

19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2011

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**COMMUNITY ACTION: REVIEWING PROGRESS AND AGREEING NEXT STEPS**

**CLEANER AND GREENER STREETS**

**1.0 Why has it come to Committee?**

1.1 The report provides an update of progress against agreed actions in the current year's (2011/12) Work Plan, see annex 1.

**2.0 Background**

2.1 Key service requests identified for the East area are: rubbish and litter lying around; refuse collection; noise pollution; graffiti; animal fouling; street lighting; road and pavement repairs and the lack of greenery in certain areas and better use of land. The aim of the priority is to improve the appearance of neighbourhoods. It was agreed to deliver a Walk and Talk programme, which discusses and finds ways of enhancing the environment within the neighbourhood, resulting in an improved quality of life for all residents.

2.2 This priority has an allocated budget of £36,000. There is no Task and Finish Group established for this priority, however elected members for each ward and the City Centre work closely with the Area Response Managers (ARMs) and Area Officer to deliver the programme.

**3.0 Walk and Talk Programme: Progress**

3.1 Since the last meeting twenty two walk and talk events have been scheduled up until the end of June 2012. Several were held during July and August, with attendance from elected members, residents, partners and officers of the authority. The most common issues raised so far relate to:

- Improving the appearance of commercial priorities in the neighbourhood and inconsiderate ways displaying of goods, i.e. advertising cars for sale on public footpaths.
- Road, barriers and paths repairs.
- Tidying up 'green' areas.

**4.0 Love Where You Live Campaign: New**

4.1 Love Where You Live is a new national campaign with the aim of inspiring everyone to think about their communities and take action to reduce litter in the locations where they live, the places they visit and the spaces that they use. It's about everyone taking responsibility – individuals, local authorities, government and multi-national companies to change the way people think and act about littering. We all love something about where we live and this campaign is about everyone working together to make change happen.

4.2 Love Where You Live has been developed in response to a need to have a single unified anti-littering approach and is designed to bring a sense of pride to communities and inspire individuals to come together to transform and maintain their local areas.

- 4.3 In response to this campaign the Response Local Services Team, Sunderland City Council, have co-ordinated a programme of activity during week commencing 19 September 2011, involving local businesses, partners and residents. Each ward (in addition to the City Centre), will have a local event delivered, for example, litter picks, installing dog bins, bulb planting, etc. A full programme will be promoted to encourage everyone to take responsibility for their own communities and join in with the campaign.
- 4.4 The campaign is a three year campaign and the ARMs are keen to listen to Committee's views on using the branding from this campaign to complement the walk and talk programme.

## **5.0 Diamond Jubilee Wood**

- 5.1 The Greenspace Topic Paper consultation identified a development opportunity at former Ryhope Colliery site, which is currently classified as open green space.
- 5.2 The Woodland Trust announced that they are looking for 60 landowners across the country to develop an exclusive Diamond Wood. Each wood would need to be 60 acres in size, with each acre representing a year of the Queen's reign. Currently the feasibility of Sunderland being able to develop a Diamond Wood is being considered in addition to potential site(s). An update report will be presented to Area Committee in November 2011.

## **6.0 Recommendation**

Committee are requested to:

- i. Note the updates for Cleaner and Greener priority.
- ii. Discuss and consider the benefits of both the walk and talk programme and the Love Where You Live campaign and how they can complement the work plan.

Contact Officers

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Annex 1:

Sunderland East Area Committee: Work Plan 2011-2012

19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2011

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**COMMUNITY ACTION: REVIEWING PROGRESS AND AGREEING NEXT STEPS**

**COASTAL PATH**

**1.0 Why has it come to Committee?**

1.1 The report provides an update of progress against agreed actions in the current year's (2011/12) Work Plan, see annex 1 on behalf of the Coastal Task and Finish Group.

**2.0 Background**

2.1 Marine Coastal Access Act will ensure, that by no later than 2015, a pedestrian coastal path will run from Seaton Carew to South Bents, into Ryhope and onto Hendon and Roker. Under the MACA Natural England is the lead with statutory implementation duties. To do so, Natural England is working in partnership with Durham, Hartlepool, Sunderland Councils and Durham Heritage Partnership Coast.

