need to emphasis smoking, obesity and alcohol, relating to early mortality and inequalities in life expectancy and emotional health and well being for both children, young people and adults in the Washington area.

Background

- 3.1 Health deprivation in Washington has shown good improvement when comparison is made between the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004 and 2007 collection years.
- 3.2 When looking at participation in a number of activities (Ipsos-MORI Residents Survey), ranging from eating fresh fruit and vegetables, to playing active sports once a month, Washington exceeds the Sunderland average in all ten measures although its performance compared to England as a whole is less robust.
- 3.3 There has been significant enhancement accessing Washington’s local health services, with the establishment and opening of the Primary Care Centre, with the development of new general practice arrangements and with the recent Darzi Procurements ensuring that arrangements are put in place to address inequalities in access to primary care services.
- 3.4 Following the extensive programme of consultation with members, partners, community stakeholders and the wider community, the agreed priorities for this theme are:
- Increase options for support housing to enable older people to live independently for longer.
 - Increase one to one support and personal care to promote independent living

- Raise awareness of support available to carers
- Strongly link preventative services and primary care

3.5 Who has been involved?

- *Elected Members* - Cllr Walker, Fletcher and Chamberlin
- Health, Housing and Adult Services
- Teaching Primary Care Trust
- Washington MIND
- Gentoo
- City Services
- Bridge Project
- SAFC Foundation

3.6 Key Dates

- Aug 09 – Initial meeting held with key partners
- Sep 09 – Preparation of report
- 08.10.09 – pre meeting for Area Committee
- 27.10.09 - report deadline for Area Committee
- **05.11.09 – Area Committee, discuss and agreed recommendations**
- 21.12.09 – Deadline for action plan to be developed
- 07.01.10 – Area Committee: Action plan presented
- 06.04.10 – Deadline for End of year report for Area Committee
- 15.04.10 – Area Committee End of Year report presented

4. Healthy Theme Area Summary

4.1 Attached as Annex 1 is the area summary for the Healthy theme. The annex covers:

- Priorities agreed at Area Committee
- Key Facts
- Current activity
- Any gaps or needs
- Actions
- Proposals

5. Background papers

- Sunderland Strategy Delivery Plans
- Local Area Agreements Delivery Plans
- Safer Sunderland Partnership
- Washington Local Area Plan
- Information provided by partners and officers at workshop event August 2009 and one to one meetings

6. Contact Officer: Nicol Trueman, Area Officer for Sunderland East and Washington
Tel: 0191 5611162 e-mail: Nicol.trueman@sunderland.gov.uk

Priority One:

Increase options for support housing to enable older people to live independently for longer.

Key Facts:

In Washington 1132 residents over 65 are receiving nursing, community based or residential care services.

We know that there is an emerging older person population but in Washington it is still low in the 85+ age group in comparison to the rest of the City. Around 23,000 residents have tele-care equipment across the City.

Current Services:

An Accommodation with Support Needs Analysis was compiled in January 2009. This is a leading document which pulls together information the Council has available relating to older people; learning disabilities and mental wellness, into one place. Sunderland City Council agreed that more evidence gathering was required to establish the actual needs of people with disabilities or a vulnerability living in our City, and how this impacted on their housing provision i.e whether they required purpose built supported accommodation or whether they could be supported to live independently at home with a support package and telecare.

An Older Person Needs and Aspirations Study has been compiled and will be sent out to 1200 people in the city. Sunderland City Council are aiming to gain feedback relating to people's housing needs and aspirations; their current or expected care requirements; whether they require adaptations / aids in their homes to help them to live independently for longer and whether they require any energy efficiency measures in their home e.g. loft insulation, cavity wall insulation etc. In addition Sunderland City Council are compiling the evidence relating to people living in the City with mental health; learning disabilities and physical disabilities. Once all of this information is assessed it will be compiled into a Housing Strategy for Accommodation with Care during 2010.

A care management and assessment project provides advice, information and support about how people can receive the help they would like in daily living.

Gentoo have 35 schemes providing core and cluster support to people in the City: Washington contracts are based at Peacehaven Court and Roseberry Court. In terms of sheltered schemes, core and cluster arrangements are currently based at Hambleton Road, Lambton; Brancepeth Road, Oxclose, and Knoulberry Road Blackfell.

Gentoo also have 37 units in Washington which are leased to other support agencies who provide direct independent support for individuals (from agencies like NECA, WWIN, Norcare, Social Services etc)

Woodridge Gardens extra care housing scheme is located on Oxclose Road, Columbia. It comprises 39 two bedroom apartments of mixed tenure, a restaurant, lounge, activity area, therapy room, hairdressers and guest room. The scheme is being developed in a partnership between Housing 21; SCC and developers Frank Haslam Milan. The building started on site in November 2008 and is due to complete December 2009. Extra care is available to people over the age of 55 with a need for supported or more appropriate housing and have a need for personal care. The Council's website is fully updated with the extra care information:- www.sunderland.gov.uk/extra care

There is also a booklet 'A Guide to Extra Care' which is available upon request from Sunderland City Council.

Actions:

Lead: Health, Housing and Adult Services from Sunderland City Council
 Keep Area Committee up to date with the Older Person Need and Aspiration Study and Housing Strategy for Accommodation with Care 2010.

Lead: Area Committee, with support from Health, Housing and Adult Services
 Committee members to visit Woodridge Gardens Extra Care scheme after 20 November 09.

Priority Two:

Increase one to one support around personal care and raise awareness of the support available in accessing GP's, Carers, resources and equipment etc. to encourage independent living

Current Services:

Provider Name	Sheltered Scheme	Client Group	Beds
Anchor Trust	Whiteladies Close	Older people	48
Gentoo	Knoulberry Road	Older people	35
Gentoo	Lambton Village Centre	Older people	27
Gentoo	Peacehaven Court	Older people	27
Gentoo	Roseberry Court	Older people	32
			169
Provider Name	Supported Accommodation	Client Group	Beds
Adult Direct Care	23 Lumley Close	Learning Disabilities	4
Adult Direct Care	52 Lumley Close	Learning Disabilities	4
Adult Direct Care	Coach Road	Learning Disabilities	6
<i>Adult Direct Care</i>	<i>Outreach Support Service</i>	<i>Learning Disabilities</i>	<i>50</i>
Adult Direct Care	Striding Edge	Learning Disabilities	4
			68
ProviderName	Service	ClientGroup	units
<i>Adult Direct Care</i>	<i>Community Care Alarm Service</i>	<i>Older people</i>	<i>22800</i>
<i>Housing Services</i>	<i>Sunderland Home Improvement Agency Service</i>	<i>Older people</i>	<i>2431</i>
			25231

Key:

Bold = fully based in Washington including contracted numbers of units per day and provider/client group
 Italic = will work into Washington as part of the total city approach

Raising awareness of support available to carers, access GP's or receive equipment, etc.

Key Facts:

Who is a Carer? You are a carer if you look after a family member, friend or neighbour who is unable to manage alone because they have a long-term illness, disability or are frail.

Carers provide unpaid care and support involving personal care (washing, bathing, dressing, feeding etc.), cooking, housework, shopping, listening and much more.

- Carers can be male or female
- Carers can be any age (including children looking after an ill or disabled parent, brother or sister)
- Carers can come from any ethnic, religious or racial background
- Carers can be in part-time or full-time employment

Many people do not recognise themselves as carers. They are husbands, wives, sons, daughters, parents, relatives, friends or neighbours doing what needs to be done to maintain the quality of life for those they are looking after. They may not realise that support is available to help them in their caring role.

One in three people will become a carer at some point in their lives. There are more carers in Sunderland than the national average and more provide care for over 50 hours a week

Current Services:

Sunderland City Council's Health, Housing and Adult Services provide a range of services to adults with a social care need and their carers, following an assessment of need. These services are provided citywide and include:

- Home care
- Day care
- Short breaks
- Equipment
- Supported accommodation
- Residential Care
- Intermediate Care
- Advice on welfare rights
- Direct payments
- Support at home through assistive technology
- Companionship Scheme
- Carers Emergency Scheme

A health provision is being pursued to be provided from Woodridge Gardens Extra Care scheme which, if agreed, will be available to residents living in Woodridge Gardens and those in the local community. There are some planning issues to resolve around additional parking requirements, however, if this is resolved it is likely that a Medical Group will be operational from December 2009 at Woodridge Gardens. Furthermore, the extra care scheme provides a therapy room which enables visiting practitioners to provide local services including, for example chiropody; optician services; community matron provision; flu jabs; complimentary therapies.

The Care Team based at Woodridge Gardens provides both inreach and outreach care provision which means that they will provide tailored care packages as required to those people living in Woodridge Gardens but will also provide services to people living in the surrounding locality.

Library Services have advised that they will provide library services to Woodridge Gardens from their local library at the Town Centre. This will ensure that people living at the extra care scheme are able to access various reading materials.

Sunderland Carers' Centre provides

- Information and advice
- Support and a listening ear
- Support at meetings with health, social services and other agencies
- Carers support groups where carers can meet others in similar situations
- Courses on a range of caring-related subjects
- Social activities to give carers a break
- Newsletter every two months
- Complementary therapies
- Support and activities for young carers
- Opportunities to influence service development

Carers Groups for Carers of People with Learning Disabilities In Touch Group This group is for carers of adults with learning disabilities. It meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month at Washington Multi-Purpose Centre, Ayton Road, Crowther Industrial Estate, Oxclose, Washington NE38 0AB, 10.30am – 12 noon.

Washington Mental Health Carers Group

This group is for carers of people with mental health problems. It meets on the last Friday of each month, 1.30 – 3.30pm.

The Galleries Day Unit Carers Group

It currently meeting temporarily at the Fire and Rescue Service training centre at Barmston Mere, as there usually venue is currently being refurbished. This group is for carers of older people. It meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month, 1.30 – 3pm.

The Carers' Centre has a designated Development Worker for the Washington area who can do home visits or meet carers at a place of their choice in Washington. Help with transport is available to enable carers from Washington to attend specialist carers groups and training courses elsewhere in the city. Any further information ring Sunderland Carers Centre Tel: 0191 567 3232.

Digital Challenge: Doctors appointments and repeat prescriptions can be obtained from some GPs online. Libraries can help facility this process via access to IT suites

Gaps/Needs:

- Older people - Floating support, especially aimed at the home owner.
- Mental health - Core and Cluster scheme and floating support for those with mental health and housing needs as there are at present no schemes covering this area.
- Physical disability - Core Housing support scheme and this will be addressed in the long term accommodation plan.
- 1-2-1 support offered should be delivered, where possible, by the same person, to help with consistency and continuity
- Advice needs to be more locally focussed - more relevant to what is generally available for each community/village.
- Lack of recognition and understanding of the role of carers and the support available to them.

- Introduce a Community Notice Board - positioned in village centres. To include contact details for GP's, locality and opening hours for Chemists, and hours/services available at Washington Primary Care Trust. Could provide updated information about pertinent health issues e.g. swine flu.

Actions:

Lead: Area Committee

Committee is requested to note further detailed information on each scheme within Health, Housing and Adult Services containing 2 review reports per scheme:-

- Quality rating
- Value for money
- Outcomes for service users
- Future recommendations per scheme

Lead: Sunderland Carers Centre:

- All GPs will receive specific carer training to develop an understanding of the role of carers and recognise and respond to carer's individual needs.

Lead: Sunderland Carers Centre and Area Newsletter:

- Raise awareness at a local level about who is a carer, what they do and the support available to them.

Proposals:

Review

Area Committee to receive a further report on the "Personalisation Agenda" in relation to encouraging independent living

Lead: Health Housing and Adult Services

Committee is also requested to note the content of the report.

Priority Four: Strongly link preventative services and primary care.

Key Facts:

Sunderland's unique Wellness Service has developed within the city with the primary aim to improve individual's health and well-being through the provision of physical activity opportunities, lifestyle advice and education within Wellness Centres and in the local community.

The key principles of the Wellness Service is to shift the balance from treatment services to preventative measures and provide Wellness opportunities either as an alternative or support for treatment. As a result of a fully engaged scenario with a range of key partners the service reaches and impacts on the individuals that are most in need and subsequently is contributing to reducing the inequalities that are so prevalent within Sunderland.

The pattern of health deprivation in the Washington area is largely consistent with the overall pattern of deprivation. None of the wards in this area are among the 20% in Sunderland with the lowest life expectancy, with the South of the area is among the 20% with the highest life expectancy. There are particularly disadvantaged areas within the Washington North ward. In relation to child health, the breastfeeding rate is high in the South of the area. Diet among children, as measured by estimates of the proportion of children eating three portions of fruit and vegetables each day, is poor in Washington West ward.

Mortality rates due to heart disease are not of concern when compared with the Sunderland as a whole, with rates in Central and East Washington being significantly lower than the average for Sunderland. There are marked variations in mortality due to cancer however, with rates being particularly high in Central and East Washington wards, but significantly low in Washington North and Washington South. In the South of this area, the estimated prevalence of smoking is among the lowest of all Sunderland wards. The proportion of the population self-reporting a limiting long-term illness is significantly lower than the Sunderland rate in all five Washington wards.

Using the Children in Need census definition 2007, Children in Need indicates those children who are looked after within the Local Authority, supported families or independently, as well as those on the child protection register. There are 482 children living in Washington classed as being a child in need when using the above definition, which equates to around 20% of the total number of children in Sunderland. Of those children, 19 (or 13%) of those children are registered on the child protection register.

Washington South is the only ward that was below the North East and Sunderland averages, and only slightly higher than the national rate. Conception rates in Washington East were in line with the Sunderland and North East averages (ie high), yet Washington West was higher than this again. It is notable that Washington North is significantly higher than Sunderland and North East averages using this information.

Current Services:

Preventative - Wellness Centre

One component of the Wellness Service is the city wide network of co-located facilities and programmes. These Wellness Centres, equipped with the latest Technogym equipment, offer opportunities for all residents to participate in programmes of physical activity, as well as receive support specifically designed around their needs. Three exist in Washington: Washington Leisure Centre; Biddicks Sports College and the Millennium Centre at Concord.

Preventative - Community classes for those over 50's

Exercise classes for people over 50 began in September 2008. Classes are tailored to the needs of individuals and include both seated and standing exercise. The classes improve mobility, balance and co-ordination which decrease the likelihood of falls and increase ability to continue to live independently into old age.

Preventative - Mums on the move (MOTM)

The Mums on the move programme is designed to provide safe, suitable exercise for new mothers. An appropriately qualified instructor leads a session in which new mothers attend, complete with their pushchairs and child. Sessions take place outdoors and promote improved social and mental well-being for the mother, and also physical activity suitable to the participant's physical condition.

Preventative - Wellness on 2 Wheels (WO2W)

The Wellness Service received funding from STPCT to increase physical activity opportunities for its employees over the summers of 2008 and 2009. We have offered employees the opportunity to take part in supervised, free of charge bike rides. The Wellness on 2 Wheels Summer Cycling Programme was viewed as a safe and fun way to introduce participation in physical activity. Bikes, helmets and equipment were provided for all employees who took part and staff also had the opportunity to take along their own bike if they preferred.

Preventative - Wellness.....its a walk in the park

The Wellness Service is in the process of developing, producing and marketing a citywide walking programme. The programme will involve developing a number of 'way marked' routes in

10 city parks, two in each of the city's five areas. Dependent on the size of the park, routes will typically be 1, 2 or 3 miles in distance and will be suitable for walkers, runners, wheelchair users and pushchairs. Washington parks involve Princess Anne Park and James Steel Park. It is anticipated that these walks will be complete and promoted by Autumn 2009

Preventative - Free Swimming

Sport and Leisure provide an affordable pricing policy for Sunderland City Council leisure facilities ensuring affordable opportunities exist for all. Free swimming available at Washington for those under 16 and those over 60 at various times.

Targeted Intervention - Weight Management Programme

In April 2008 Sunderland Wellness Service was successfully commissioned to review, recruit, re-launch, manage and deliver the new Sunderland Exercise Referral and Weight Management Programme. This programme is an innovative example of an exercise referral system that has evolved out of necessity to meet the health challenges of a diverse city, and ensures that people at risk are identified sooner, and referred onto the appropriate support pathway.

To enable expansion a further 10 dedicated staff were appointed into Sunderland Wellness Service as Wellness Exercise Referral Consultants. To ensure the appropriate teams of individuals were delivering the weight management strand of the programme, City Hospital Dietetic Department were also commissioned by STPCT to expand their team of Dieticians and Community Nutritionists to deliver the educational components. Success of this programme to date includes 100% compliance from all the cities GP practices, over 125 GP's and Practice Nurses refer patients.

Targeted Intervention – Maternity Programme

From September 2009, a maternity lifestyle exercise specialist will promote the benefits of physical activity, nutrition and assist with improved lifestyle choices for pre and post natal women and their families within Sunderland. The role of the post holder will be to address specific lifestyle factors with families of new born children which put them at risk of poorer health. The programme will target and offer support to families (mother, partner and siblings) who are pregnant and up to one year after delivery.

Targeted Intervention – Workforce and Health and Well being Project

For the next 18 months the Exercise Referral programme is a part of the City Councils Workforce Health and Wellbeing programme. This initial research pilot has been designed to test the effectiveness of targeting a certain group of employees working within Sunderland City Council. This project is being funded by the NHS in partnership with: Sunderland City Council Occupational Health Unit; Gateshead Council Occupational Health Unit and South of Tyne and Wear Primary Care Trust (Public Health Department).

