

Washington Area Committee

1st July 2010.

Report of the Office of the Chief Executive

Community Action in Washington – Progress Review

1. Why has it come to Committee?

- 1.1. Washington Area Committee has agreed to focus its efforts where it can make a real difference and has identified 4 key priorities for 2010/11:
- Reducing Health Inequalities
 - Help local people access employment opportunities and improve the business offer in Washington
 - Address Anti Social Behaviour
 - Responsive Local Services

It has also recognised there will be the need to consider other cross cutting areas of work, e.g. equality and inclusion and child poverty, whilst delivering against the priorities.

- 1.2 Two 'Local Task and Finish Groups' have been established – one for Health Inequalities, and one for Employment and Business Support. With regards to Anti Social Behaviour, the focus of Area Committee work and the additionality they can bring will be taken forward through established structures such as the Local Multi Agency Problem Solving Group. Responsive Local Services will continue to present service performance for neighbourhood services to Area Committee.
- 1.3 Area Committee has requested the task groups and partners delivering against the key priorities, identify activity that addresses the issues raised, propose innovative programmes of work, and identify potential resource requirements where appropriate.
- 1.4 Annex 1 provides detail of issues previously identified through the 2009/10 Work Plan and Action Plans, and provides an update with regard to progress or completion. It also identifies any unresolved issues and actions and where Area Committee will consider an SIB or SIP funding application to address the issue or priority, or to facilitate a solution. Members are requested to consider those applications and refer to Annex 2b for details and summary.
- 1.5 Annex 2a includes Community Chest and SIB/SIP financial statement. Annex 2b provides a summary of spend, proposals received and balances for SIB, SIP and Community Chest. It also includes details of all applications received.

2. Performance Management

- 2.1 A number of sources have been utilised to evidence and identify the key issues and queries. Some of issues included in Annex 1 have been raised during the delivery of the 2009/10 Action Plans and Works Plan. Data sources include:

1. Safe Theme	Issues Log, Members queries, Local Multi Agency Problem Solving (LMAPS) Group, Northumbria Police Statistics, Safe Sunderland Partnership Local Confidence Survey
2. Learning Theme	Issues Log, Members queries, Hanlon Data, Tyne & Wear Research Institute, Connexions
3. Healthy Theme	Mosaic Data (Primary Care Trust), Director of Public Health Report, Ward Visits, Area Committee Issues Log, LMAPS, Index Multiple Deprivation
4. Attractive and Inclusive	Traffic Log, Members queries
5. Prosperous	Director of Public Health Report, Ward Visits, Area Committee Issues Log, Hanlon, Tyne & Wear Research Institute, Working Neighbourhoods Fund Data, Industrial Area Survey

3. Progress Report

3.1 Safe theme

Anti social behaviour (ASB), misuse of alcohol and disorder, and the development of a safe environment are identified as key issues to be addressed. Area Committee has requested LMAPS submit a funding application to the September meeting, to focus outreach work on ASB hotspots and the Community and Safer City Scrutiny Committee Policy Review on Alcohol and ASB will report to June Cabinet. The Area Committee will receive updates and information with regard to recommendations and three Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) funding bids have been submitted for approval to this meeting which address community safety.

3.2 Learning theme

The provision of youth and play services and facilities has previously been identified as an issue. Area Committee has been requested to fund a number of initiatives to bring additionality. Area Committee will receive updates and information where relevant. Members meet regularly to discuss local provision with the contracted provider. Business Transformation Programme (Service Assessment and Commissioning) reviews are underway re youth and play provision. Three Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) /Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB) funding proposals have been submitted for approval to this meeting which address provision of facilities and learning outcomes. A strategic review of apprenticeship opportunities is also underway. A Scrutiny report on Employment to be received to future Area Committee. One SIB funding bid has been submitted for approval to this meeting which addresses training for young people

3.3 Health theme

Tackling health inequalities is identified as one of the top priorities for the Area Committee. In order to address health inequalities at a local level a co-ordinated approach which addresses 'cross cutting' issues is required. Health & Well Being Scrutiny Policy Review on Tackling Health Inequalities will be presented to Cabinet June 2010. Area Committee is to receive updates and information with regard to recommendations and the Washington Health Inequalities Task and Finish Group will report to the September Area Committee with proposals for initiatives and

estimated budget requirements. Meanwhile two SIB proposals have been submitted for approval to this meeting which address emotional health and well being.

3.4 Attractive and Inclusive theme

A number of issues have been identified over the last 12 months and a range of mechanisms have been introduced to manage responses. Washington Members have raised a substantial number of queries with regard to 'neighbourhood vitality' issues, highways and community confidence. Six SIP proposals have been submitted for approval to this meeting which address developing a safe environment, making the neighbourhoods more attractive and accessible, and supporting heritage.

3.5 Prosperous theme

The development of the industrial areas, supporting local people into jobs and the development of new work space in Washington are three key priorities for Washington. The Employment and Business Support Task and Finish Group will report to the September Area Committee with proposals for initiatives and estimated budget requirements which address these issues. Meanwhile one SIP proposal has been submitted for approval to this meeting.

4. Financial Statement

- 4.1 A financial statement detailing all Community Chest, SIB, and SIP approvals up to April 2010 is attached as Annex 2a. There are five proposals for support from SIB, twelve proposals from SIP, and twenty three proposals for support from the 2010/11 Community Chest. Members are requested to approve funding for proposals as detailed in Annex 2b and to note balances remaining for the remainder of this financial year.

5. Recommendations/Options

5.1 Members are requested to:

1. Note the contents of the report and agree next steps and actions detailed in Annex 1
2. Agree recommendations for SIB, SIP and Community Chest funding applications as detailed in 4.1 above and in Annex 2b.
3. Agree to invite LMAPS to submit an application to a future Area Committee to deliver initiatives to address Anti Social Behaviour
4. Receive information and updates from Scrutiny Policy Reviews as detailed in Annex 1

6. Background papers

- 6.1 Annex 1: Community Action: Review Progress
- 6.2 Annex 2: Financial Statements and Funding Requests
- 6.3 Community Chest Application forms
- 6.4 Project applications considered at Panel Meeting 9th June 2010
- 6.5 Reports to previous committees
- 6.6 Washington Local Area Plan

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