

15<sup>th</sup> January 2014**REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE PLACE BOARD****Place Board Progress Report****1 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To provide an update of progress against the current year's (2013/14) Place Board Work Plan.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 Earlier this year the Local Area Plan's priorities associated with Place were referred to the West Place Board to action on behalf of the Area Committee. The Place Board continue to initiate action on those priorities and **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 Each ward will have one elected member representative, whose role will be to liaise with their ward colleagues in between meetings and feedback collective views into the Board meetings. Members will work alongside key officers in what will be practical action orientated groups. It should be noted that the Board is not a decision making body and the work / recommendations of the Board will be presented to the Area Committees for final endorsement. Elected member representation on the Place Board for this Area Committee is as follows:-

<b>Ward</b>	<b>Place Board Membership</b>
Chair	Cllr Lisa Smiles
Barnes	Cllr Michael Essl
Pallion	Cllr Amy Wilson
Sandhill	Cllr Debra Waller
Silksworth	Cllr Philip Tye
St Anne's	Cllr Thomas Wright
St Chad's	Cllr Darryl Dixon

**4. Key Areas of Influence/Achievements up to 31 December 2013**

- 4.1 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of influence / achievements of the West Place Board up to 31 December 2013.

<b>Action Taken</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
<b>Influence: Responsive Local Services Streetscene</b>	
<b>Hadleigh Road</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The majority of works are now complete, however additional works are being undertaken in Heath Square which were not identified in the original plan.</li> <li>The transfer of land has been completed with additional planning requested to install fencing within the properties.</li> </ul>

<b>Influence: Highways Capital Maintenance 2014/2015</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The board received information on the process for members to influence and prioritise the areas of capital maintenance works for 2014/2015, with 25% of the capital maintenance budget identified for influence.</li> <li>• Further information will be presented to the Place Boards in February identifying locations for consideration by members for inclusion in the capital maintenance programme. These areas have been identified from a number of sources including members, residents and Highways staff.</li> </ul>
<b>Influence: Public Protection and Regulatory Service (PPRS)</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Place Board was provided with information on the statutory services and functions within PPRS and how the board may influence each of the functions at a local level.</li> <li>• The board requested clarity on the process and communication of actions taken in response to reports of underage drinking and sales between the Council and partners. This was to ensure the appropriate action was taken and feedback and information provided to residents and members.</li> <li>• The board requested a report to a future board on plans for pest control fees for 2014/2015.</li> <li>• The board felt the presentation was very informative and should be offered as training to members who had not received the information via the boards.</li> <li>• The board suggested the service attended the Voluntary and Community Sector in the West to raise awareness of the services and how information can be shared to support service delivery.</li> </ul>
<b>Area Priority: Shopping Centres</b>	
<b>Business Support</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The board agreed to extend the remit of support to shopping centres to include offering business support to the traders.</li> <li>• Pallion shopping centre on St Lukes Terrace was identified as the location to commence the business support works.</li> <li>• A traders meeting was held at Pallion Action Group on 13<sup>th</sup> November to discuss the potential business support offer and which businesses would like to participate.</li> <li>• The traders are very engaged in the process and are coming together to address local issues.</li> </ul>
<b>Environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The redesign of the end bed at Thorndale Road identified through the Area Tour has been completed.</li> <li>• Painting works to lamp columns and road markings at St Lukes Terrace have been completed.</li> <li>• Barrier baskets and winter bedding has been installed on St Luke's Terrace.</li> </ul>
<b>Area Priority: Environment and Street Scene</b>	
<b>Safety Works</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the June 2013 Area Committee members agreed an</li> </ul>

	<p>award of £5000 SIB to support the delivery of an education programme across the West for years 6 and 8 at all the schools across the West.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The programme commenced in November 2013 with the majority of schools completing the Safety works visit by the end of December.</li> <li>• School visits will be scheduled from January onwards to reinforce the messages and learning at Safety Works and to engage children and young people to identify local improvements which they will help support.</li> <li>• The programme has been offered to youth groups throughout the West with the content of the programme to be amended to meet the need of a different audience.</li> </ul>
<b>Capital Projects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members participated in an area tour of the West during which potential capital projects were identified to deliver physical improvements to the area.</li> <li>• At the December Place Board members were presented with potential capital improvement projects for the West as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Improvements to the still born baby cemetery.</li> <li>- Improvements to footpaths in Bishopwearmouth cemetery.</li> <li>- Improvements to footpaths in Barnes extension.</li> <li>- Improvements to North View playing fields to support access to the fields and games.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Members recommended the alignment of SIP at the December Place Board to support the delivery of these improvement programmes.</li> </ul>
<b>Walk and Talk</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members participated in an Area Tour in September which visited locations including people and placed based issues.</li> <li>• The tour identified area and ward based improvements for both People and Place that could be completed to meet the priorities of the West area. Following the tour the Walk and Talk programme has been reinstated to incorporate People issues.</li> <li>• A report was presented to the Place Board in October and People Board in November summarising the opportunities for members to identify People and Place based issues and progress improvements on a ward and area basis.</li> <li>• Members at the People and Place board agreed a recommendation to align £48,000 (£8000 per ward) SIB funding to support the delivery of improvements identified as part of the tour and Walk and Talk programme, the detail of which is contained within the finance report.</li> </ul>
<b>Lakeside Parking</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the Place Board in October 2013 members received a report on the on- going issues with parking at the Lakeside Towers site.</li> <li>• Due to very limited parking, issues had escalated including ticketing of cars, obstructive/illegal parking, residents giving up tenancies and restricted access for emergency</li> </ul>

	<p>services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A proposal to create 18 additional parking spaces in the area was presented to the Place board. These spaces would be funded jointly by Gentoo and Area Committee (50/50) at a total cost of £21,200. Gentoo would be responsible for any on-going maintenance and there would be no grounds for future consideration of retrospective lighting being installed by the Council to the site.</li><li>• Members recommended the alignment of SIB funding to support the delivery of the parking scheme.</li></ul>
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## **5. Recommendations**

- 5.1 Members are requested to consider the progress and performance update with regard to the West Place Board Work Plan for 2013/2014.
- 5.2 Consider and agree the recommendation of the Place Board to extend the Walk and Talk programme to incorporate People and Place issues.
- 5.3 Agree the proposals and recommendations of the board regarding Public Protection and Regulatory services.

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