The TPCT agreed to fund this project to find out whether employees would attend Health & Lifestyle Assessment and additional support if they had the backing of their employer. The Occupational Health Nurse refers the eligible employees to the referral programme

Other general work areas include Beacon for reducing health inequalities; Sunderland Wellness Guides and Sunderland Active Project.

Woodridge Gardens

Provision of independent living at Woodridge Gardens Extra Care Scheme and links for other people living in the local community to the scheme to access activities and events provided at the scheme. As mentioned previously, it is anticipated that a health provision will be available at the scheme which will compliment the care service provided and visiting health services. It is anticipated that fall prevention amongst older people can be prevented by providing chiropody

and optician services from the extra care scheme, alongside easy access to health provision; flu jabs and potentially other complimentary therapies. The extra care setting provides opportunities for social inclusion; healthy eating and involvement in activities which all provide some element of preventative support.

SAFC Foundation

Provide Family Learning (FL) preventative projects promoting healthy lifestyle etc. 3 projects per year take place (each project last 10 weeks). Each project consists of 1 two hour session that takes place each week (excluding school holidays). Each course has an average of 18 participants (8 adults and 10 young people). The 2 of FL projects are located at the Washington Millennium centre and one school based.

The Foundation also provide a Football Friday Youth club- preventative project working with young people looking at reducing risk taking behaviour and raising awareness of physical and sexual health. 1 two hour session takes place every week year round. Each session has an average of 30 young people per session.

Washington Mind:

Provides a range of mental health services for adults aged 16 and over experiencing or at risk of developing mental ill health or emotional distress. Current services include talking therapies; counselling, psychotherapy, cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) and computerised CBT. Therapeutic and alternative group work. Community advocacy, Drop-ins and complimentary therapy. A new targeted service for 16 to 25 year olds was recently established alongside a text service. Mental health awareness raising sessions are provided at community events and for schools, colleges and employers.

Bridge Women's Project

Provide support services for Women in Washington: Confidential Listening Services, Embrace (bereavement support); creative expressions group to help with women experiencing stress and low moods; Mature friends, informal support groups for 55+; Drop In Friendship Groups; Health checks and Mini MOTs; Chat 'n' Craft sessions; holistic therapies; Chair based exercise; dance classes; walking group; easyline session and a massive educational programme.

Gaps/Needs:

More locally focused projects; take the issues you want to address to the residents. Health issues tend to be promoted in Health Centres and doctors surgeries and need to be promoted more generally.

Road shows or healthy bus, promoting preventative services, to travel around villages. Or at least have a prominent display in public areas - e.g. Galleries Shopping Centre, Bus Interchanges.

Waiting times for therapy relating to mental illness/health are too long. There is a clear need to engaging with hard to reach groups and reduce stigma attached to mental ill health

Use of Alcohol

A recent healthy equity audit and work carried out as part of the regional Consultation on alcohol as well as the TPCT Residents survey has demonstrated hot spots across the city for excessive consumption of alcohol- looking at adverse impact on health rather than the antisocial behaviour aspect. This excessive consumption is against a background of the whole City having a poor profile in relation to alcohol indicators. This research is being further analysed to deliver locally focused information and Washington area is being identified as a site for specific action.

Mental health

The Centre for Public Mental Health at Durham University produced a profile of individuals identified in the primary care trust boundaries with neurotic disorders. Using this analysis, we have been able to determine that Washington North is the only area in line with the City average for neurotic disorders, all other Washington wards fall below this level. It is also worth noting that all Washington Wards fall below the city average for depression.

The TPCT has engaged with a range of partners in the Washington area, Council, schools, primary care and third sector to deliver interventions which sustain and promote healthy lives. To deliver sustainable health improvement, strategically we need to focus on those core causes of poor health and maximise local people's opportunities to benefit.

Being completely strategic about health improvement and knowing what we do with regard to the Washington Profile the areas that need a different steer/emphasis relate to smoking, obesity, and alcohol (relating to early mortality and inequalities in life expectancy) and emotional health and wellbeing (for both children, young people and adults) with sexual health (Chlamydia and teenage conception) principally for people aged under 25 years as further areas.

SAFC Foundation: There is a current gap in funding for the Football Friday 'Kickz' youth provision operating out of Washington Millennium Centre in Concord. SAFC Foundation has recently employed a member of staff to increase the number of nights Kickz operates to three nights per week after consultation and encouragement from partners including the Police and local young people; however the sustainability of this provision is under threat if funding is not secured.' £15K, this funding would pay the salary of the additional worker for 12 months – from March 2010 to March 2011. In doing this, there would be an increase of positive diversionary youth activity provision from the current one night per week to three nights per week – 48 weeks of the year, an additional 96 sessions (total of 144 sessions). This would also provide the opportunity of Foundation securing further funding to secure sustainability of the project. A representative of SAFC Foundation will be present at the meeting should you have any further questions about the project.

Actions:

Lead: Area Committee.

Raise awareness about the Active Bus present throughout the year at Washington Galleries and other venues, on a 12 week timetable within Washington engaging with the community to support those who are not sufficiently active and signposting them to activities or support services if required. Opportunities on bus for individual to be 'check and tested' provided with baseline data encouraged to re visit in 12 weeks time to see improvements.

Lead: Sunderland City Council, Wellness Services

A number of projects to be delivered engaging with individuals within this geographic area ensuring opportunities are effectively communicated to them and where appropriate provision is created. Develop and deliver a core offer which connects communities with sport and physical activity opportunities which includes wellness, swimming, play and sport.

Proposals:

Lead: Area Committee. Allocation of SIB/SIP: Committee is requested to agree the provision of £15,000 to enable the continuation of the project between March 2010 to March 2011.

Lead: Area Committee. To consider the Washington Profile with regards to health improvement and refresh the priorities under the theme to take account of the need to emphasis smoking, obesity and alcohol, relating to early mortality and inequalities in life

expectancy and emotional health and well being for both children, young people and adults in the Washington area.

Washington Area Committee

5 November 2009

Report of the Chief Executive

Washington Area Committee Work Plan – Thematic Action Plans

1. Why has it come to committee?

1.1 At its first meeting of the municipal year in June 2009, the Committee agreed the work plan for the 2009/10. As some priorities are not being discussed until 2010, it was deemed necessary to establish working groups outside of Area Committee and build in additional actions to ensure that all priorities are addressed throughout 2009-10.

1.2 Each Area Committee has a standing agenda allowing for updates to be given on all five thematic priorities throughout the year. Even though some priorities will not be discussed until 2010, summary area templates have been established throughout 2009 for all thematic priorities.

2. Description of Decision (Recommendation)

2.1 Area Committee are asked to:

- Consider the Safe (Annex 1) report and determine the appropriate option(s) set out in the report.
- Consider the Learning (Annex 2) report and agree that an SIB application is received from Groundworks for £50,000 and Arts Centre Washington for £25,000 at a future Area Committee meeting.

3. Thematic Feedback

3.1 In July 2009, the Area Committee agreed a number of actions and proposals, relating to the **Safe** priorities, to be formulated into an action plan for Area Committee to monitor. This is attached as Annex 1. In September 2009 the Area Committee also agreed a number of actions and proposals relating to the **Learning** priorities, also to be formulated into an action plan for Area Committee to monitor. This is attached as Annex 2.

3.2 **Attractive and Inclusive** priorities are scheduled to be discussed at the Area Committee in January 2010. In August 2009 a workshop was held to discuss each individual priority, what services are currently being delivered, any gaps, identified needs and proposals or recommendations to present to Area Committee. The next steps include preparing a report in November, with a pre meeting scheduled in December before coming forward to Area Committee in January 2010.

3.3 **Prosperous** priorities are due to be discussed at Area Committee in March 2010. In August 2009 a workshop was held discussing the thematic priorities, with the understanding that any early achievements should be delivered as soon as practically possible, instead of waiting until 2010.

3.4 Information is currently being collected from the workshops to inform action plans, to enable Area Committee to monitor progress on this standing item at each Area Committee, this will allow for the priorities to be continuously updated.

4. Background papers

- Sunderland Strategy Delivery Plans
- Local Area Agreements Delivery Plans
- Washington Local Area Plan

5. List of Appendices

- Annex 1: Washington Area Safe Action Plan
- Annex 2: Washington Area Learning Action Plan
- Annex 2a: Green Team
- Annex 2b: Oxclose and District Young People Programme
- Annex 2c: Arts Centre Washington

6. Contact Officer: Nicol Trueman, Area Officer for Sunderland East and Washington
Tel: 0191 5611162 e-mail: Nicol.trueman@sunderland.gov.uk

Priority: 1 Partnership Working: Councillors and police to strengthen relationships with partners and local residents.				
Lead	Action agreed at Area Committee	Status – Way Forward	RAG	
1 Partnership working	Northumbria Police	<p>Short Term: 0-3 months</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Investigate the sustainability of introducing Neighbourhood Watch Schemes across the area and bring back feedback to September 09 meeting. 2. Promote the PACT meetings (Police and community together) across the area. 3. Each Neighbourhood Team to increase the number of Officers. 4. Court Custody Investigation Officers, Offender Managers and neighbourhood Co-ordinators to be more visible, meeting and engaging with communities. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NWS exist in Blackfell, Springwell, Sulgrave and Biddick. Host an open day in Autumn 2009, promoting the benefits of having a NWS in your area. Update given at Area Committee in Sep 09. 2. Police and the Community working Together meetings have been promoted across the area. Joint meetings between Police and Cllrs held a week before Area Committee to discuss statistics at a footbeat level, schedule agreed until 2010. 3. Update given at Area Committee in Sep 09 on changes to the Neighbourhood Team. 4. Update given at Area Committee in Sep 09 and new job roles across the team i.e. Court Custody Investigation Officers. 	
	LMAPs	<p>Short Term: 0-3 months</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Increase the profile of Community Safety Days across the area, via use of a mobile bus 6. Continuation of annual meeting for planning around bonfire. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Discussion will be held at future meetings of LMAPs re: Community Safety Days across the area. 6. Planning meetings have been organised and held. 	
	Sunderland City Council Children Services	<p>Short Term: 0-3 months</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Invite young people from youth groups and schools councils to attend future Area Committee to showcase positive attitudes and projects. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Contact has been made with Washington Youth Forum and Youth Development Group to arrange a meeting to discuss the linkages that can be forged between the two boards. 	

Priority: 2 Communications: Produce and circulate a directory of all services delivered in Washington. Promote and recognise good new stories				
Lead	Action agreed at Area Committee	Status – Way Forward	RAG	
2 Communications	Area Committee	Short Term: 0-3 months 8. Area Committee to support the development and implementation of the ASB initiative being delivered by N. Police throughout July and August 09. Area Committee to bring suggestions forward.	8. July 09 Area Committee: Cllrs identified areas in Ayton, Barmston, Usworth, Concord and Sulgrave to be targeted. Retail premises suffering from shop lifting.	
Sunderland City Council Children Services	Short Term: 0-3 months 9. Continuation of the work done through Family Pathfinder and Parenting Programme, linking good news stories into the Communication Plan.	9. No Feedback at present. Update to be presented at a future meeting.		
	Medium term: 3-12 months 10. To launch an annual Young Persons Award Ceremony for young people in the area who make positive contributions to their neighbourhoods.	10. No feedback at present. Report to be presented at a future meeting.		
	Long term: 12 months + 11. To investigate and feedback the possibility of having young people represented at Area Committee.	11. Contact has been made with Washington Youth Forum and Youth Development Group to arrange a meeting to discuss the linkages that can be forged between the two boards.		
Sunderland Safer Partnership	Medium Term: 3-12 months 12. Area Committee to produce a DVD enabling the footage to be used on the Safer Sunderland Partnerships TV, to raise awareness of the Safe priorities being addressed via Area Committee.	12. No feedback at present.		
Sunderland City Council Corporate Communications	Medium term: 3-12 months 13. Establish a Communication Strategy to support Area Committee.	13. Consulted AC twice, Community Communication Plan ongoing. A dedicated Communication Link Officer has been identified for Washington. A Washington Area Newsletter is getting launched in Autumn, which will be posted to every household in the area.		
Sunderland Safer Partnership	Long term: 12 months + 14. Results from the Fear of Crime Survey to be feed into the LAPs.	14. The data will be feed into the LAPs via the Area Officer, with support from the Performance Improvement Team.		

3. Anti Social Behaviour and reducing the fear of crime				
3.1 Develop a safe environment: green spaces, underpasses and unlit walkways				
	Lead	Action agreed at Area Committee	Status – Way Forward	RAG
3.1 Environmental	Area Committee	<p>Short term 0-3 months</p> <p>15. Area Committee to identify hotspots or area of concerns with regards to all environmental issues and agree any early wins.</p>	<p>15. Central ward: Fly tipping issue -Car park, up from TPCT walk in centre, next to Princess Anne Park towards Biddick. East ward: James Steel Park in Fatfield, general tidy up needed on a regular basis. North Ward: Bins needed across Sulgrave housing estates, mainly; Sulgrave Rd area. Dog fouling bins needed around the perimeter road of Sulgrave Rd. Tidy up industrial unit, next to the Top Club. Gentoo and SCC to work together on Sulgrave general tidy up of area. Smoking bins needed in Front Street, Concord. South ward: Lower Oxclose – subway between Oxclose and Galleries (Fly tipping, trolleys, graffiti) opportunity to engage with Galleries Management Team/large retailers</p>	
	Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue	<p>Short term: 0-3 months</p> <p>16. TWF&R to provide costs of delivering the Youth Fire Fighters Association across the area, linking this into Duke of Edinburgh and Mayors Award.</p>	<p>16. Discussions held with Station Manager. Agree to wait until mapping exercise of youth provision completed in the area to see if this project would be value for money.</p>	
	Northumbria Police	<p>Short term: 0-3 months</p> <p>17. Consider development of a 'name the tag' project, to reduce graffiti across the area.</p>	<p>17. Discussions held with the Police who identified that they were aware of a similar scheme operating elsewhere, but currently prefer to continue to implement their own measures, which have proven successful. E.g. visiting schools and homes.</p>	

3. Anti Social Behaviour and reducing the fear of crime				
3.1 Develop a safe environment: green spaces, underpasses and unlit walkways				
Lead	Action agreed at Area Committee	Status – Way Forward	RAG	
3.1 Environmental	Gentoo	Short term: 0-3 months 18. Gentoo to share information on the number and type of tenancy breaches recorded.	18. No feedback at present.	
	ARO	Medium term: 3-12 months 19. Areas identified by Area Committee to be referred into the Local Responsive.	19. Report being presented to November 2009 meeting.	
	Sunderland City Council Youth Offending Team	Medium term: 3-12 months 20. YOS to develop proposals around establishing a Community Payback Scheme, where x amount of hours are awarded to the Area Committee to allocate against improving the quality of life, via LAPs priorities i.e. removal of graffiti.	20. No feedback at present	
	LMAPs	Medium: 3-12 months 21. Provision of ASB fire related statistics to inform structure to Neighbourhood Policing/Council Teams to allow monthly targeting of Hotspots Areas.	21. TWF&R provide statistical information every five weeks via LMAPs.	
	Sunderland City Council Health, Housing and Adult Services	Medium: 3-12 months 22. Feedback on the success of Neighbourhood Wardens, which were used in Sunderland North to improve the quality of life for local people.	22. Review to be carried out by the Community Safer City Scrutiny Committee and a further Report to be provided in April 2010.	
	ALE	Long term: 12 months + 23. If necessary, additional costs from the Local Responsive Services Project and Community Payback Scheme to be proposed for future mainstream funding (ALE/relevant Chief Officer)	23. Both projects not launched. Need to review projects once established to see if future funding is needed. Action currently on hold.	

3 Anti Social Behaviour and reducing the fear of crime 3.2 Take action against secondary fires (wheelie bins) fly tipping; poor private landlords and private tenants.				
	Lead	Action agreed at Area Committee	Status – Way Forward	RAG
3.2 Accredited landlords	Sunderland City Council Health, Housing and Adult Services	Short term: 0-3 months 24. Conduct an analysis on how many private landlords they are which in the area and the % of accredited landlords. With a view of encouraging non-accredited landlords onto the Sunderland Voluntary Accredited Landlord Scheme.	24. No feedback at present.	
	Sunderland City Council Health, Housing and Adult Services Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue	Medium term: 3-12 months 25. Raise awareness around the support private landlords can receive from Sunderland City Council and the TWFB re: fire risk assessments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 25. Review to be carried out by the Community and Safer City Scrutiny Committee and a further report to be provided in April 2010 	

3. Anti Social Behaviour and reducing the fear of crime				
3.3 Collectively target known hotspots of disorder				
	Lead	Action agreed at Area Committee	Status – Way Forward	RAG
3.3 Anti Social Behaviour	LMAPs	Short term: 0-3 months 26. Improve intelligence sharing with partners, police, Gentoo, Environmental Enforcement Officers and Cllrs.	26. LMAPs meet every five weeks in Washington, with high levels of representations from all service areas. Joint meetings between Cllrs and Police established.	
	Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue	Medium term: 3-12 months 27. Continuation of the work done through Phoenix project and secure a remains of longer term funding to allow for future planning.	27. Update received at September 09 meeting. Funding proposal presented at November 09 meeting. Allocation of SIB/SIP: £11,880-Y1, £11,880	
	Gentoo	Medium term: 3-12 months 28. Gentoo to share Diversionary Plans information with the Committee and link in with the Police and other relevant agencies to improve ASB.	28. No update at presented.	
	Sunderland City Council City Services	Medium term: 3-12 months 29. Investigate and feedback the Positive Futures social inclusion programme model used at Raich Carter, with a view of rolling it out to Washington.	29. Report presented to September 09 meeting. Agreed to wait until mapping exercise of youth provision completed in the area to see if this project would be value for money.	