2.2 There is no budget allocated against this priority. The Committee have established a Task and Finish Group. The purpose of the Group is to consider how 'we' can connect the path to the community and vice versa.

**3.0 Progress**

3.1 Since the last meeting, a ground survey has been carried out with land owners to identify the route and associated boundaries. Members of the Task and Finish Group walked a section of the route from Hendon Grange to the City Centre. The proposed next steps are:

- Produce a draft mapped route of the English Coast Path.
- Consider whether the City Centre investment would stretch to the river water frontage.
- Produce an update on the area of land formerly known as the paper factory to the rear of Hendon Promenade.
- To consider the inclusion of renewing the River Wear Trail boards as part of the coast path.
- Bring suggestions forward of exploring 'better than basic' signage through Ryhope and Hendon, including added value/connections to heritage sites, services, transport, etc.
- Summary of Durham Heritage Partnership bid submitted to the Heritage Lottery to be shared with members of the Task and Finish Group.

**4.0 Recommendations**

Committee are requested to:

- i. Note the updates for the Coastal Path priority.

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Annex 1: Sunderland East Area Committee: Work Plan 2011-2012

**19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2011**

**REPORT OF THE CITY SERVICES**

**COMMUNITY ACTION: REVIEWING PROGRESS AND AGREEING NEXT STEPS**

**EMPLOYMENT, ENTERPRISE AND WELFARE RIGHTS**

**1.0 Why has it come to Committee?**

1.1 The report provides an update of progress against agreed actions in the current year's (2011/12) Work Plan, see annex 1.

**2.0 Background**

2.1 Sunderland East Area Committee's work plan includes an action in relation to access to employment, enterprise and welfare rights, the aim being to increase employment and enterprise opportunity within the East area.

2.2 It was agreed to embark on a short programme of Committee updates and discussions over the year to allow Committee members to receive information and influence developments at key points within the service improvement activity.

2.3 It was further agreed to present an update report to Area Committee meeting outlining progress to date and the results of the ongoing consultation activity, please see below for a synopsis.

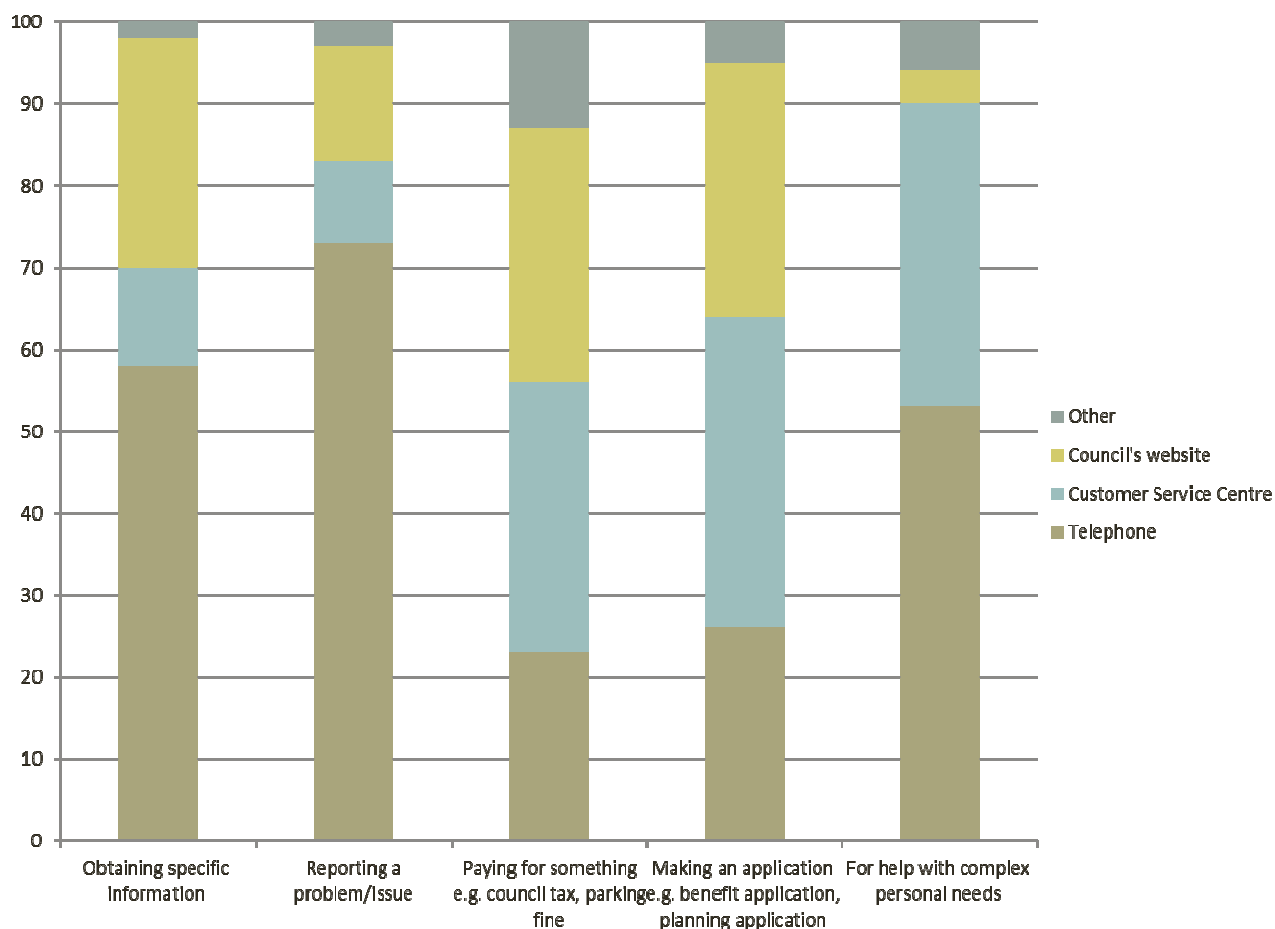
**3.0 Community Spirit Summer Survey 2011**

