

10th December 2015

REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE PEOPLE BOARD

People Board Progress Report

1 Purpose of Report

1.1 To provide an update of progress against the current year’s (2015/16) People Board Work Plan.

2. Background

2.1 Earlier this year the Local Area Plan’s priorities associated with People were referred to the Washington People Board to action on behalf of the Area Committee. The People Board continue to initiate action on those priorities and **Item 3 Annex 1** outlines progress to date.

3 Area Governance Arrangements

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

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

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

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

Ward	People Board Membership
Chair	Cllr Louise Farthing
Washington Central	Cllr Dianne Snowdon
Washington East	Cllr David Snowdon
Washington North	Cllr Jill Fletcher
Washington South	Cllr Graeme Miller
Washington West	Cllr Dorothy Trueman

4. Key Areas of Influence/Achievements up to 30th November 2015

4.1 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of influence / achievements of the Washington People Board up to 30th November 2015.

Action Taken	Outcome
Local priority: Health and Well Being	
Develop a strategic approach to health and well-being through a partnership approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Washington Strategic Partners Health Group has been established. This group will lead on developing a focus on the impact on families of young people who self-harm, and proposals for an ‘Out of hospital’ Befriending and Support Project for older people. Area Committee is also requested to identify any other relevant issues this group could address. • The group has proposed the following work and activity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further work to determine a focus for joint working, to identify key areas of need • Deliver an event with relevant partners, including VCS organisations to develop collaborative approach.

Holiday Hunger	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A detailed evaluation of the pilot scheme was undertaken and shared with the People Board. The evaluation calculated the level of take up, and need for this/or similar type of scheme in the future. • The board was asked to note that it would not be appropriate to repeat the scheme in this form due to the low numbers accessing the scheme but to use the learning to tie into other opportunities to access appropriate support. • Unspent SIB has been returned to the budget
Local priority: Employment, enterprise and lifelong learning	
Employability Support Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The People Board requests the Area Committee to align SIB 2015/16 funding to deliver a Washington Skills Conference/Work Discovery Event in early 2016. • Building on last year's Washington Working 4U Conference, the Board is suggesting a bigger event with Washington Secondary Schools and local businesses/companies. • Area Committee will be requested to support the People Board's recommendation and align £15,000 under Item 5 Finance Report
Financial Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following the People Board's recommendation and Area Committee's approval to align SIB funding at the October meeting, work has commenced to draft proposals to develop a local approach to improve the resilience of families most in need, through the provision of co-ordinated services focusing upon increasing financial capability, improving health and well-being and enhancing community self-help support systems. The project will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Be based on robust evidence and identified need, and will provide local financial inclusion and support services for Washington residents ○ Provide information, advice and guidance to support Washington residents to access financial inclusion services, debt advice, and relevant support services.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 Members are requested to consider the progress with regard to the Washington People Board's Work Plan for 2015/16 as detailed in **Annex 1** and the report above.
- 4.2 Members are requested to support the People Board's recommendation to approve the Project Brief and Call for Projects for the 'Home from Hospital' Small Grants Scheme as detailed in **Annex 2**
- 4.3 Members are requested to support the People Board's recommendation to align SIB to develop a targeted approach to further develop community inclusion and support the for VCS as detailed in **Annex 3**
- 4.4 Members are requested to support the People Board's recommendation to align SIB to deliver a Washington Skills Conference/work Discovery Event as detailed in the report above.

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Annex 1 – People Work Plan 2015/16

Annex 2 - Home from Hospital Project Brief

Annex 3 - Community Inclusion and support for the VCS