3. Anti Social Behaviour and reducing the fear of crime				
3.4 Provide support to victims of domestic violence				
	Lead	Action agreed at Area Committee	Status – Way Forward	RAG
3.4 Domestic Violence	Sunderland Safer Partnership	<p>Medium term: 3-12 months</p> <p>30. Look to continually improve partnerships and keep close link work with Police as well as Council. This could be developed from a day to day information sharing perspective to more formalised partnership working including LMAPs, MAPPA, MARAC, PDP (Potentially dangerous persons).</p>	30. No update at present	

3. Anti Social Behaviour and reducing the fear of crime				
3.5 Tackling misuse of alcohol with strong collective intervention and enforcement. Licensed premises should be encouraged to sign up to the 21+ scheme and be monitored to ensure adherence to the scheme				
	Lead	Action Agreed at Area Committee	Status – Way Forward	RAG
3.5 Alcohol enforcement	Teaching Primary Care Trust	<p>Short term: 0-3 months</p> <p>31. Area Committee to support the development of the Alcohol Awareness campaign, delivered by the TPCT delivered throughout July 09. Suggestions to come forward from Area Committee.</p>	31. Campaigned postponed until further notice from TPCT.	
	Area Committee	<p>Medium term: 3-12 months</p> <p>32. Area Committee to identify hotspots or areas of concern around illegal sales of alcohol, to enable targeted bottle tracing exercises and test purchase exercises to be completed with child volunteers. (AC via LARAG)</p>	32. Several areas were identified within Washington East, North and South Wards from Committee Members, these details have been passed over to Northumbria Police and City Services information, and if relevant, action.	

	Sunderland City Council Health, Housing and Adult Services Children Services	Medium term: 3-12 months 33. Improve transitions between young people and adult drug and alcohol services (Children Services and HHA)	33. No update and present.	
		Long term: 12 months + 34.. To work with engagement and motivating team (Turning Point, gateway to drug and alcohol services) to identify and target hot spots areas in conjunction with local GPs, youth agencies and police (possible outreach work)	34. No update and present.	
3.5 Alcohol enforcement	Sunderland City Council Health, Housing and Adult Services	Long term 12 months + 35. To continue to engage and retain substance users within the treatment services and in accordance with national treatment agency set target.	35. No update and present	
	ALE	Long term: 12 months + 36. Investigate and feedback on possible escalation to Scrutiny. Review of licensing procedure to off licence to impose new conditions, where possible. Making it more difficult for people to acquire a license were they already exist; access alcohol; restrict hours of sale.	36. No update and present	

Priority: 1.1 Improve and increase the variety of youth services and provision available across Washington				
Lead	Action agreed at Area Committee	Status – Way Forward	RAG	
1.1 Youth Provision	Sunderland City Council Children Services	<p>Medium Term: 3-12 months</p> <p>1. Allocation of SIB/SIP: £30,000 of one off capital costs, £38,000 per year for three years for revenue costs, totalling £144,000. Supplement current practice with mobile provision. Applying to all Area Committees. (Youth Development Group).</p>	1. Proposal rejected. See below.	
		<p>Medium Term: 3-12 months</p> <p>2. To implement new commissioning arrangements from April 2010 that better represent the needs of young people in their neighbourhoods.</p>	2. Tendering to commence throughout Autumn, with contracts being awarded in the Winter. Following this, map any gaps/needs arising from this process. Report back to committee on potential to add value to provision. Update to be provided at November Area Committee.	

Priority: 1.2 Deliver holistic campaigns around healthier lifestyle choices delivered at schools/college, businesses and public venues (strong connection to Healthy).				
Lead	Action agreed at Area Committee	Status – Way Forward	RAG	
1.2 holistic campaigns	Sunderland City Council Children Services and Teaching Primary Care Trust	Medium months: 3-12 months 3. Creation of downloadable teaching resources for providers/schools to access on healthier lifestyles i.e. dangers of alcohol.	3. No update at present	
	SAFC Foundation	Medium Term: 3-12 months 4. SAFC Foundation to deliver the Sunderland Active Bus Programme ‘The Fit for Footy’ in Washington.	4. Project at risk, due to lack of funding. Area Committee to consider allocation of SIB £15,000 during March 10-March 11. Further information provided in Healthy report.	
	Sunderland City Council Children Services	Medium term: 3-12 months 5. Promotion of health and wellbeing through the expansion of the Healthy Schools programme to include Early Years and college settings.	5. No update at present	
		Medium term: 12 months + 6. Investment in the Fostering Service through the Children Looked After Prevention and Placement Strategy	6. No update at present	
		Medium Term: 3-12 months 7. Increased foster carer recruitment and growth of foster care worker scheme.	7. No update at present	
	Sunderland City Council City Services	Medium Term: 3-12 months 8. Develop and deliver a core offer which connects communities with sport and physical activity opportunities which includes wellness, swimming, play and sport.	8. No update at present	

Priority 1.3 Plan training around the future job market (strong connection to Prosperous)				
	Lead	Action agreed at Area Committee	Status – Way Forward	RAG
1.3 Planning training around jobs	ALE	Medium term 3-12 months 9. Escalate to Scrutiny or LSP: Strategic links need to be made between the Business Investment Team, who can identify potential and current future employers and Sunderland Learning Partnership, who can co-ordinate training and educational courses to address the needs of employers, if tailored appropriately it can be used as a carrot to attract investors to Washington and the City.	9. No update at present	
	ALE	Medium term: 3-12 months 10. Escalate to Scrutiny or LSP: Investigate how we engage with Employers and encourage them to employ local people (ALE)	10. No update at present	
	Sunderland City Council Digital Challenge Team	Medium term: 3-12 months 11 Roll out e-champions, e mentoring scheme to Washington, currently been delivered else in the City.	11. No update at present	

Priority 1.4: Target people who are EET and young people who are Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) into education and employment (strong connection with Prosperous priorities).				
	Lead	Action agreed at Area Committee	Status – Way Forward	RAG
1.4 EET and NEET	ArO	Long term: 12 months + 12. Review: Investigate and feedback to Area Committee on the feasibility of amending the procurement process to make the process more accessible.	12. Highlighted in other areas of the City as an issue. Need to arrange a meeting with procurement to discuss further.	
	Sunderland City Council Children Services	Medium term: 3-12 months 13. Children Services can access at Primary age, children who are potential NEETs, this information could then be used to engage with children at a much younger age as a preventative measure.	13. No update at present	

Further developments within thematic area:

In partnership with Sunderland City Council, Groundwork are developing a proposal for a ‘Green Team’ project. The project will provide employment opportunities for young people from the Washington, who will carry out environmental work across the area.

Please see attached Annex 2a for further information.

A meeting has been held with Oxclose and District Young People project. It was agreed that their current programme would be attached to this report for information. **Please see attached Annex 2b.**

A meeting has been held with Arts Centre Washington, to raise awareness of the work the centre is delivering and their vision for future programmed work relating to children and young people. **Please see attached Annex 2c for further information.**

Annex 2a: Green Team Proposal

Lead Agent: Groundworks

Duration of Project: 18 months

The Project

It will provide an employment opportunity for at least 14 unemployed young people aged 18- 24 who fall into the category of NEET from each area. Each young person will be employed for a six month period – there will be three cohorts of young people undertaking the programme over the 18 month period. It will assist in the renewal of the targeted neighbourhoods through the undertaking of Rapid Response / Environmental Improvement activities. These will include:

- Horticultural works to enhance deprived areas
- Creation of local biodiversity habitats
- Improving access to green infrastructure
- Collection of sharps (needles) and removal of graffiti
- Cleaning out communal areas and gardens
- Cutting down and thinning out shrubbery to reduce residents fear of crime
- Additional street cleaning

Close liaison with local neighbourhood groups such as residents associations, Friends of Parks groups, Gentoo and Sunderland City Council will help to inform the work programme of environmental improvement works. However, it must be recognised that the principle objective is to provide a bridge to employment for young residents of the targeted communities who are furthest removed from the labour market.

It is anticipated that the majority if not all of the participants on the Green Teams will be employed in the neighbourhoods where they live, so that they gain respect and a sense of responsibility through identification within their communities. However, there are also advantages for some employees to be on placements outside their own community, where they are challenged to travel and deal with new experiences.

The Outputs for the Project

Output Code	Description	Target
P5	Number of people on out of work benefits going into employment	14
L1	Number of people receiving job training	14
L2	Number of people accessing advice and support	14
L4	Number of adults obtaining qualifications (accredited)	14
L6	Number of young people NEET into further education or employment	14

- Please note the target will be the same beneficiary throughout the project receiving all five outputs.

It is proposed that the project be delivered in all five areas across Sunderland and the cost for each area is £156,333. Groundwork will secure £106,333 for each area from Future Jobs Fund and therefore a further £50,000 per area is required.

Proposal:

Washington Area Committee invites an SIB application from Groundworks for Green Team at a cost of £50,000 over an 18 month period.

Oxclose and District Young Peoples Project Programme of Youth Work 2009

	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Morning	JAG - Jobs A Goodun Ayton Community Centre 9.00 - 5.00	JAG - Jobs A Goodun Ayton Community Centre 9.00 - 5.00	JAG - Jobs A Goodun Ayton Community Centre Oxclose School Alternative Education 9.00 - 12.00	JAG - Jobs A Goodun Ayton Community Centre 9.00 - 5.00	JAG - Jobs A Goodun Ayton Community Centre 9.00 - 5.00 Washington School Alternative Education 9.00 - 12.30	Mountain Bike Project 9.00 -4.00	
Afternoon	JAG - Jobs A Goodun Ayton Community Centre 9.00 - 5.00 Oxclose School Alternative Education 1.00 - 3.00	JAG - Jobs A Goodun Ayton Community Centre 9.00 - 5.00 Oxclose School Alternative Education 1.00 - 3.00	JAG - Jobs A Goodun Ayton Community Centre 9.00 - 5.00	JAG - Jobs A Goodun Ayton Community Centre Oxclose School Alternative Education 1.00 - 3.00	JAG - Jobs A Goodun Ayton Community Centre 9.00 - 5.00 Oxclose School Alternative Education 1.00 - 3.00	Mountain Bike Project 9.00 -4.00	Go4IT Music Project Arts centre 3.00 - 6.00
Evening	Albany Youth Project 6.30 - 9.00 Pitstop Youth Project WASPS an able and non-able bodied youth club 6.15 - 8.45 Barmston CRT 6.30 - 9.00 Millennium Centre Youth Club 6.30 - 9.00 Music Project 6.30 - 9.30	Oxclose Youthy Oxclose Community School 6.30 - 9.00 Springwell Youth Club 6.45 - 8.45 Albany Youth Project 6.30 - 9.00 Pitstop Youth Project 6.30 - 9.00 Barmston CRT 6.30 - 9.00 Music Project 6.30 - 9.30	Washington School Youth club 6.30 - 9.00	Oxclose Youthy Oxclose Community School 6.30 - 9.00 The Pitstop Youth Project 6.30 - 9.00 Barmston CRT 6.30 - 9.00	Go4IT Pitstop Youth Project 6.30 - 9.00 Music Project 6.30 - 9.30 Springwell Youth Club 7.00 - 9.30		

Oxclose and District Young Peoples Project Programme of Youth Work 2009

Oxclose and District Young People's Project

(based within Oxclose Community School)

Mondays 6:30 – 9:45 pm – Music Project.

For young people aged 13 – 19.

Tuesdays 6:30 – 9pm – Girls Group and mixed provision youth club for young people aged 13 – 19 years.

Activities include arts, crafts, issue based work, pool, table tennis, decks, dance, PS2 and games. HeartStart sessions are also available. As well as the above activities health and beauty sessions are also available.

Tuesdays 6:30 – 9:45 pm – Music project for young people aged 13 – 19 years.

Thursdays 6:30 – 9pm Junior youth club for young people aged 11 – 13 years. All of the above activities are available. General drop-in youth club for young people aged 13 – 19 years. In addition to the above activities indoor and outdoor sports activities are also available.

Fridays 6:30 – 9:45 pm – Music project for young people aged 13 – 19 years.

General drop- in youth project for young people aged 13 – 19 years. All of the above activities are available.

Barmston CRT

(based within Barmston Village Primary School)

Mondays 4:30 – 7pm Junior youth club aimed at young people aged 10 and 11 years. Activities on offer include pool, table tennis, arts and crafts, cooking, music, PS2 and games.

Tuesdays 6:30 – 8:45pm General drop-in youth project aimed at young people aged 13 – 19 years.

Activities on offer include decks, cooking, arts and crafts, table tennis, pool, PS2 and games.

Thursdays 6:30 pm – 9 pm General drop-in youth project aimed at young people aged 13 – 19 years. In addition to the above activities Heartstart and Duke of Edinburgh accreditation is also offered.

GO4IT Music Project

(based at Washington Arts Centre)

Sundays 3-6 pm – Music project for young people aged

JAG – Jobs A Goodun

Ayton Community Centre, Dunlin Drive, Washington

Monday – Friday 9 am – 5 pm.

Structured training/education programmes aimed at supporting young people in the transitional period of leaving school to progress to either employment, training or further education. Courses are held throughout the duration of the week. Courses last between 10 and 16 weeks offering young people opportunities to gain various recognised accreditation, confidence and to develop new skills.

Albany Youth Project

Albany Family Centre, Washington.

Contact Kelly Scott on 417 3382

Mondays 6:30 – 8:45 pm Rave Girls Group aimed at young people aged 13 – 19 years. Activities on offer include arts and crafts, issue based work, PS2 and games, decks, health awareness, Showt registration and condom distribution. Heartstart and Duke of Edinburgh accreditation is also available.

Tuesdays 6:45 – 8:45 General drop-in youth club aimed at young people aged 13 – 19 years. All of the above activities available as well as a healthy tuck shop.

Washington Youth Matters Forum

(Meet at the Pitstop Youth Project)

Contact Kelly Scott on 417 7457 or 417 3382

Wednesdays 3:30 – 5:00 pm A focussed group meeting weekly to represent all young people living in Washington. The group campaign on behalf of local young people on issues affecting them as well as organising youth events while working towards various accreditations.

Millennium Centre Youth Club

Mondays 6:30-9pm General drop-in youth project aimed at young people aged 13 – 19 years. Activities on offer include dance mats, arts and crafts, table tennis, pool, Nintendo Wii, Xbox 360 and games.

Springwell Youth Club

(Springwell Village Hall, Fell Road, Springwell.)

Contact – Suzanne Shaftoe – 0191 416 2630

Tuesdays 7.15 – 9.15pm – General drop in youth club for young people 13-19. Activities on offer are health and fitness, sport, arts and crafts, pool, music, drama and issue based work. 7.15-9.15p.m.

Fridays 7.00-9.00pm – Senior youth club 13-19 year olds. As well as above activities decks are also available

The Pit Stop Youth Project

(The Avenue, Glebe, Washington, beside Washington Boxing Club)

Contact – Kelly Scott – 0191 417 7457

Mondays 6.15-8.45pm – WASPS an able and non able bodied youth club for young people aged 13-19. Activities on offer are arts and crafts, pool, PSII, games, computers, Duke of Edinburgh, Millennium Volunteers and issue based work.

Tuesdays 6.30-9.00pm – Graff Class, an arts based session utilising graffiti art as the main focus.

Thursdays 6.30-9.00pm – Available to young people aged 13-19. A general drop in youth club with all the above activities on offer. Available to young people aged 13-19.

Washington Comp Youth Club

Wednesdays 6.30-9.00pm –

General drop in youth club for young people aged 13-19. As well as the activities above this session focuses on various accreditation routes such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

For Further Information

Contact Phil McAloon on 0191 417 3382

Ayton Community Centre, Dunlin Drive, Washington

Arts Centre Washington – Youth Arts Provision in Washington area

Since Helen Green took over in the newly created post of Creative Director of Arts Centre Washington, she has been working towards re-establishing the Arts Centre as one that provides high quality artistic events and participatory projects for the community of Washington and beyond. She has placed a specific emphasis on providing artistic work for and by young people between the ages of 13 and 19 years. She is a great believer in the social benefits of the arts to young people, believing they can:

- instil confidence
- foster motivation
- raise aspirations
- broaden horizons
- widen the circle of friends and acquaintances
- encourage life skills e.g. communication, vocabulary etc

Prior to Helen's commencement at Arts Centre Washington, a small SIB grant was made in 2008 to consult with young people about what activities they wished to see happening at the Arts Centre. In Summer 2009, Helen was able to follow this up by creating Mix Up – a Summer holiday project offering a range of arts activities to 13-19 year olds. As a pilot project it was very successful, attracting 70 young people from all over Washington. Some of the comments by the participants appeared in the Sunderland Echo feature on the project:

"If this wasn't on we'd just be asleep or watching TV but it's been brilliant and I've met loads of new people"

"taking part in this helps build your confidence"

"it's been very friendly and informal. I'd definitely do it again"

Current youth arts provision at the Arts Centre is:

- 3 youth theatre groups catering for 3 different age ranges (ages 8 – 19)
- the Saturday Art Club (ages 9 – 16)
- Oxclose Music Project virtually every space in the venue on Sunday afternoons to rehearse and record their music (ages 13 – 19)

In addition, several youth arts initiatives that have funding attached are in the pipeline:

- Community Music Space – this is a central government initiative through the Department of Culture Media and Sport that provides funding for musical instruments, equipment and capital for soundproofing to improve facilities for musicians in the 16-25 age range.
- Youth Music – a partnership between Arts Centre Washington, The Forge arts in education agency for Sunderland, Washington Schools Extended Services, Gentoo and grant-making body Youth Music are discussing the possibility of the Arts Centre becoming a hub for young people's music in the Washington area by supporting outreach work and giving access to its facilities free of charge.
- Young Lead Officers - Arts Centre Washington is also privileged to be one of the North East organisations selected by Arts Council England to pilot this scheme. This has enabled 3 young people to become attached to the Arts Centre as "critical friends" advising on the appeal to young people and how that can be improved.