3.1 A detailed consultation has been undertaken via Community Spirit Summer Survey 2011 to understand the needs, preferences and expectations of our customers and their ability to access services through different channels. Customers include residents, service users, businesses, visitors, partner organisations, employees, elected members, voluntary and community groups etc.

3.2 The consultation included a total of 9 discussion groups, visits to each of the Area Committees and an extensive online and paper-based questionnaire with over 1,100 responses received. The preliminary results are currently being analysed with the final report expected imminently. This will give a breakdown of the City on an Area basis.

3.3 Whilst the results are preliminary, the following chart shows customers preferred methods of contact, which do vary for different situations but clearly show that whilst face to face and telephony channels remain important methods of access for many, a growing number of customers now rate the Council's web-site as a significant channel for accessing services.

## What would be your preferred method of contact for these situations...



3.4 In terms of helping customers to access services via the web, 50% of all customers surveyed said it would be useful to have self service zones in public offices such as Customer Service Centres / Libraries / Community and Voluntary Sector premises and 57% said it would be useful to have staff on hand to show customers how to access services via the web.

3.5 The overwhelming message from the consultation to date is that we must ensure that ALL channels are designed appropriately to support the delivery of high quality and consistent services and work with partners and the community and voluntary sector to ensure accessibility for all and meet the growing demand for information, guidance and advice.

### 4.0 Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Networks

4.1 In addition to the general consultation, specific workshops are being held with members of the community and voluntary sector at each of the VCS Area Network meetings throughout September. The aim of the workshops is to gain a deeper understanding of how the sector and the Council can work more closely together to support each other and improve access to and the delivery of services at a local level in response to the needs of local communities.

4.2 The East VCS Network workshop is due to be held on the 8<sup>th</sup> September 2011 and a verbal update will be available for the Sunderland East Area Committee meeting.

- 4.3 The results from all of the consultation activity will assist in shaping the future delivery of all types of information, advice and guidance and will specifically focus on access to employment, enterprise and welfare rights provision within the East area.

## 5.0 Recommendation

Committee are request to:

- i. Comment upon the consultation to date and are requested to nominate organisations / community venues who may be interested in working with the council to further develop access to information, guidance and advice and explore the potential to provide self service options for customers.

