

21 June 2012

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Determining the Area Committee's Priorities for 2012/13

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To determine the Area Committee's key areas of priority for the year ahead, which will form the basis of the Committee's Local Area Plan for 2012/13.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 In 2011 the City Council agreed to refresh the Sunderland Strategy and identify ways in which to strengthen the strategy, both in its delivery and measurement of performance. One of the agreed improvements is the introduction of the City Council's Corporate Outcomes Framework. The Framework identifies how the City Council intends to support the delivery of the city outcomes and specifically focuses on the City Council's unique contribution to delivering those outcomes.
- 2.2 The review of the Local Area Plans and the Area Committees' priorities for 2012/13 is integral to ensuring the delivery of those outcomes at a local level.
- 2.3 At the workshop held in May 2012, Members of the Area Committee considered data relevant to the area circumstances in the context of those emerging Corporate Outcomes. Members also brought to the discussions their own unique understanding of their communities which focused around:-
- (a) Where the Area Committee could influence how services are delivered at a local level;
 - (b) How the Area Committee could impact upon the delivery of Corporate Outcomes at a local level; and
 - (c) To review the current activity delivered by the Area Committee and to determine whether it remained an area of priority to continue.
- 2.4 The priorities that began to emerge from the workshop were shared with residents at the State of the Area Debate and with Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) partners through the VCS network, the results of the consultation are outlined later within this report.

3.0 Emerging Priorities

- 3.1 **Annex 1** identifies the proposed Local Area Plan and Area Priorities for the Area Committee's consideration identifying where the Area Committee proposed it could both influence and have impact on and as such what its priorities for funding might be for the year ahead.

3.2 In summary, proposed priorities for 2012/13 are:-

- (1) Anti Social Behaviour
- (2) Job Prospects for Young People
- (3) Activities for Young People
- (4) Environment and Shopping Centre Improvements
- (5) Accessibility of services and facilities

4.0 Consultation Outcomes

4.1 At the State of the Area Debate on 28th May residents were asked to identify their main priorities for action in the forthcoming year, considering the emerging priorities or whether there were more important issues mattered to them at a local level. Additionally the VCS networks were asked for their views in helping the Area Committee to set their priorities for the coming year. The outcome of this consultation is provided as follows:-

4.2 Residents and local VCS organisations highlighted the same priorities as those identified above, with Anti Social Behaviour and Attractive and Cared for Environment being the most important.

4.3 The Area Committee is asked to note the information outlined in paragraph 4.2 and consider those issues raised, when determining the priorities for the year ahead and the Local Area Plan

5.0 Next steps

5.1 Following agreement of the priorities at tonight's meeting, the Area Committee will then be requested to determine the detail of the Local Area Plan's work plan for 2012/13. It is anticipated a further workshop will be held with all Members of the Committee to confirm activity and actions to be referred to the relevant Place and People Boards as part of the strengthened area governance arrangements. Area Committee will also consider whether the Committee wishes to ring fence funding to support agreed priorities, actions and activity.

6.0 Recommendations

5.1 The Committee is requested to:-

- (a) Consider the issues raised by residents at the State of the Area Debate and the VCS Network and agree the priorities for 2012/13 year ahead, which will form the basis of their Local Area Plan; and
- (b) Agree to hold a further workshop to determine the detailed North Area Committee LAP work plan for 2012/13, as referred to in paragraph 5.1 and evaluate the Area Debate.

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