Helen Green now wishes to bring all these disparate elements together to create a focused youth arts programme that meets on a weekly basis throughout the year. Provisionally entitled REMIX (moving on from MIX UP) this would provide activities in all artforms on a Wednesday night between 6pm and 8pm. Helen is already working with the Young Lead Officers on what type of artistic activities would be included – apart from the normal artforms a poetry group and photography group have been suggested. It is hoped that REMIX will eventually be run by a panel of young people with guidance from the Arts Centre staff, professional artists and youth workers.

It is recognised that many young people attracted to these sorts of activities are already engaged and motivated young people. Therefore a separate, smaller programme working with young NEET and disadvantaged young people will run alongside the main REMIX programme. Participants in this programme will be encouraged to move on to the REMIX group enabling them to progress both personally, socially and artistically.

Ideally the REMIX and NEET programmes would be an ongoing project for several years to come and preparations must be made to ensure the project is sustainable. However, an initial 1 year programme funded by SIB, partnered by the DCMS and Youth Music funding and with in-kind support from Arts Centre Washington will enable the project to get under way. Ideally the project will start after the spring half term allowing time to publicise the programme and recruit participants.

An application for SIB funds will be approximately £25,000. This will fund leaders for 48 weeks, resources and promotional materials. If possible a further amount for a Project Co-ordinator would be very helpful.

This project would place the Arts Centre firmly in the centre of the community; improve its image and profile amongst young people and help address the lack of activities for young people in Washington highlighted in the Local Area Plan.

Proposal:

Allocation of SIB/SIP: Committee is requested to agree the provision of £25,000 to fund leaders for 48 weeks, resources and promotional materials.

RESPONSIVE LOCAL SERVICES**REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CITY SERVICES AND THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE****1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To advise Washington Area Committee of the commencement of the Responsive Local Services (RLS) project which forms part of the Council's Community Leadership Programme.

2. INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Community Leadership Programme, which commenced in September 2008, is based upon the need to accelerate delivery of quality of life improvements for the people of Sunderland and to improve their satisfaction levels with the way the Council and its partners perform. The Responsive Local Services project is designed to satisfy the service delivery element of the programme ensuring that, in delivering its day to day services, the Council is more responsive to the needs and expectations of its customers and engages with citizens more effectively.
- 2.2 In essence the project provides each Area Committee with the tools required to tailor services in the locality and communicate the improvements effectively to residents to improve satisfaction and resident understanding of the elected Member's community leadership role.

3. CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1 In order to achieve an early impact, it is proposed that the Project commences with a focus on the important high volume neighbourhood services detailed below:
- Litter
 - Refuse Collection
 - Grass Cutting
 - Graffiti
 - Dog Fouling
- 3.2 The services included in the first wave have been chosen according to their relative importance and the ability to measure performance against the current service standards. It is necessary, in this respect, to publish the associated service standards to enable residents and Members to engage in service delivery performance updates, via Area Committees. This will enable Area Committees and residents to consider local priorities and service performance when tailoring service standards to match local need.
- 3.3 The service scope of each subsequent wave of the Project would then be defined upon the basis of customer feedback through the Customer Services Network, feedback from Residents' Surveys, Area Committees, Ward visits and the analysis of service requests via the staff reporting line.

4. AREA COMMITTEE REPORTING

- 4.1 The RLS project sets the scene for Area Committees to receive regular performance reports regarding the services included in the first and subsequent waves of the project. The performance reports will also identify locality issues arising from the analysis of staff

reports to the staff reporting line to allow the Committee to consider the allocation of SIP funding.

- 4.2 Taking into consideration the Area Committee meeting schedule, the first RLS performance reporting cycle will commence in January 2010, with the presentation of summary performance reports to each committee for discussion and consideration. As the services included in the RLS project increase with each wave of activity, the monthly performance report will provide a richer and more meaningful interpretation of local needs and issues, to inform local tailoring.
- 4.3 The staff reporting line has already identified a number of associated environmental issues in each locality a summary of which will be presented to each committee for consideration.

5. LOCAL PROBLEM SOLVING

- 5.1 It is envisaged that in the majority of cases the area performance reports will provide a sound basis upon which service tailoring can be delivered to address a local issue or request for service. However in some cases this model will not suffice and a problem solving approach will be required to consider the issue in more detail and deliver the necessary service actions.
- 5.2 When this occurs it is proposed that a local problem solving group, including partner organisations where necessary, be established to provide feedback to the relevant Area Committee regarding the plan to address the issue (this could provide the Area Committee with a framework for identifying where it may wish to invest its discretionary budget). Once agreed the partnership plan will be implemented with performance updates being reported back to the Area Committee with agreed regularity.

6. RECOGNITION FOR ACTION

- 6.1 The Corporate Communications Team is already developing an approach to satisfy the communication requirements of area governance and the RLS project, the first results of which should be in place by November 2009. The key is to link service improvement with community leadership to strengthen the connection, and provide citizens with tangible opportunities to influence service delivery in the local area. The relevant service standards will be published to provide a baseline for service tailoring.

7.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Resource tailoring is a key consideration for this agenda to ensure that any alignment between the resource available to meet current standards of service delivery and any potential increase to service standards or demand is carefully managed. Ongoing monitoring will take place and resource allocation will be, in the first instance, managed within existing budget provision. Any demand for further provision would be required to be considered as part of the Medium Term Financial Planning Process.
- 7.2 Area Committees are also able to call upon their Strategic Investment Plan allocations to respond to local issues arising from service demand or, as was the case for the previous cycle, to address any issues coming forward from ward visits and the staff reporting line.

8.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 8.1 The Washington Area Committee are requested to note this report for information.

9.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 9.1 Community Leadership Programme Project Initiation Document
- 9.2 Responsive Local Services Cabinet Paper – 7 October 2009

Washington Area Committee

5th November 2009

Report of the Chief Executive

Area Committee Handbook

1. Why has it come to Committee?

1.1 During the development of the new Area Arrangements, the Area Arrangements Project Board began the development of an Area Committee Handbook to reflect the new arrangements and to facilitate the operations' of the Area Committees with their partners.

2. Description of Decision (recommendation)

2.1 Area Committee is asked to agree the adoption of the Area Committee Handbook 2009/10.

3. Background

3.1 In May 2009, at its workshop on New Governance Proposals, the Area Committee agreed to a number of partners being co-opted as members of the Committee. In addition, there was agreement in principle to the Committee having representatives of the local Voluntary and Community Sector as members.

3.2 To ensure effective participation in the refreshed governance arrangements, it was felt the production of a handbook to provide practical guidance to all those involved in the area Committee – Elected Members, members of the public, Service Delivery Partners and Council Officers.

3.3 The guidance in the Handbook should be read alongside the Council's constitution.

4. Background Papers

- Sunderland Strategy Delivery Plans
- Community Leadership Programme Project Board
- Updating Area Arrangements Project Board
- Washington Local Area Plan

5. **Contact Officer:** Nicol Trueman, Area Officer for Sunderland East and Washington
Tel: 0191 561 1162 e-mail: nicol.trueman@sunderland.gov.uk

Annex 1: Area Committee Handbook

Area Committee Handbook

2009 / 2010


Sunderland
City Council

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INTRODUCTION

The Area Committee Handbook provides practical guidance to everyone involved with Area Committees in Sunderland – Members of the Public, Elected Members, Service Delivery Partners and Council Officers. The guidance in the Handbook should be read alongside the Council's Constitution.

The Handbook includes protocols setting out the procedures and processes to help the business of the Area Committee run smoothly. While the Handbook supports the rules and procedures set out in the Council's Constitution (available on the Council's website www.sunderland.gov.uk) the Constitution will always take precedence over the Handbook.

Sunderland Strategy's Vision:

“Creating a better future for everyone in Sunderland”

Sunderland will be a welcoming, internationally recognised city where people have the opportunity to fulfil their aspirations for a healthy, safe and prosperous future.

This is the vision and aspiration for the whole of the city of Sunderland. In order to reach this ambition the City is working together with its partners by developing and implementing the Sunderland Strategy. It is now looking at how this can be locally implemented and has reviewed its Local Area governance structures to improve links between the City's strategic actions and its local priorities.

The Sunderland Strategy sets out how the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) will deliver the City's vision, but it is the Local Area Committees that will deliver an area vision, which local elected Members, local Residents, Service Delivery Partners, Council Officers and voluntary and community groups will drive and implement. The process is two way and focussed on the operation *“What can the city do for an area and what can an area do for the city?”*

The purpose of the Local Area Plans (LAPs) is to make sense of how our key themes are turned into reality and practical action for people in their areas. Our key themes are:-

- A Prosperous area
- A Learning area
- A Safe area
- A Healthy area
- An Attractive and Inclusive area

These aims are underpinned by four cross cutting priorities: Inclusive Communities, Culture, Housing and Communication.

Underpinning the Sunderland Strategy is the Local Area Agreement (LAA) for Sunderland and LAPs for the five regeneration areas in the City (all with a lifespan until 2011). They set out the basis on which we will move towards our vision by identifying the focus for the relative short term and the next steps in the journey towards achieving long term aspirations.

We recognise the LAP does not set out everything that needs to be done in the Area. Rather it highlights the agreed way forward for the Area Committee in respect of the identified improvement priorities and intentions over the forthcoming years.

BACKGROUND OF THE AREA COMMITTEE

The Cabinet meeting of the Council is the executive decision making body, and has delegated powers to an area level, via Area Committees to make a range of formal decisions on local service delivery, if it is seen to bring benefit to local communities, bringing on board local views to shape and influence decisions around local solutions to local problems. When good practice occurs there are opportunities to influence policy development and strategic decision making by the Cabinet and the LSP. Area Committee will also monitor service delivery and performance of all City Council services in local areas.

Area Committees are formal committees appointed by the Council to ensure improved service delivery in the context of best value and more efficient, transparent and accountable decision making. The Area Committee's governance arrangements have been updated to support the delivery of the Sunderland Strategy and LAA at a local level, in addition to the Council's continuous improvement agenda and complying with emerging legislation in relation to Community Leadership, enhanced scrutiny arrangements, 'Councillor Call for Action' powers, 'Duty to Involve' and 'Communities in Control: Real People, Real Power'.

The aim of Area Committee is to strengthen local democratic accountability through empowering locally elected Members to take decisions, shape and influence the delivery of local public sector services in local areas.

ROLE OF THE AREA COMMITTEE

- To lead on the development of a Local Area Plan.
- To review, problem solve and establish the most effective operation of responsive front line services.
- To maximise the engagement of local residents and other interests in decision making on matters which affect them.

Their remit will involve all locally delivered statutory services, enabling locally elected Members to exercise a much broader influence over activity in the public sector.

Each Area Committee has its Strategic Initiatives Budget and through to 2011, its Strategic Investment Programme to manage. However, not all service decisions/budgets can be devolved to the Local Area Committee because some budgets:-

- Are allocated according to Sunderland-wide criteria often in response to national requirements.
- Need to support service delivery patterns and different partner organisations outside local government.
- Need to be retained at the centre to support strategic service delivery to maximise economies of scale and efficiency.

The Area Committee will monitor the local impact of all public services.

Meetings of the Area Committee will be open to the press and public.

From the 1st April 2009, local authorities have a duty to involve 'representatives of local persons', making it standard practice for a local authority and their partners to empower and engage local people through the delivery of local services and involvement in local decision making. Area Committees will inform local residents about services, policies and decisions

affecting them and they will also be able to have their say and get involved in decisions, where appropriate.

Information will be easy to access, understand and tailored, as appropriate, to different audiences to support involvement, being aware of the equality requirements. Area Committees will support genuine opportunities for people to have their say, e.g. satisfaction surveys (Place Survey) and direct dialogue (Questions to Area Committee).

Area Committees recognise that the most effective form of engagement is 'involvement'; influencing or directly participating in decision making at this level which is promoted, for example, through getting involved in Community Spirit and Independent Advisory Groups.

The Area Committee will provide the local context for the Sunderland Strategy. The extended representation at Area Committee has been drawn together to account for local and strategic knowledge and will provide for overall consistency, yet give each Area Committee significant flexibility within approved Council policies and budgets to respond to local circumstances and priorities.

The Council will assess the opportunities for extending the remit of the Area Committee to support new policy initiatives, for example, integral to the Area Committee is the agreed Sunderland Compact which aims to improve partnership working.

CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

Area Committees are open to the public. Each agenda is available five working days before the date of the meeting. These can be obtained from Democratic Services at the Civic Centre or online at <http://www.sunderland.gov.uk/Committees/CMISWebPublic>.

Meetings are held on a regular basis throughout the year on an evening usually within the local area, allowing those with daytime commitments to come along and encouraging local attendance.

For the Area Committee to have the information it needs to carry out its role, it may require the attendance of members from the LSP, the relevant Portfolio Holder, Executive Director, or any senior officer to provide evidence or information on reasonable notice. To make sure that the Committee can carry out its business effectively, it is the duty of an officer of the Council to attend if asked to do so by the Committees.

It is intended that both elected Members and Service Delivery Partners should see the process as a partnership.

The work of the Area Committee is extremely varied and may involve making decisions, being involved in consultations and responding to questions from the public. Elected Members are expected to make a declaration of any interest that is known to them at the start of the meeting in the usual way, indicating whether it is a personal, or a personal and prejudicial interest and how the interest arises. It may also be necessary for elected Members to make an interest known if it arises during the course of the meeting, and where necessary leave the room whilst decisions are made.

To ensure the smooth running of the meeting each Member should consider, when reading the agenda in preparation, whether any interests are likely to arise and seek advice well in advance of the meeting from the Democratic Services Officer.

Process

Other representatives on the Local Area Committee are not Public Appointments and are not elected by local residents to represent an Area, unlike elected Members.

The appointment of representatives to Local Area Committees will be annually reviewed, by approaching the LSP and Directorates to seek nominations to Area Committees.

Elected Members will receive all nominations and discuss and agree representatives for the following municipal year, at the last meeting of the current municipal year. Elected Members have the right to approve new nominations throughout the municipal year, if a theme has no representative and can also call on experts to attend the Area Committee for specific topics and issues when relevant.

Period of appointment

- Elected Members for four years.
- Non Elected representatives for one municipal year.

Substitutes

- There is currently no formal mechanism for the nomination of substitutes, although it is recognised that some Service Delivery Partners may send substitutes on an ad hoc basis.

Voting Rights

To date, Sunderland City Council has given no non elected Member voting rights. The right to vote at Area Committee remains with elected Members only.

- Elected Members have a mandate to speak on behalf of the public, where representatives do not.
- The non elected representatives are there to provide a level of expertise or knowledge to help inform the debate.

Principles of Conduct

- All elected Members are required to be bound by the Code of Conduct in the Council's Constitution which sets out rules complying with the Principles of Conduct in Public Life.
- Under the Council's Constitution non elected representatives without voting rights must agree to be bound in honour by the Code of Conduct.

Training

The Council provides an ongoing programme of training seminars for Members and others involved with the Area Committees, which provide them with the background information they need to deal with a range of issues pertinent to the work of the Committees.

Declarations

Representatives who sit on Area Committees will be asked:-

- If there is any membership or position that might affect their ability to act in the best interests of the City of Sunderland, or to declare any other conflict of interest. In some cases, such interests may be incompatible with membership of the Committee, where they would clearly conflict or are in organisations that demand a level of loyalty that might not be consistent with a role on the Committee.
- To sign up to supporting and working towards the City Strategy and Vision and to making a contribution of time, and where agreed to meet joint organisational aims, of finance.
- To supply information about themselves to ensure Area Committees are able to monitor the diversity and coverage of the City.

Elected Members will declare an interest if they have an existing relationship with any representatives. It is accepted that it is highly likely that such relationships will exist. It will be up to the Committee to take advice and decide whether such a relationship should require the representative to withdraw from the Committee and be replaced by another representative.

MEMBERSHIP AND SUPPORT FOR AREA COMMITTEE

At the heart of Area Committee is the principle that the process is elected Member led and all Service Delivery Partners and Local Residents have an important role in identifying local priorities to improve upon and solutions that will make those improvements.

Each Area Committee is made up of elected Members, local Service Delivery Partners and key stakeholders.