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Annex 1:                                      Sunderland East Area Committee: Work Plan 2011-2012

**19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2011**

**REPORT OF THE NEXUS AND EAST VCS AREA NETWORK**

**COMMUNITY ACTION: REVIEWING PROGRESS AND AGREEING NEXT STEPS**

**PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

**1.0 Why has it come to Committee?**

1.1 The report provides an update of progress against agreed actions in the current year's (2011/12) Work Plan, see annex 1.

**2.0 Background**

2.1 Committee are aware that Nexus are working with Sunderland City Council's on the Accessible Bus Network Design Project. It was agreed that Nexus become a member of Area Committee and the Committee would establish a structure in which local residents and Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) groups can feed concerns about public transport through to Sunderland East Area Committee.

2.2 There is no budget allocated against this priority. The Committee have established a Task and Finish Group, with support from Nexus and East VCS Area Network. The purpose of the Group is to complete a mapping exercise of the area, identifying main bus routes, services and buildings, what the issues are and solutions, considering times, fees and target audiences and present a report to Committee with options on a way forward.

**3.0 Progress**

3.1 Since the last meeting a pilot consultation event targeting residents and VCS groups was organised by Nexus and East VCS Area Network. The pilot, held at Ryhope Community Association, was attended by approximately 45 people. The event was successful in engaging local residents and groups to gather local intelligence and concerns directly from service users in the Ryhope ward.

3.2 An evaluation of the pilot was completed, using the opportunity to learn lessons from the pilot and improve how future events can be rolled out across Sunderland East area. The proposed next steps are to roll out public meeting events on 'public transport' across each ward. The format of the meetings would be:

- Chaired by the Co-Chairs of VCS Area Network.
- Nexus will provide maps showing bus routes and local services at a ward level.
- Participants will be asked to indicate their post code and bus routes used to access their top five venues/services.
- Participants will then be asked to identify issues, ideas and solutions.
- Nexus will share information on promotional offers and travel tickets.

3.3 Local community venues will be used, for example, St Michaels - Grangetown Community Centre; Hendon – Hendon Young People's Project; Millfield – St Mary Magdalene's; Doxford – Doxford Community Association. There will be a target of engaging at least 50 residents per ward. Feedback will be shared with the participants approximately two weeks after the event.

3.4 After all events, the information will be collated, analysis and presented to Area Committee in November 2011.

#### 4.0 Recommendation

Committee are request to:

- i. To approve **£500 SIB (subject to application and appraisal)** to deliver public meetings on public transport, in each ward of the East, to cover running costs e.g. venue hire, refreshments, etc. East VCS Area Network have agreed to act as lead agent.

Contact Officers:

Nexus, 0191 2020747, [www.nexus.org.uk](http://www.nexus.org.uk)

Paula Hunt, East VCS Area Network, [paula@paulahunt.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:paula@paulahunt.wanadoo.co.uk)

Vivienne Metcalfe, Sunderland Council, [Vivienne.metcalfe@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:Vivienne.metcalfe@sunderland.gov.uk)

Annex 1: Sunderland East Area Committee: Work Plan 2011-2012



**19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2011**

**REPORT OF THE CHILDREN SERVICES**

**COMMUNITY ACTION: REVIEWING PROGRESS AND AGREEING NEXT STEPS**

**YOUTH AND TEENAGERS**

**1.0 Why has it come to Committee?**

1.1 The report provides an update of progress against agreed actions in the current year's (2011/12) Work Plan, see annex 1.

**2.0 Background**

2.1 In November 2009 the Youth Development Group (YDG) Manager presented a briefing paper to the Sunderland East Area Committee outlining three options for Councillors to positively engage with young people. These were:

1. Inviting young people to an event which celebrates the young person led initiatives in the area
2. A small amount of SIB funding being provided to allow young people to allocate funding to projects which would benefit young people in the area
3. Developing a Councillor shadowing scheme and holding joint surgeries in the East using the mobile youth bus.