Chair

The Chair will:-

- Support the Committee in developing Local Area Plans to improve the quality of life in the area
- Manage the Committee agenda and ensure that Committee representatives understand their roles and ability to contribute to the meeting
- Welcome and introduce all representatives on the Committee.
- Encourage relevant discussion at Committee to ensure a full and meaningful debate of the issues discussed.
- Ensure meetings are non partisan and free of party political debate.
- Provide a focal point to ask questions and encourage questions to be brought forward at the meeting through the Chair, controlling discussion and ensuring all Committee members have an opportunity to ask questions and debate an item.
- Bring clarity by summarising what has been agreed and what the next steps are.
- Manage the voting system and have the casting vote.
- When necessary, delegate work appropriately amongst the Committee.
- Handle conflict during meetings, to arrive at constructive outcomes.
- Be the spokesperson for the Committee and present and champion the Committee findings and recommendations.

Vice Chair

The Vice Chair plays an important part in the role of the Committee and will:-

- Take up the role of chairing and managing meetings in the absence of the Chair.
- Play a lead role in the development and implementation of Local Area Plans.
- Co-chair Area Network meetings with a Voluntary and Community Sector representative.

Elected Members

Members of the Council representing those wards included within each Area Committee boundary will endeavour to attend each Area Committee meeting.

Elected Members as Community Leaders will:-

- Act as honest brokers or intermediaries between citizen, community, the Council and external partners.
- Take action to improve the quality of life of people in their communities.
- Act as champions and representatives of each and every resident.
- Investigate and resolve residents' problems effectively or explain to them why they cannot be solved.
- Be well informed, know their area and be clear about local priorities.

Elected Members in a corporate role will:-

- Be effective ambassadors for the Council in their communities.
- Reflect the community's feedback and views in the Council decision making processes to make policies and services more responsive.
- Make objective and informed decisions that balance local needs and priorities with those of the wider area or City.
- Represent the Council's interests in local partnership working.
- Act in the best interest of the community as a whole.

Local Strategic Partnership Representation

Identified Service Delivery Partners, who currently sit on both LSP Delivery Improvement Boards and Area Committees, will be responsible for providing updates on Area Committees to the individual Delivery and Improvement Partnership and vice versa, thus making connections with LSP work.

Representation will be from the five Delivery and Improvement Partnerships:

Healthy City
Prosperous City
Safer City
Learning City
Attractive and Inclusive City

Representatives from the Delivery and Improvement Partnerships will be of Senior Management level or equivalent and will be able to speak for their Delivery and Improvement Partnership and be prepared to commit resources on behalf of their partnership. If an individual is unable to attend a meeting a named substitute will be invited to attend in their absence.

They will:-

- Support the delivery of LAPs.
- Support work to maximise the effectiveness of responsive front line services.
- Participate fully in resulting problem solving and service review exercises.
- Co-ordinate a positive response from their Delivery and Improvement Partnership to discussions on matters of public interest.
- Support efforts to maximise the engagement of local residents and other interests in decision making on matters which affect them.

Delivery and Improvement Partnership responsibilities:-

- Representation at the appropriate level of authority and experience.
- Consistently high levels of attendance.
- Provide a two way flow of information between the Area Committee and the Delivery and Improvement Partnership.
- High level knowledge of the service area and its strategic operating context.
- Commitment to improving the quality of life and satisfaction of residents in the Area.
- Commitment to promote the interest of the Area in decision making processes within their partnership.
- Commitment to engagement through involvement and feedback from local residents in the design, delivery and improvement of services.
- Commitment to constructive challenge and proactive service improvement.
- Objectivity in accessing issues and opportunities and how to approach these in the best interests of the Area.
- Acceptance of Area Committee behaviour protocols.

Service Delivery Partners

Area Committees have asked representatives of external service delivery organisations to attend their Area Committees, recognising the important contribution which they make to shaping and delivering local area priorities.

Each Area Committee has core partner representatives from the following organisations:-

- Gentoo;
- Northumbria Police;
- NHS – Sunderland Teaching Primary Care Trust;
- Sunderland City College;
- Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service;
- The Voluntary and Community Sector.

Representatives of service delivery partners will be of Senior Management level or equivalent and therefore be able to speak for their organisation and be prepared to commit resources on behalf of their organisations, and in their absence a named substitute will be invited.

They will:-

- Support the delivery of LAPs.
- Support work to maximise the effectiveness of responsive front line services.
- Participate fully in resulting problem solving and service review exercises.
- Co-ordinate a positive response from their organisation to discussions on matters of public interest.
- Support efforts to maximise the engagement of local residents and other interests in decision making on matters which affect them.

Service Delivery Partners Responsibilities

- Representation at the appropriate level of authority and experience.
- Consistently high levels of attendance.
- High level knowledge of the service area and its strategic operating context.
- Commitment to improving the quality of life and satisfaction of residents in the Area.
- Commitment to promote the interest of the Area in decision making processes within their organisations.
- Commitment to engagement, involvement and feedback with local residents in the design, delivery and improvement of services.
- Commitment to constructive challenge and proactive service improvement.
- Objectivity in accessing issues and opportunities and how to approach these in the best interests of the Area.
- Acceptance of Area Committee behaviour protocols.

Core Council Officers Responsibilities

- Discuss, review, challenge and promote the identified priorities of the LAP.
- Take an active role in owning and solving problems identified at Area Committee.
- Recognise information sharing is a two way process, by bringing information to Area Committee from Residents, Community Groups, elected Members, Scrutiny and the LSP.
- Think strategically and commit to the development of improving outcomes.
- Provide direction and co-ordinate the approach to all priorities across neighbourhoods, wards and the area.
- Encourage participation and involvement from local residents, bringing forward views and opinions on service delivery.

- Work with key contacts and stakeholders to create and build appropriate networks and partnerships to promote the Area Committee, priorities and performance measures.
- Identify and assist Area Committees, where relevant, in generating and match funding projects of strategic significance.
- Monitor the quantity and quality of performance management, reviews and projects.
- Establish methods for promoting and sharing intelligence, information and good practice.

Area Lead Executive (ALE)

Each area will be aligned to an Area Lead Executive, who will be a member of the Council's Executive Management Team. The ALE will reinforce the strategic importance of the area dimension to the Council's policy and planning framework, and in particular will reinforce the importance the Council places on enhancing community governance, aligning resources and activity and improving public service delivery at a local level. The ALE will also ensure an improved localities dimension to the Council's strategic planning. The role is to help clear 'blockages' and ensure Area Committee issues are taken to the highest levels.

The role of the ALE is to:-

- Provide high level representation from the Council's officer core to support the process and outcomes from the Area Committee.
- Provide clarity and direction for the staff supporting the Area Committees and implement the LAPs once agreed.
- Ensure that strong links are made between the LAPs and the overarching commitments of the Sunderland Strategy, Local Area Agreement, Corporate Improvement Plan, Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB) and Single Investment Plan (SIP) funding.

Area Officer (ArO)

The role of the ArO is to:-

- Act as the Area Chair's/Vice Chair's key liaison and support officer.
- Support, develop and update the LAP, ensuring that the Sunderland Strategy and the LAA are effectively interpreted at the local level, and that the Plan containing the relevant local priorities are consistent with Council/City-wide aims and objectives.
- Support the Area Chair/Vice Chair to ensure the implementation of the LAP (including any identified need to bid for external funds, etc).
- Work with and develop relationships with key Service Delivery Partners and delivery agents.
- Ensure the compilation and effective flow of information and intelligence to the Area Committee.
- Develop a joined up approach, across all sectors, to improve service delivery in the area.
- Work in partnership with those leading on the Community Development Plan and its implementation.

Whilst being guided by the ALEs in the particular requirements of each area, operationally, the AROs are located within the Strategic Economic Development Service, reporting through the Area Co-ordination Manager to the Head of Service. This ensures they work

within a corporate framework with links between one another and consistency of approach. (A similar model to that of the Scrutiny Team).

Democratic Services Officer (DSO)

The role of the DSO is to:-

- Efficiently and effectively manage the administration of the committee.
- Publish the agenda for the Area Committee.
- Provide advice and guidance to the Committee on constitutional matters.
- Invite all elected Members/representatives and guests to pre meetings, Area Committee and extraordinary meetings.
- Record the attendance at meetings of elected Members, representatives and guests and submit any apologies.
- Produce edit and finalise minutes of the meeting.
- Place all actions on the Area Committee Management Information System.
- Chase actions agreed upon by the committee and when necessary ensuring that relevant Service Delivery Partners/Officers feedback into the Area Committee.
- Upload all agenda, reports and minutes of meetings and post any executive decisions made by the Committee on the Council's website.
- Book venues to host pre meetings, Area Committee meetings and extraordinary meetings, prepare rooms for meetings, arrange refreshments and equipment as appropriate. .
- Manage and promote the 'Questions to Area Committee'.
- Issue materials provided by the ArO to representatives on the Committee.
- Control and manage the distribution and circulation of the agenda papers.
- Liaise with the Chair and Vice Chair on matters relating to the work of the Committee.

SCHEDULE OF AREA COMMITTEE MEETINGS

	Jun-09	Jul-09	Sep-09	Nov-09	Jan-10	Mar-10	Apr-10
Coalfield 6pm Start	3 rd	1 st	9 th	4 th	6 th	4 th	14 th
East 5.30pm Start	1 st , 29 th	N/A	7 th	9 th	4 th	1 st	12 th
North 5.30pm Start	1 st , 29 th	N/A	7 th	9 th	4 th	1 st	12 th
Washington 6pm Start	4 th	2 nd	10 th	5 th	7 th	4 th	15 th
West 5.30pm Start	4 th	2 nd	10 th	4 th	6 th	24 th (Feb)	7 th

In addition to the scheduled meetings, extraordinary meetings may be arranged if required.

KEY CONTACTS

Each Directorate will select a key contact who will monitor items on the agenda, and forward to relevant Service/Officer to inform them of items which may conflict or strengthen the Directorates policies and strategic aims.

Coalfield

Chair	Cllr John Scott	cldr.john.scott@sunderland.gov.uk
Vice Chair	Cllr Richard David Tate	cldr.richard.david.tate@sunderland.gov.uk
Area Lead Executive	Helen Paterson	helen.paterson@sunderland.gov.uk
Area Officer	Pauline Hopper	pauline.hopper@sunderland.gov.uk
Democratic Service Officer	Emma Hindmarsh	emma.hindmarsh@sunderland.gov.uk

East

Chair	Cllr Ross Wares	cldr.ross.wares@sunderland.gov.uk
Vice Chair	Cllr Ellen Ball	cldr.ellen.ball@sunderland.gov.uk
Area Lead Executive	Janet Johnson	janet.johnson@sunderland.gov.uk
Area Officer	Nicol Trueman	nicol.trueman@sunderland.gov.uk
Democratic Service Officer	Matthew Jackson	matthew.jackson@sunderland.gov.uk

North

Chair	Cllr Richard Bell	cldr.richard.bell@sunderland.gov.uk
Vice Chair	Cllr Rosalind Copeland	cldr.rosalind.copeland@sunderland.gov.uk
Area Lead Executive	Ron Odunaiya	ron.odunaiya@sunderland.gov.uk
Area Officer	Pauline Hopper	pauline.hopper@sunderland.gov.uk
Democratic Service Officer	Joanne Stewart	Joanne.stewart@sunderland.gov.uk

Washington

Chair	Cllr John Kelly	cldr.john.kelly@sunderland.gov.uk
Vice Chair	Cllr Bernard Scaplehorn	cldr.bernard.scaplehorn@sunderland.gov.uk
Area Lead Executive	Neil Revely	neil.revely@sunderland.gov.uk
Area Officer	Nicol Trueman	nicol.trueman@sunderland.gov.uk
Democratic Service Officer	Paul Wood	paul.wood@sunderland.gov.uk

West

Chair	Cllr David Forbes	cldr.david.forbes@sunderland.gov.uk
Vice Chair	Cllr Susan Watson	cldr.susan.watson@sunderland.gov.uk
Area Lead Executive	Keith Beardmore	keith.beardmore@sunderland.gov.uk
Area Officer	Richard Parry	richard.parry@sunderland.gov.uk
Democratic Service Officer	David Noon	david.noon@sunderland.gov.uk

Access

If representatives or members of the public have any particular requirements or access needs to enable them to participate in the meeting, including a requirement for information

in formats such as large print or on tape, please contact a member of the Democratic Services Team beforehand so arrangements can be made in good time.

Where possible Area Committee meetings will be held in rooms which are installed with a hearing loop system and rooms are accessible for wheelchair users or people with mobility impairments.

Elected Members and non elected Member representatives on the Area Committee are entitled to access all information available to the Area Committee as well as sub-sets of the Committee such as working groups.

Where to find out more about Area Committees in Sunderland

The Council Area Committees have a dedicated web page on the Council's internet. At any stage please feel free to contact your Area Officer on 0191 561 1162.

Further information is also available from our website:

[http://www.sunderland.gov.uk/Public/Editable/Themes/CityCouncil /corporate /seds /draft_area_plans.asp?](http://www.sunderland.gov.uk/Public/Editable/Themes/CityCouncil/corporate/seds/draft_area_plans.asp?)

Protocols

The protocols included in this Handbook are intended to provide clear procedures and processes on a number of functions to allow those involved to understand and operate effectively within the Local Area Committee.

They are intended to assist Committees and the public and other agencies to have a clear understanding of the role and function of each Area Committee in Sunderland.

They are complementary to the rules of procedure as set out in the Council's Constitution with provisions in the constitution taking precedence.

- **Protocol 1** **Allocation of work to Area Committee**
- **Protocol 2** **Questions to Area Committee**
- **Protocol 3** **SIB/SIP governance**
- **Protocol 4** **Area Review Process**
- **Protocol 5** **Area Committee Work Plan (Sample)**
- **Protocol 6** **Area Committee Standing Agenda**
- **Protocol 7** **Area Committee Annual Self Assessment**

PROTOCOL 1

ALLOCATION OF WORK TO AREA COMMITTEE

1. Area Committee Coverage

The City is made up of five areas:-

- **North Sunderland**
Castle, Fulwell, Redhill, St Peter's and Southwick wards
- **East Sunderland**
Doxford, Hendon, Millfield, St. Michael's and Ryhope wards
- **West Sunderland**
St. Anne's, Pallion, Sandhill, Barnes, St. Chad's and Silksworth wards
- **Washington**
Washington East, West, Central, North and South wards
- **Coalfield**
Copt Hill, Hetton, Houghton and Shiney Row wards

2. Composition

The membership of each Area Committee is all Members of the Council representing those wards included within each Area Committee boundary. Area Committee meetings are Council meetings which are usually held in public and allow local residents the opportunity to attend.

3. Terms of Reference:-

The terms of reference of the Area Committee are as set out in Article 10.2 of the Council's Constitution:-

The purpose of the Area Committee is to:-

- Lead the development of a Local Area Plan (LAP), which includes all main priorities for improvement of the Area for approval by the Cabinet.
- Lead and enable the effective implementation of the LAP.
- Monitor the quality and effectiveness of services delivered by the Council and other main providers in the Area.
- Actively encourage local residents to become involved in decision-making on matters which affect them.

In pursuit of these objectives the Area Committee may:

- Consult, engage and involve local people, organisations and partner agencies in development and delivery of the LAP.
- Actively review the activities of other agencies within its area with a view to ensuring that services, initiatives and their manner of delivery meet local requirements as fully as possible.
- Constructively challenge service providers to improve the standards of service and the levels of public satisfaction and trust with them.
- Identify priorities for allocation of budgets delegated to the Area Committee.
- Commission activity to improve local quality of life and public satisfaction in its area.
- Promote and publicise initiatives taken to improve local quality of life and public satisfaction and to increase participation in decision-making.
- Request and consider reports in support of the Area Committee's work.

The Area Committee will also produce an Annual Report which will review and evaluate the degree to which it was successful in delivering its objectives and effective in promoting Community Leadership.

4. LAPs and work plans

Local Area Committees will consider area priorities each year to be addressed throughout the next municipal year. Priorities identified will be agreed and a work plan established at the first meeting of the Committee in June.

The area priorities will be delivered by the Local Area Committees, providing a focal point to discuss, review and improve service delivery. The LAP highlights the top priorities for each of the five areas, encompassing all five themes and cross cutting strategies, to achieve absolute clarity and focus on things that matter most to residents.

Elected Members, Service Delivery Partners and residents were at the heart of the consultation process undertaken to shape and approve the current LAPs through events, road shows, forum discussions and on-line facilities. For further information on the LAPs log onto www.sunderland.gov.uk/localareaplans .

5. Consultation and communication

At the start of the municipal year elected Members, Council Committees, Directorates and Service Delivery Partners will outline consultation exercises to be held throughout the year and notify the Corporate Consultation Team. To strengthen the co-ordination of consultation around the City, this information will then be placed into a core consultation database. Area Committees will be notified throughout the year of all consultation exercises being carried out in their area and build this into the work plan to ensure that Area Committees are included in the consultation process, allowing information to be shared with local key stakeholders. This follows good practice outlined in the Sunderland Compact Involvement and Consultation Code of Practice, for further information log onto www.sunderlandcompact.org.uk .

Each area will have a dedicated publication which will be circulated to all residents of the area, keeping residents up to date with achievements and providing the opportunity to participate and engage in future events. To include information in the publication please contact the relevant Area Officer, identified in key contacts.

6. Agenda items

Items are placed on the agenda by the Chair and Vice Chair of the Area Committees at the agenda setting meetings, which are held four weeks in advance of the Area Committee meeting. Agenda items need to be notified to the Democratic Service Officer (DSO) for the relevant area detailed in key contacts, before the agenda setting meeting to ensure they are considered for inclusion on the finalised agenda.

An item submitted to the DSO does not automatically qualify the item to be included on the agenda, only the Chair and Vice Chair can agree this.

7. Urgent items

Urgent items can be considered by the Area Committee, with the agreement of the Chair. All urgent items must be reported to the DSO as soon as the perceived need for an urgent item arises. The DSO will in turn contact the Chair who will consider the reason why the item is urgent and decide whether the item should be considered at the meeting. The reason why the item is considered urgent will be reported to the meeting and recorded in the minutes of the meeting, together with the discussion and decision on the item.

8. Extraordinary meetings

In addition to the seven scheduled Area Committee meetings, extraordinary Area Committee meetings may be arranged to discuss specific subjects. These meetings are Council meetings held in public and all requests to host an extra ordinary meeting will be co-ordinated by the DSO who will make arrangements for the meeting following the rules in the Council constitution.

PROTOCOL 2

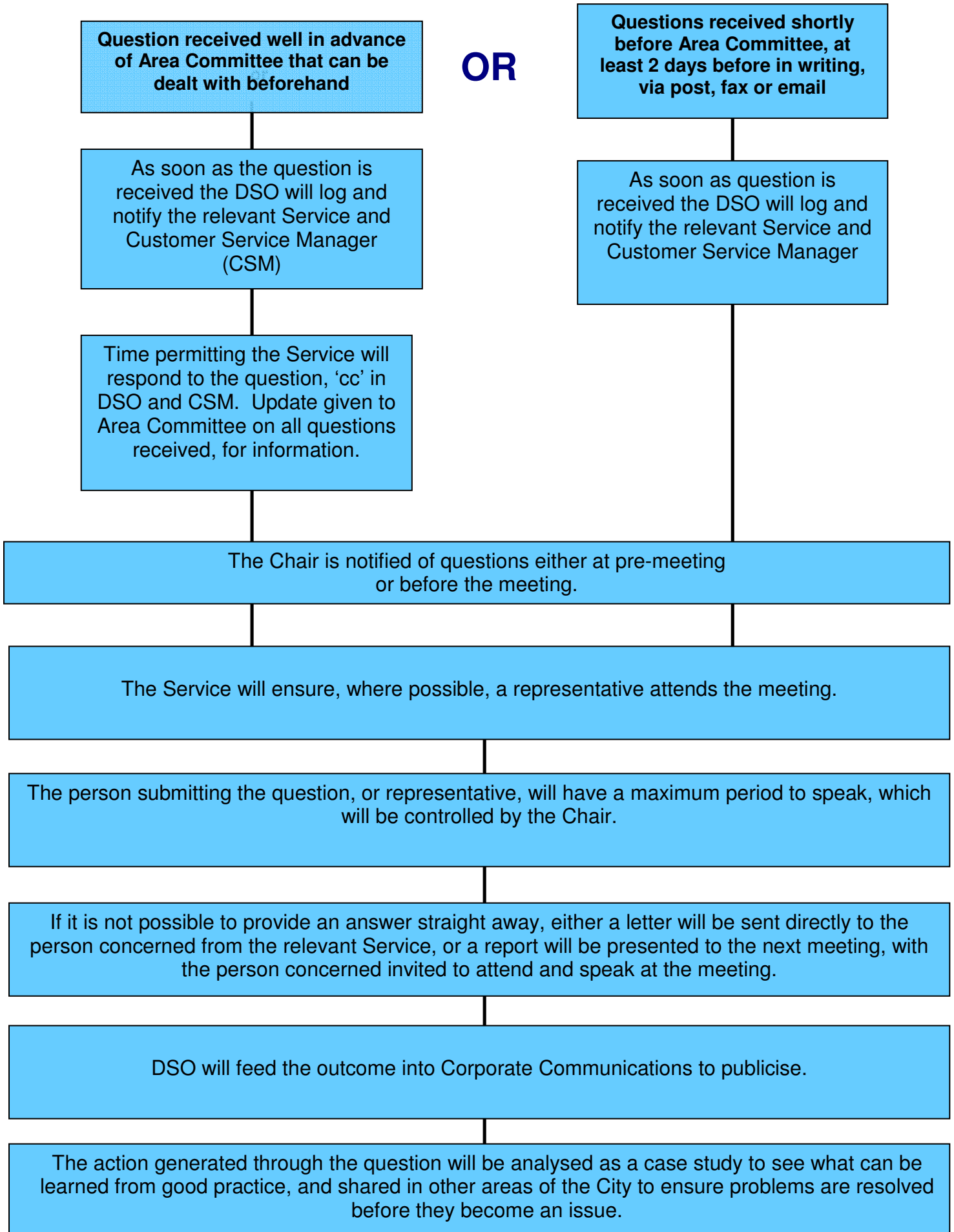
QUESTIONS TO AREA COMMITTEE

For the past year Committees and Service Delivery Partners have been developing the LAP and their priorities. It was identified via the consultation programme that there was a need to introduce a method in which local residents ask questions directly to their elected Members and providers of public services being delivered in their communities. Area Committee is seen as the appropriate arena to facilitate this process.

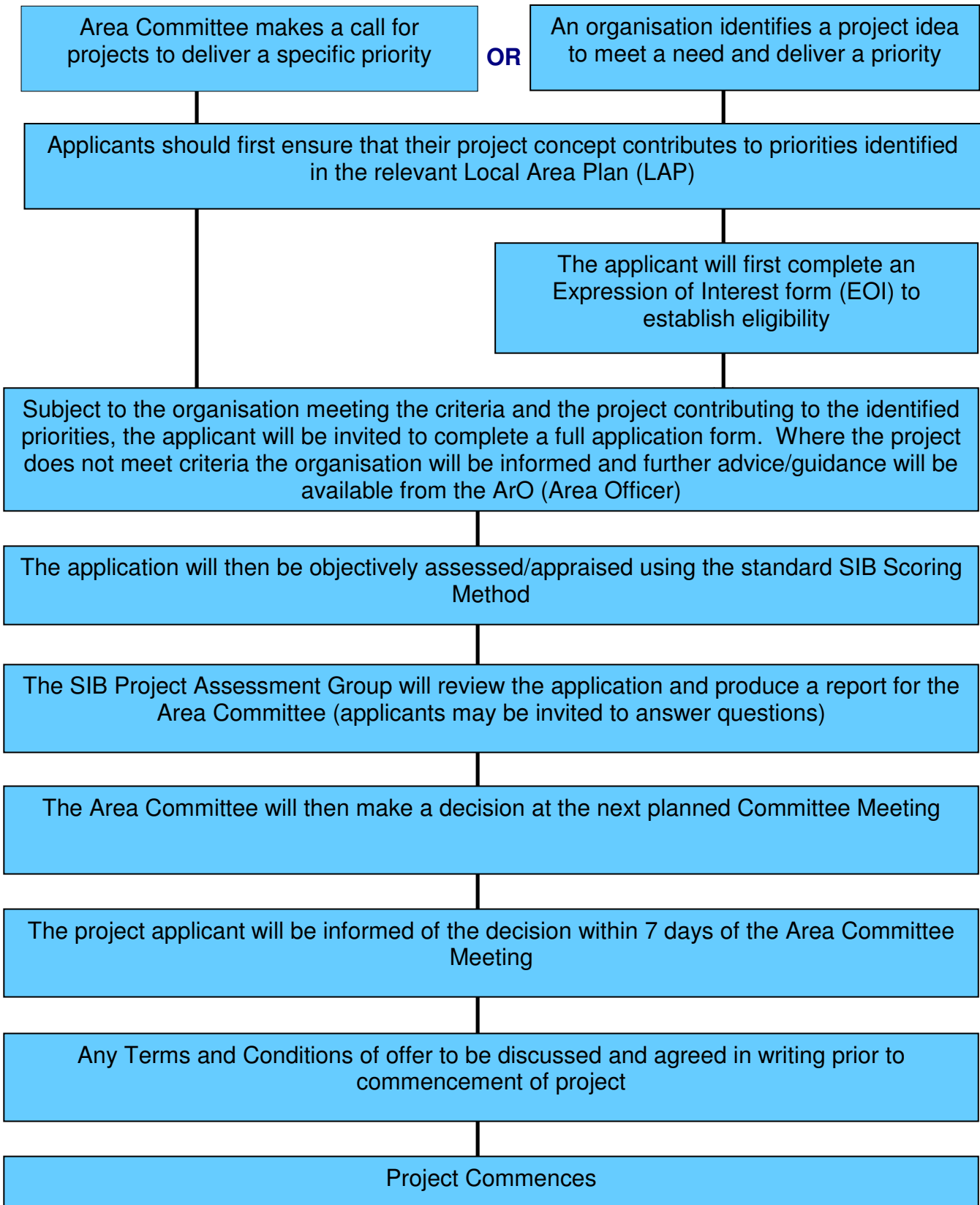
The protocol is managed by the Democratic Services Team and you should contact the DSO outlined in key contacts if you need any further advice.

- At each ordinary meeting, members of the public can submit a question (or have one submitted on their behalf) on matters that are relevant to the Area, Council and Partners agencies by the completion of the Questions to Area Committee form, up to two working days in advance of the meeting.
- All questions must be submitted before the Area Committee, if questions are received later, or during or afterwards, they will automatically be presented to the next scheduled ordinary meeting, unless they can be dealt with between meetings.
- The person submitting the question can choose to ask the question in person or have it read out for them by a nominee, or by the Chair or the Democratic Services Officer.
- The time limit given for a question is at the discretion of the Chairperson.
- The question is asked, and where possible the Committee will address and respond. If it is not possible to provide a response straight away, either a letter will be sent directly to the person concerned from the relevant officer within ten working days from the Committee date, or a report will be made on this matter to the next meeting of the Area Committee, and the person concerned will be invited to attend and speak at the meeting. In all instances a written response will be given.
- At the discretion of the Chair the person asking the question may be allowed to ask one supplementary, which must arise directly out of the original question or from the answer received.
- Committee have the opportunity of questioning to clarify any areas of doubt.
- If there is a large number of potential speakers on an issue, the Chair will ask them to select a spokesperson. If there are groups offering differing views on a particular issue more than one speaker can address the Committee, at the discretion of the Chair.
- If the Chair considers that the opportunity to address the Committee is being abused he/she has the authority to require the person to stop and if the person does not do so the Chair may require the person to leave the meeting.
- The Chair will determine the order in which the questions are asked.

QUESTIONS TO AREA COMMITTEE FLOWCHART



**PROTOCOL 3
SIB/SIP GOVERNANCE**



NB: The application process should normally take no more than 6-8 weeks from submission of application. In exceptional circumstances, where there is a clear emergency, the Area Committee may consider a rapid response to a request. This should be discussed in the first instance with the ArO and Area Chair and will take no longer than 3 working days to complete.

PROTOCOL 4 AREA REVIEW PROCESS

If issues or problems cannot be solved at an area level, the Area Committee can decide to elevate the matter to the appropriate body.

Council Services

In cases of City wide issues or issues that cannot be resolved locally, all Council services will be referred to the Management Scrutiny Committee or Portfolio Holder.

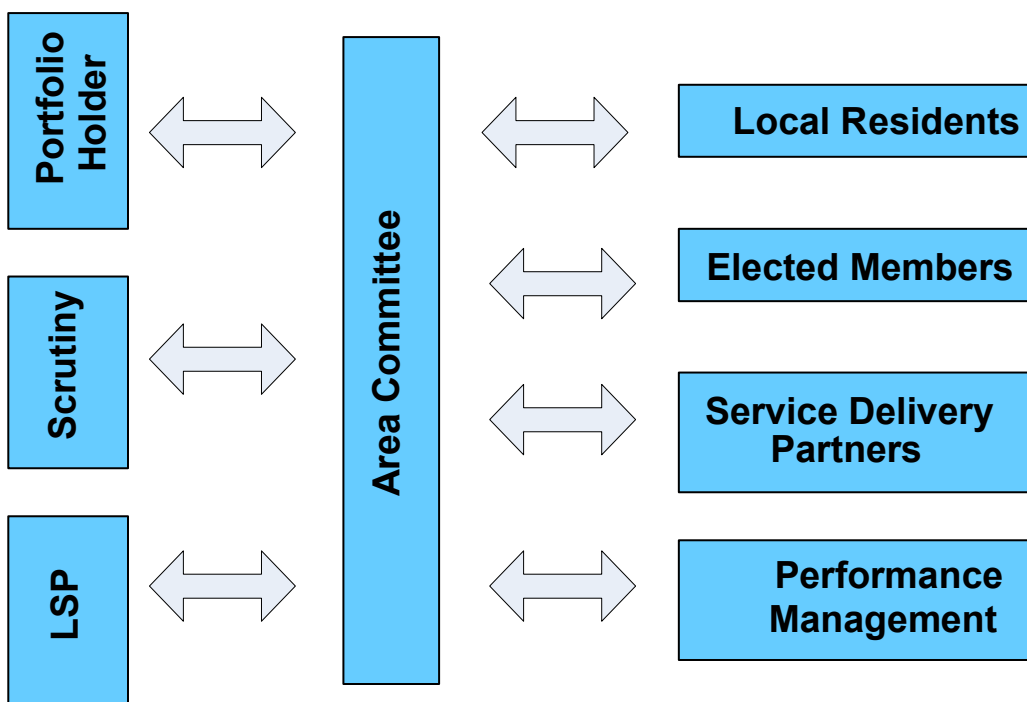
When applicable, issues and priorities that are considered by Scrutiny Committees or by the Portfolio Holder which have area aspects can be referred to the relevant Local Area Committee to resolve.

Non Council Services

The same principle applies if the services are non Council, as these will be referred to the LSP, and vice versa. If the LSP deem an issue to be local they can also refer the issue or priority to the relevant Local Area Committee.

A two way communication process between city and local activities will therefore be provided.

Each Area will be aware of the work plan for the LSP and the Council's Scrutiny Committees, to enable Areas to influence policies and decision making, while ensuring that city delivery plans are not duplicated and the good work is promoted locally.



**PROTOCOL 5
AREA COMMITTEE WORKPLAN 2009/10 (SAMPLE)**

Area Committee	Priority Item	Lead Representatives	Strategic Link
4 Jun 09	Approval LAP's and Work Plan	Chief Executive's	Cabinet July 09
2 Jul 09	Safe Theme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collectively target ASB; Sign up to the 21+ scheme; strengthen relationships; Introduce Community Police Forums; Circulate a directory promote recognising good news stories. 	Elected members nominated from Area Committee <i>Service Delivery Partners</i> Gentoo Sunderland, Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service, TPCT, VCS: <i>Sunderland City Council</i> - Health, Housing and Adult Services, Safer Sunderland Team, Corporate Communications, CCS, Children's Services, D&R	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safer Sunderland Strategy ASB Strategy Sunderland Alcohol Strategy Alcohol Treatment Plan Safer Sunderland Partnership Community and Safer City Scrutiny Committee
10 Sep 09	Learning Theme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase youth services; deliver holistic campaigns; plan training around jobs. Target EET/NEET. 	Elected members nominated from Area Committee <i>Service Delivery Partner</i> : Sunderland College, VCS <i>Sunderland City Council</i> - Children Services, Community and Cultural Services, Work based learning providers, Youth Development Group, Adult learning provider, Schools,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14-19 Strategy and Action Plan and ECM Adult Learning Strategy Education Improvement Plan Sunderland Learning Partnership Children, Young People and Learning Scrutiny Committee.
5 Nov 09	Healthy Theme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported housing, one to one support and personal care; Raise awareness re: access GP's or receive equipment. Strongly link preventative services and primary care. 	Elected members from Area Committee <i>Service Delivery Partners</i> Gentoo, TPCT VCS <i>Sunderland City Council</i> Health, Housing and Adult Services, Community and Cultural Services Children Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health Improvement Strategy NHS South of The and Wear Strategic Plan Better Health, Fairer Health, the regional health and wellbeing strategy Choosing Health-Government White Paper World Health Organisation (WHO) Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee
7 Jan 10	Attractive and Inclusive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Empty properties; SRL; Prioritise houses; parking bays; public transport; accessibility; signage; cycle routes, pavements; traffic safety; safe environment; healthy living; recycling; underpasses and unlit walkways; 	Elected members from Area Committee <i>Service Delivery Partners</i> Nexus, Gentoo Sunderland, Sustrans, VCS <i>Sunderland City Council</i> : Health, Housing and Adult Services, D&R, CCS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing for the Future ' A Housing Strategy for Sunderland Prosperity and economic development strategy Tyne and Wear Bus Strategy
4 Mar 10	Prosperous <ul style="list-style-type: none"> un-used business units.; start up packages; training courses; private sector; recruitment agencies; locally delivered courses; schools and VCS . 	Elected members from Area Committee <i>Service Delivery Partners</i> Business Link, Gentoo Living, VCS <i>Sunderland City Council</i> Office of the Chief Executives Health, Housing and Adult Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working Neighbourhood Strategy Economic Development Masterplan Sunderland Learning Partnership Economic Prosperity Group Prosperity and economic development strategy
1 Apr 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> End of Year Review: Annual Report 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self Assessment LAA annual report SIB/SIP annual report

PROTOCOL 6

AREA COMMITTEE STANDING AGENDA

Every Area Committee has the standing agenda presented to each meeting, the format is outlined below.

- 1. Apologies for Absence**
- 2. Minutes of the last meeting** (For accuracy only)
- 3. Declarations of interest**
- 4. Questions to Area Committee** (Co-ordinated by DSO)
- 5. Priority Theme** (Co-ordinated by Lead Agent, supported by Area Officer)
 - a. Agreed priorities
 - b. Performance measures
 - c. Current activity (day to day)
 - d. Risks
 - e. Recommendation (may include call for projects)
 - f. Discussion, consideration and agree mentioned way forward
- 6. Feedback from Working Group** (recommend from Sept 09, monitoring and recommendations lead by Lead Agent, supported by ArO)
 - a. Prosperous
 - b. Learning
 - c. Safe
 - d. Healthy
 - e. Attractive and Inclusive
- 7. Items for consultation** (Recommend from Sept 09, consultation from Scrutiny, LSP, Directorates, Service Delivery Partners, etc) Co-ordinated by Consultation Manager, supported by ArO
- 8. Recognition for Action** (updates on the success of publicity, media articles and website information and recommendations on public engagement and communications in the future) Co-ordinated by Corporate Communications, supported by ArO
- 9. Financial statement and requests** (combine SIB/SIP and Community Chest into one report, as CC is SIB funding, outlining funding available and requests for approval.) led by ArO/Community Chest Officer
- 10. Date, Time and Venue of next meeting**

PROTOCOL 7 ANNUAL SELF ASSESSMENT

In April each year Area Committee will produce an Annual Report which will review and evaluate the degree to which it was successful in achieving its objectives and effective in promoting Community Leadership through the LAP.

Below indicates the framework of the Annual Report

1. Statistical Circumstances

- a. Quality of Life indicators showing improvements

2. Services Improvements

- a. Local service quality issues identified
- b. Local service issues resolved and length of time taken
- c. Local service issues escalated to Scrutiny Committee and the LSP

3. Public Trust/Satisfaction/Perception Levels

- a. Public perceptions of the Council improving
 - i. Quality of local neighbourhood
 - ii. Quality of local services

4. Member, Resident and Service Delivery Partner Satisfaction

- a. Member satisfaction with operation of Area Committee
- b. Resident satisfaction with committee outcomes
- c. Service Delivery Partner satisfaction with operation of Area Committee

5. Budget Management

- a. Percentage of budget allocated proactively to Committee priorities
- b. Performance monitoring of SIB/SIP grants
- c. Leverage achieved by use of Area Budgets

6. Operation of Meetings

- a. Attendance Levels
 - i. Members
 - ii. Public
 - iii. Service Delivery Partners
- b. Percentage of agenda time spent on
 - i. Performance Monitoring
 - ii. Problem solving
 - iii. Area service review
 - iv. Area circumstance review

**WASHINGTON AREA COMMITTEE MEETING
5th November 2009**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I

Title of Report:

Financial Statements and Funding Request

Author(s):

Office of the Chief Executive

Purpose of Report:

This report requests Area Committee consideration of a proposal for the allocation of Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) and Community Chest to support initiatives that will benefit the area.

Description of Decision:

The Committee is requested to approve the following from the 2009/10 budget:

- i) approve the 15 proposals for support from the 2009/10 Community Chest as detailed in Annex 1
- ii) approve £11,880 from the 2009/10 SIB budget and a further £11,880 from the 2010/11 SIB budget, subject to Washington Area Committee approving second year of funding in 2010/2011, for Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue to deliver the Phoenix Project.
- iii) approve £2,445 from the 2009/10 Washington West SIP allocation for Sunderland City Council to deliver a drop kerbed scheme at Blue House Lane

Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework? Yes

Suggested reason(s) for Decision:

The Community Chest forms part of the Strategic Initiatives Budget and that £250,000 is available for the scheme in 2009/2010, £10,000 for each Ward. This scheme is operated under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

SIP was approved at Cabinet in March 2008. Included within the plan was an additional one-off allocation of £1.426m to Area Committees. The amount allocated to each Area Committee was the same as SIB allocation for 2008-09. SIP can only be used to deliver capital projects, deliver key priorities identified in the LAP with its main purpose to attract other funding into the area.

Alternative options to be considered and recommended to be rejected:

The circumstances are such that there are no realistic alternatives that could be considered.

Is this a “Key Decision” as defined in the Constitution?

No

Relevant Review Committee:

**Regeneration Review Committee
Management Scrutiny Committee**

Is it included in the Forward Plan?

No

Washington Area Committee

5th November 2009

Report of Chief Executive

Financial Statements and Funding Request

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 This report outlines current expenditure from the Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB), Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) and Community Chest and applications for funding from these budgets in order to support new initiatives, which will benefit the area and the delivery of the Local Area Plans.

2.0 Description of Decision (Recommendation)

2.1 The Committee is requested to approve:

- Annex 1: 15 proposals for support from the 2009/10 Community Chest ;
- Annex 2: One proposal from the 2009/10 SIB budget of £11,880 and a further £11,880 from the 2010/11 SIB budget, subject to Washington Area Committee approving second year of funding in 2010/2011, for Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue to deliver the Phoenix Project.
- Annex 3: One proposal from the 2009/10 SIP totalling £2,445 from Sunderland City Council for the Blue House Lane drop kerbed scheme.

2.2 Note the financial statement for Area Committee funding for 2009/10 in Annex 4.

2.3 Note the live update report on the eleven projects that are still operating and receiving SIB funding, totally £192,599, attached as Annex 5.

3.0 Background

3.1 The Council has reduced the amount of Regeneration Framework across the City from six to five. This has resulted in a new calculation of SIB funding to be awarded to the Washington Area Committee of £287,261 to be allocated up until March 2010. All allocations of funding should be matched against the criteria outlined in delivering the key priorities of the area, identified within the Local Area Plan (LAP). It is recognised however that Committee are willing to consider applications seeking funding if there have clear benefit for residents in Washington which may not be outlined in the LAP.

3.2 SIP was approved at Cabinet in March 2008. Included within the plan was an additional one-off allocation of £1.426m to Area Committees. The amount allocated to each Area Committee was the same as SIB allocation for 2008-09. This equates to £262,461 for the Washington area. At a meeting in July 2009 the Committee agreed to split the funds across the five wards of Washington Central, East, North, South and West. With local Councillors and service delivers being responsible and accountable for its expenditure against the LAP priorities, with proposed projects being presented to Area Committee for final endorsement. This funding is available until March 2011.

3.3 The Committee will be aware that the Community Chest forms part of the Strategic Initiatives Budget and that £250,000 is available for the scheme in 2009/2010, £10,000 for each Ward, plus any unclaimed allocations identified from previous years. This scheme is operated under Section 137 of the Local Government Act.

4.0 Current Position SIB

- 4.1 Following the 10 September 2009 Committee meeting, a balance of £278,495 remaining to be allocated from 2009/10 years budget.
- 4.2 Since the meeting, one SIB full application has been received seeking approval from the 2009/10 SIB budget of £11,880 and a further £11,880 from the 2010/11 SIB budget.
- 4.3 If Members agreed the application, this will leave a balance of £266,615 for the remainder of 2009/10 financial year, with a possible commitment of £11,880 from 2010/11, subject to Washington Area Committee approval in the new municipal year.

5. Current position SIP

- 5.1 Following the 10 September 2009 Committee meeting, a balance of £49,492 remained to be allocated from each ward up until March 2011.
- 5.2 There is one SIP application for funding to this Committee requesting £2,445 from the Washington West Ward from the 2009/10 budget. Should the Committee approve the funding request this will leave a balance for Washington West of £47,047, with the remaining four wards having a balance of £49,492 per ward. Overall area SIP budget would be £245,015 across Washington to allocate.

6 Current Position Community Chest

- 6.2 To date approvals for each Washington Ward total:

Central	£3933
East	£3234
North	£4434
South	£4034
West	£4167

- 6.2 The projects listed on Annex 1 total:

Central	£1600
East	£250
North	£2850
South	£2250
West	£1180

- 6.3 Should the Committee grant the requests listed on Annex 1 the remaining balances, including £2380 the unclaimed allocations identifies from previous years, would be:

Central	£5163
East	£9659
North	£3594
South	£6168
West	£6607

7.0 Reasons for the Decision

7.1 SIB and SIP was established to promote action on key priorities identified in the relevant Local Area Plan, and to attract other funding into the area. Applications for SIB/SIP funding should demonstrate the potential benefits to local communities the proposed project would bring, and subsequently be able to provide evidence and statistics that can illustrate these benefits.

7.2 Community Chest support is given to projects which clearly demonstrate that they will address identified local needs, provide genuine community benefit and which can subsequently provide evidence/measurement of success in this respect.

8.0 Alternative Options

8.1 Each project is required to indicate what alternative options they have considered during the application business process.

9.0 Relevant Consultations

9.1 Financial Implications

The Director of Financial Resources has been consulted on this report, all costs associated with developing SIB, SIP and Community Chest applications.

9.2 Implications for Other Services

Each project is required to indicate what implications there may be for other services in the application business process.

9.3 The Public

Each project is required to indicate what consultation it has undertaken and other documentary evidence it has to support its proposal in during the application business process. Residents have been consulted about the priorities in the Local Area Plans and bids support these identified priorities.

9.4 The Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 and the Councils Race Equality Scheme.

Each project is required to indicate whether it has an equal opportunities policy, or what measures it employs to address equal opportunity issues, during the application business process.

9.5 Public Relations and Publicity

Each project is required to indicate how it will promote funding awarded from Area Committee.

9.6 Councillors

Members have been consulted on all applications for SIB, SIP and Community Chest support and the implementation of the review.

10.0 List of Appendices

- Annex 1 Community Chest: Proposed projects for approval
- Annex 2 SIB: Proposed project for approval
- Annex 3 SIP: Proposed project for approval
- Annex 4 Financial Statement
- Annex 5 Live Update Report

11.0 Background Papers

11.1 The following background papers were used:

- Community Chest Application Forms
- Schedule of projects circulated at the panel meeting held on 21st October, 2009.
- Reports to previous Area Committees
- Washington Local Area Plan

12.0 Contact Officer: Nicol Trueman, Area Officer for Sunderland East and Washington
Tel: 0191 5611162 e-mail: Nicol.trueman@sunderland.gov.uk

COMMUNITY CHEST 2009/2010

PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR APPROVAL

	Recommended Grant subject to final estimates, invoices, up to
WASHINGTON CENTRAL WARD	
Washington Victoria F.C. – Purchase of strips and equipment.	300
Washington of the Third Age – Contribution towards ten year anniversary, trips, celebration dinner etc.,	250
Lambton Community Centre – Contribution towards decoration costs.	1000
Sunderland Carers Centre – Contribution towards irish country dancing classes, tuition fees, room hire etc.,	50
Total	1600
WASHINGTON EAST WARD	
Washington of the Third Age – Contribution towards ten year anniversary, trips, celebration dinner etc.,	250
Total	250
WASHINGTON NORTH WARD	
Washington of the Third Age – Contribution towards ten year anniversary, trips, celebration dinner etc.,	250
Usworth & District WMC Club – Contribution towards social event for elderly members.	1500
Retired Members Christmas Tea – Contribution towards social events, entertainment, refreshments etc.,	1000
Usworth Colliery Primary School – Contribution towards 'Christmas Tea' for the residents of Roseberry Court and grandparents.	100
Total	2850
WASHINGTON SOUTH WARD	
Washington of the Third Age – Contribution towards ten year anniversary, trips, celebration dinner etc.,	250

Lambton Community Centre – Contribution towards decoration costs. 1000

Oxclose Community School – Contribution towards start up costs for pilot scheme. 1000

Total 2250

WASHINGTON WEST WARD

Washington of the Third Age – Contribution towards ten year anniversary, trips, celebration dinner etc., 250

Blackfell Village Senior Citizens – Contribution towards Christmas party. 600

Springwell Village Hall – Contribution towards Christmas event. 330

Total 1180

Total of Projects 8130

Annex 2: SIB Application summary

Name of Project	Sunderland Phoenix Project
Lead Organisation	Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service

Total Cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total SIB Requested
£84,858	nil	£11,880 from 2009-10 £11,880 from 2010-11
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
Two years	April 2010	March 2012

The Project

Aimed at young offenders or young people at risk of offending (aged 11-17), the project will deliver 9 two day Respect Level 2 courses and 6 three day Advanced Level 3 courses per annum.

The original Phoenix course (Level 1) is a four day course which encourages discipline, self discipline, confidence, self esteem, leadership, communication, team work, practical skills and knowledge by engaging in training and activities based on fire fighting skills and practical procedures, Anti Social Behaviour (ASB), hoax calls, fire safety in the home, driving standards and knife crime are also included in the course. Students are motivated, confident and enthusiastic following the completion of the Phoenix project. Funding is secured to continue this element of Phoenix.

The Respect course (L2) is a two day follow up course solely for students who have completed the original Phoenix (L1) and have not offended, have maintained behaviour levels, both at school and at home for a minimum period of three months. The course delivers more advanced activities and practical tasks based on fire fighting skills, such as working with ladders and fire extinguisher training. The purpose of offering this course is to encourage and motivate the students to achieve the above criteria to attend.

The Advanced course (L3) is four days and is the third course in the “package” for students who have completed the first two courses and have not offended and maintained behaviour levels for a further six months following the Respect course. The first day of the course recaps on activities from the first two courses with day two and three being spent at an outdoor activity centre with an overnight stay. Teambuilding, leadership, communications skills, confidence building and motivation are the main purpose of the challenges and activities, which include mid ropes course, high walk, assault course, zip wire, night line tunnels and many others.

The Need for the Project

Sunderland Youth Offending Services have stated that if a young person desists from offending for a period of 12 months they are unlikely to return to offending behaviour and “adopt a preference” to not offend. The progression route is clearly identified from L1 to L3, and a recently evaluation compared students who were told about the Respect course and those who were not, 85% of those young people given the incentive did not offend.

Consultation has taken place between Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Officers and all five Area Committee between July and September 2009.

The Outputs for the Project

Output Code	Description	Target 2009/10	Target 2010/11	Target 2011/12
L7	Number of additional youth sessions (courses) been delivered		15	15

Annex 2: SIB Application summary

L8	Number of additional young people engaged in youth provision		150	150
S5	Number of young people benefiting from youth inclusion projects		150	150
S6	Number of additional young people engaged in youth activities		150	150

NB:- figures are based on 10 young people per course and will be aligned to their area via postcode to assist in claiming expenditure from the appropriate area budget.

The key milestones for the Project

Forecast Dates	Milestones and Key Events
Y1 Q1: April-June 2010	Deliver: 2 Respect + 2 Advanced
Y1 Q2: July-September 2010	3 Respect + 2 Advanced
Y1 Q3: October-December 2010	2 Respect + 1 Advanced
Y1 Q4: January-March 2011	2 Respect + 1 Advanced
Y2 Q1: April-June 2011	Deliver: 2 Respect + 2 Advanced
Y2 Q2: July-September 2011	3 Respect + 2 Advanced
Y2 Q3: October-December 2011	2 Respect + 1 Advanced
Y2 Q4: January - March 2012	2 Respect + 1 Advanced

Costs:

Area	% of costs	SIB requested 2009/10	SIB requested 2010/11
East	17	£7,213	£7,213
West	21	£8,910	£8,910
North	18	£7,637	£7,637
Washington	28	£11,880	£11,880
Coalfield	16	£6,789	£6,789
Total	100	£42,429	£42,429

NB: costs were calculated by analysing the % of young people who attended the courses over the last three years and which areas of the City they resided in. The information has assisted in forecasting the future delivery costs against the project.

Breakdown

	Respect course (L2)	Advance course (L3)	
Instructors	£1,018	£2,036	
Management, admin	£62	£62	
Capital overheads	£165	£331	
Premises overheads	£180	£360	
Appliance	£160	£320	
Transport	£138	£138	
Catering	£60	£120	
Climbing wall	£130		
Training centre exercises		£85	
Seamanship centre	£500		
Total	£2,413 x 18 over a two year period = £43,434	£3,452 x 12 over a two year period = £41,424	Grand total across the City £84,858

Annex 2: SIB Application summary

Feedback from consultation:

- Improve communication methods, for example, looking at how the messages of positive engagement with young people and associated messages of community safety; cost to the relevant agencies and how the project benefits the wider community, etc. Not just seen as a reward for perceived 'bad behaviour' by young people. This could provide a powerful message to the wider community, and make a positive impact on community cohesion.
- Revenue only application, which could become a recurring cost rather than a one-off cost.

Recommendation: Approve

- Previously to this meeting all five Area Committees agreed that an application proposal be developed and presented to a future meetings for consideration of allocating SIB over a two year period.
- TWFRS are represented at Area Committee by the relevant Station Manager for the area and will be able to supply reports upon request.
- The aims and objectives stated meet the strategic objectives within the Safe theme in all five areas of the City. The information provided also outlines strong links between the project aims and the strategic outcomes.
- The outputs are clear and will support delivery of priorities in all five areas.
- TWFRS have experience of managing funding and projects, in addition, finance management systems, recording and monitoring procedures and a Phoenix Manager who will be responsible for returning quarterly monitoring forms with details of project delivery, outputs and expenditure.
- There are no legal or other approvals required and no identified risks/uncertainties to resolve.
- There are no implications for Council services arising from this project.
- Milestones are clear and appear to be realistic.

Annex 3: SIP Application summary

Name of Project	Blue House Lane Dropped Kerbs
Lead Organisation	Sunderland City Council

Total Cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total SIB Requested
£2,445	nil	£2,445
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
4 weeks	2009/10	2009/10

The Project

The project involves the installation of 4 no. dropped kerbs and associated footways constructed in tarmac, which will be used by the older residents of 21 – 40 Blue House Lane to gain access from an existing footway to the carriageway over a grassed verge. The dropped kerbs and footways will be located on the grassed verge between the numbers of 37 & 36, 33 & 32, 29 & 28 and 25 & 24 Blue House Lane.

The Need for the Project

The Traffic and Road Safety Section and the local Councillors for the area have received a number of requests for service from the residents of 21 – 40 Blue House Lane. They have had problems accessing waiting ambulances and other vehicles, more so during spells of wet weather and during winter months. Through these requests for service, the residents of 21 – 40 Blue House Lane have repeatedly requested the provision of footway access over a grassed verge to gain access over a potentially hazardous area during wet periods of weather. By constructing these accesses, this hazard will be removed.

The Outputs for the Project

Output Code	Description	Target 2009/10
A1	Improved facilities	4

The key milestones for the Project

Milestones and Key Events	Forecast Dates
Authorisation of Funds	Nov 2009
Construction of works	Feb 2009

Costs:

Item and Description	Total Costs	SIP Contribution
Construction of Dropped Kerbs and Footways	£2,445.00	£2,445.00

Recommendation: Approve

- Strategic fit into the Local Area Plan of Attractive and Inclusive, regarding improving accessibility to housing.
- By introducing dropped kerbs to the street it will improve the service delivery and promote independent living for the residents of 21-40 Blue House Lane.
- Previously discussed at a SIP panel meeting, with local Councillors proposing the project to Area Committee to seek endorsement of the project.
- There are no implications for Council services arising from this project, but sponsorship from a Directorate is required.
- City Services have agreed to any long term general maintenance of the project, as this will be covered in the mainstream core budget.
- There are no legal or other approvals required and no identified risks/uncertainties to resolve.

Annex 4: SIB: Washington SIB Statement 5th November 2009

Transactions	Approval	SIB Allocation	Approvals	Balance
Budget Allocation for 2009/2010				£298,705
Washington Victim Support - Year 2	01.10.08	£19,910	£19,910	£278,795
Balance		£267,351	£19,910	£278,795

SIP: Washington Statement 5th November 2009

2009/2010 Approvals	Approval Date	SIP Allocation	Approvals	Balance
Budget Allocation for 2009/2010				
Central Ward		£52,492		
Wheeled Skate Park	10.09.09		£3,000	£49,492
East Ward		£52,492		
Wheeled Skate Park	10.09.09		£3,000	£49,492
North Ward		£52,492		
Wheeled Skate Park	10.09.09		£3,000	£49,492
South Ward		£52,492		
Wheeled Skate Park	10.09.09		£3,000	£49,492
West Ward		£52,492		
Wheeled Skate Park	10.09.09		£3,000	£49,492
Balance		£262,460	£15,000	£247,460

* Agreed to split evenly across all five wards

Community Chest: Washington Statement 5th November 2009 (figures to update)

2009/2010 Approvals	Community Chest Allocation 2009/2010	Unclaimed/ Uncommitted Community Chest	Approvals	Balance
Budget Allocation for 2009/2010				
Central	£10,000	£220	£3,933	£6,287
East	£10,000	£2,667	£3,234	£9,433
North	£10,000	£878	£4,434	£6,444
South	£10,000	£1,500	£4,034	£7,466
West	£10,000	£1,478	£4,167	£7,311
Total	£50,000	£6,743	£19,802	£36,941

Annex 5 - Strategic Initiatives Budget: Washington Live Project Update
5th November 2009

Project One	Approval	Exp. End date	Alloc. £k	Exp. to date	Balance £k
Community R Us	28.11.07	Nov-09	20.488	17.347	3.141
<p>This quarter the project have continued to provide various activities for its members. The Dance Club have been working hard towards new routines for their performances and have also created and designed their own t-shirts and costumes. The Youth Club are currently involved in a small gardening project where they are planting seeds to grow their own fruit, vegetables and flowers. It is hoped this will help the young people involved to adopt a more healthier lifestyle. The Thursday Youth Group have also been involved in fundraising where they organised a 'Tea Party' to raise money for the 'Marie Currie Foundation' which was really successful and raised alot of money for the charity. No monitoring information received recently and still awaiting to hear from group.</p>					
Project Two	Approval	Exp. End date	Alloc. £k	Exp. to date	Balance £k
Youth Arts Action Research	06.02.08	Feb-10	13	0.250	12.75
<p>The project is continuing to engage with young people in the Washington area through creative consultation by providing a range of arts activities at venues around Washington. The project has had such a positive response that they have had to increase the current sessions on offer. To date 65 young people have signed up to the project. A new part of the project has been introduced called 'Mix Up' which will help kick-start a Youth Arts Programme at the Arts Centre that will eventually aim to do outreach work in the rest of the Washington area. A range of arts activities also took place over the summer school holidays, which included performances and screenings of a showcase of the work that the young people involved in the project had created. Risk of not claiming full costs.</p>					
Project Three	Approval	Exp. End date	Alloc. £k	Exp. to date	Balance £k
Washington Millennium Centre Youth Engagement project	09.04.08	Apr-10	16.720	6.081	10.639
<p>The Millennium Centre can often have 30 to 40 young people come in off the streets on an evening especially during the winter, from 4.00pm till 9.00pm and on Friday night up to 70+. SIB will be used to purchase some new equipment that will engage the young people like computer games and consoles, sports equipment etc, and to employ experienced youth workers who can work with the young people who use the centre. In addition the project will target young people in the Concord area who are on the fringe and at risk of offending or have already offended and are engaged with the Youth Offending Service. The project will also work in partnership with the Police and Gentoo to engage these young people and bring them into the centre to engage in constructive activities, challenging their behaviour and attitude to others. Currently there are between 15 - 45 young people accessing the facilities at the centre which include sporting activities, computer games and Football coaching by SAFC. QMR submitted late, after contacting the project to send the return in it hadn't been completed by the Lead Agent, recurring problem with this project.</p>					

Annex 5 - Strategic Initiatives Budget: Washington Live Project Update
5th November 2009

Project Four	Approval	Exp. End date	Alloc. £k	Exp. to date	Balance £k
Seated Exercise & Mature Moves	02.07.08	Jul-10	5	1.641	3.359
<p>The aim of the project is to improve the health and mobility of older people in the area through gentle seated exercise and mature moves, and thus help them to sustain independent living. Seated exercise can increase a person's stamina, balance, co-ordination, suppleness and flexibility. During this quarter 133 one to one sessions were delivered and 35 groups sessions were delivered in the Washington area.</p>					
Project Five	Approval	Exp. End date	Alloc. £k	Exp. to date	Balance £k
The Washingtonians	01.10.08	Oct-10	15.595	15.115	0.48
<p>SIB was approved to provide funding to purchase equipment and uniforms to progress the club which would allow them to promote the choice to Washington residents to become active in this fun family friendly past time. As the current venue where the meeting and practices are held is too small cost of room hire is also being sought through SIB. With larger premises the project will be able to provide a more focal point in the community and the means to continue to train new members. Cost to date have included uniforms, room hire, coach hire and the purchase of equipment. To date no QMR have been received or contact with group.</p>					
Project Six	Approval	Exp. End date	Alloc. £k	Exp. to date	Balance £k
Blackhams Hill Hauler House	26.11.08	Nov-10	20	0	20
<p>Blackham Hill Hauler House contains the winding engine which was installed in 1915 and was commissioned in 1950. Following the closure of the Railway in 1974, the engine has been lovingly preserved and is still in working condition to day. However due to emergency repairs now needed on the building the engine could be in danger of suffering irreversible damage should the building's stature be damaged further in coming months. SIB will fund a one off capital project to provide emergency repairs to the roof and the pointing of the building. If the work is not carried out the current damage to the roof will lead to rain water and weather elements damaging the machinery inside the building which is currently in pristine condition and one of the only working machines in the country if not the world. At present English Heritage have agreed to fund part of these emergency repairs, hopefully to the value of the £40k. Work has recently commenced on site on the 5.10.09 and is scheduled to be complete by December.</p>					

Annex 5 - Strategic Initiatives Budget: Washington Live Project Update
5th November 2009

Project Seven	Approval	Exp. End date	Alloc. £k	Exp. to date	Balance £k
Washington School Centenary Celebration Project	04.02.09	Feb-11	16	0	16
<p>Year Seven pupils will be involved in a cross-curricular project that draws together ideas and projects based around the school and its community heritage over the last 100 years. The rest of the school and members of its community will then join in a raft of activities allied to recognising and celebrating the centenary. Initial research and development will be based around technology heritage, local natural resources, culture, food and fashion. This will incorporate working alongside staff from Tyne and Wear Museums and the Washington Local History Society. Creative Textiles Projects based around the understanding of local history and their depiction in banners with the textile Artist Barbara Reed will also take place, which will also link with the Washington 'F' Pit banner and the potential for the school to house the banner, in addition to working closely with the F-Pit Banner Community Group. Late in returning monitoring information, still outstanding.</p>					
Project Eight	Approval	Exp. End date	Alloc. £k	Exp. to date	Balance £k
Community E Hub - Washington Millennium Centre	04.02.09	Feb-11	30	0	30
<p>This project is a one off capital investment that is aligned to digital challenge, strengthening the IT infrastructure of Washington and supporting community e-champions, community empowerment agenda, community leadership, area forums, access to services and those at risk of exclusion. SIB will be used as a contribution towards the purchase of wireless laptops, software, printers and scanners so that groups can produce their own newsletters and posters, residents will be able to access the internet and pay bills, order goods and services etc thus bringing them the same level of access that residents with home broadband have. This will be the first community wireless hub in Washington and potentially the first in Sunderland. It will extend and enhance the City's E reputation and supports the governments agenda to empower and engage residents in decision making and service delivery. QMR submitted late, after contacting the project to send the return in it hadn't been completed by the Lead Agent, recurring problem with this project.</p>					

Annex 5 - Strategic Initiatives Budget: Washington Live Project Update
5th November 2009

Project Nine	Approval	Exp. End date	Alloc. £k	Exp. to date	Balance £k
Community Access Point - Springwell Village Hall	04.02.09	Feb-11	15.886	12.891	2.995
<p>SIB funding has been sought for refurbishment costs and to purchase equipment which will enable the Community Association to enhance their current facilities and incorporate innovative training suites and conference facilities. The new and updated conference facilities will raise the profile of the C.A. and establish a sense of ownership within the community, current users, community groups, youth groups and the general public. The facility will attract new opportunities for hire to training providers, colleges, organisations, community groups, businesses and the general public. The work at the CA is progressing well and is nearing completion. Expenditure to date has included the purchase of equipment, blinds, a projector, worktops, new doors, flooring and chairs.</p>					
Project Ten	Approval	Exp. End date	Alloc. £k	Exp. to date	Balance £k
Washington Miners Memorial	04.02.09	Feb-11	20	12.891	7.109
<p>SIB funding has been sought to allow the project the opportunity to work with local people, pupils from Washington School, groups and the council to design and install a Miners Memorial for Washington to celebrate the heritage of Washington. Two possible sites for the project have been identified. One being an area of open space at Concord Bus Station and the second site at the new Washington School. A meeting was held on 12th October where a talk was given on Sculptures and the work was discussed at length. It was agreed that four Artists would be invited to submit drawings for the Memorial by the beginning of December. At the next project meeting in December the drawings will be discussed and a sculpture agreed on. It is hoped that the Memorial will be in place by July 2010. The project are also currently pulling together an application for further funding from the D.M.A Coalborad Regeneration Trust.</p>					

Annex 5 - Strategic Initiatives Budget: Washington Live Project Update
5th November 2009

Project Eleven	Approval	Exp. End date	Alloc. £k	Exp. to date	Balance £k
Washington Victim Support	01.10.08	Oct-10	19.910	9.414	10.496
<p>SIB funding to enable us to employ a full-time Victim Support Outreach worker to work proactively in the target areas of Washington. Northumbria Police provide Victim Support with details of crime victims on a daily basis which allows the project to identify key areas of need as well as individuals who need support. Partner agencies will also be able to refer victims to us and we will be encouraging victims to self refer. From July to September 217 clients were contacted and 85 have taken up the services offered by project. The Outreach Worker has processed 12 Criminal Injuries Compensation Applications and have been successful in securing £24,000 for the clients involved. The Outreach Worker has also completed an alcohol brief intervention, accreditation supplied through NECA and the NHS. Victim Support has also secured further funding to provide staff with training on anti-social behaviour. This is due to take place shortly and will provide an enhanced service to victims of anti-social behaviour.</p>					
Totals			192.599	75.630	116.969

Washington Area Committee

5th November 2009

Report of the Chief Executive

Review of the Local Area Plans (LAP)

1. Why has it come to Committee?

1.1 To provide Area Committee with details of the review of the Local Area Plan.

2. Background

2.1 Following the extensive programme of consultation with members, partners, community stakeholders and the wider community, the Washington Local Area Plan (LAP) was approved by Cabinet in July 2009.

2.2 The Washington Area Committee established a Local Area Work Plan in July 2009 to implement the LAP's priorities that had been developed by the Committee and its partners.

2.3 A review of the LAP is included within the new Area Committee governance proposals adopted in May 2009 with the process culminating in the Annual Report in April 2010 and the adoption of a refreshed LAP, priorities and Work Plan in June 2010. This review will be carried out annually with a full public consultation undertaken every three years.

3. LAP Review; process and principles

3.1 The LAP should be seen as a statement, published at the beginning of each municipal year. The statement should act as a focal point for residents to gain an understanding on what public services and what agencies are delivering in their neighbourhood/area over the next 12 months (May-April), indicating: key facts; what local residents have told us; intervention improvements and current initiatives

3.2 Information is gathered annually, from a variety of different sources between November and February, including from:

- Councillors;
- Partners' delivery plans;
- Directorates' delivery plans;
- Community Spirit and Citizen Panels;
- Sunderland Community Network;
- Place Survey;
- IMD statistics;
- Cabinet, LSP and Scrutiny work plans.

3.3 An end of year report will be produced in April, outlining how improvements and initiatives brought value and benefit to an Area, and what lessons have been learnt and shared. This information is shared with LSP, Scrutiny and Cabinet to influence future ways of working and ensure city wide projects are aware of what is happening at an area level and that area concerns feed into city wide initiatives

3.4 The review, as well as being about developing, implementing and monitoring the effectiveness of the LAP, is also concerned to ensure that the infrastructure supporting the

process and people is strong and adequate enough to cope with the demands of the area arrangements. This will be achieved by Self Assessments and Members' Surveys being completed and analysed, ensuring that all councillors and partners have an opportunity to influence and shape the Sunderland Way of Working.

4. Recommendation

4.1 To note the review and to take part in the self assessments and members' surveys

5. Background papers

- Area Workshop papers
- Local Area Plans

6. Contact Officer: Nicol Trueman, Area Officer for Washington and Sunderland East
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REPORT TO WASHINGTON AREA COMMITTEE - 5 NOVEMBER 2009

MEMBERS VISIT TO WASHINGTON MULTI PURPOSE CENTRE

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, HEALTH, HOUSING AND ADULT SERVICES

1. Why has the report come to the Committee

- 1.1 Washington Area Committee Members expressed the wish to visit the Washington Multi Purpose Centre to understand the current range of facilities and services and to meet with service users and carers.

2. Background - The Visit

- 2.1 Members visited the centre on 4 September 2009 and were given a presentation by the General Manager and Centre Manager, assisted by the Head of Service, on the services currently available within the centre and on how staff support people to access community based activities individually and in small groups. The presentation also outlined the common themes in the Government White Paper 'Valuing People Now' which outlines the direction of travel for services for people with Learning Disability.
- 2.2 Members were shown round the building visiting each room in turn and speaking to members of staff and service users, Members spent a great deal of time getting to know the views of service users and understanding how the available services contributed to supporting people in their daily lives, meetings their aspirations and care needs.
- 2.3 Members were introduced to the Carers Group "In Touch" where the carers were able to express their view on how the Washington Multi Purpose Centre and other services provide support with their caring responsibilities. Carers were keen to seek reassurance from Members that the centre was not planned for closure. Members gave their full support to carers that the service had a long term future, although the style and delivery of the service may change in line with meeting individual aspirations and would include opportunities to pursue interests outside of the centre.
- 2.4 Carers specifically identified issues with the lack of an escort on some transport routes and also with the reduced nursing input from the PCT.
- 2.5 Managers have ensured that all arranged transport both directly provided and contract hire include an escort to ensure the safety of people during the journey.
- 2.6 The reduction in nursing support provided by the PCT was as a result of their difficulty to recruit to posts which were specifically attached to Day

Centres. The PCT is responding to the gap in service and is to use Peripatetic Nursing Services linked to the District Nursing Services which can be called upon when needed. Specific medical advice and training has been given to centre staff to ensure a good understanding of individual medical conditions and how they should be managed on a daily basis. The nursing situation will be kept under review.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1 At the end of the visit Members expressed their appreciation to service users, carers, staff and management for organising an interesting and informative visit.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 Members note the report for information.