2.2 At the Area Committee meeting Councillors opted for option 3 to be piloted.

2.3 In November 2010 invitation letters were sent to all East area councillors to participate in the pilot and hold joint surgeries with young people from Sunderland Youth Parliament (SYP). The following councillors volunteered their involvement:

- Cllr Elizabeth Gibson      Doxford Ward
- Cllr Thomas Martin      Hendon Ward
- Cllr Barbra McClennan      Hendon Ward
- Cllr Michael Mordey      Hendon Ward
- Cllr Iain Kay      Millfield Ward
- Cllr Alan Emerson      Ryhope Ward
- Cllr Christopher Fairs      Ryhope Ward
- Cllr Peter Wood      St. Michael's Ward

2.4 An initial meeting was held to bring participating Councillors and young people from SYP together in order to get to know one another. At the meeting young people were matched to Councillors and collectively they identified suitable places to hold "Meet your Councillor" Events in each of the five awards in the East and agreed on a communication protocol taking into consideration the Council's safeguarding policy. All forms of communication between Councillors and young people from SYP and participants of the events included YDG Officers supporting SYP and young people.

2.5 Cllr Martin and Cllr Fairs were unable to be matched to an event due to diary commitments.

2.6 The locations were selected in order to maximise young people's attendance. These were places where young people were most likely to attend. The Mobile Youth Bus was included as an attraction as an alternative to youth centres and school classrooms which was welcomed by hosting agencies and young people. The use of the bus also helped to promote youth bus sessions in the East area.

### **3.0 Participants**

3.1 In total 74 individual young people participated in 6 events with an average of 12 young people attending per session. The majority of young people were between 13 and 14 years of age.

3.2 13 young people out of the total number attended were new attendees who had not accessed any youth provision before. These young people were not registered with the Youth Development Group or any other youth project commissioned by the Youth Development Group.

3.3 Of all those attended the sessions 59.5% (44) were male and 40.5% were female (30).

3.4 Of the young people who provided a correct postcode, 66% (49 out of 74) were from the Sunderland East Area. 26% (19) of young people reside outside of Sunderland East Area, however the majority lived in the surrounding wards and they attended schools and youth projects within the area. 8% (6) did not provide correct postcode.

### **4.0 Meet Your Councillor Events**

4.1 In all but one sessions, Councillors were accompanied by members of SYP. At the start of the sessions Councillors and SYP members provided introductions with an explanation of their roles and responsibilities. Councillors also explained that they wished to listen to issues and concerns that young people might have regarding anything to do with the area they live in or facilities that are provided for the benefit of the local community.

4.2 In all of the discussions Councillors indicated that financial constraints would mean that whilst all issues raised would be seriously considered, and all efforts made to respond to issues within existing resources, no guarantees could be given at this stage. Young people were pleased that Councillors were listening to their views and taking on the board what they had to say.

4.3 A process of providing feedback to young people on issues they raised and how the Council / Councillors dealt with these particular issues is being implemented. The format of the feedback may vary depending on availability and other commitments of Councillors, for example, some groups may receive written feedback and others may receive face-to-face group feedback.

#### **4.4 Doxford Ward**

4.4.1 The session was held in the youth bus on the car park outside the Box Youth Project on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2011 at 6pm-7:30pm with Councillor Elizabeth Gibson and two SYP members.

4.4.2 The following issues were raised:-

- There are no lights on MUGA at the Box Youth Project. Young people requested lights so that they can play football on dark nights.
- Better lighting at Herrington Park was also requested.

- A new all weather football pitch was suggested as something the young people would like in the area.
- Discussion focused on current youth provision attended. They stated that they attended the Youth Village and liked it but they would prefer the Youth Village to be open every Saturday rather than just for a block of 10 weeks. They would also like to see barbeque at the youth club in the summer and more activities to do at youth club i.e. go-karting and trips to theme parks
- As well as attending The Box Youth Project they also attend Jubilee Centre and would like to see it open for young people on Friday nights.
- Young people were asked what they would do during school holidays; they stated that they would probably hang around and drink.

#### **4.5 St Michael's Ward**

4.5.1 The session was held on the youth bus which was parked on the Hollow on Westheath Avenue, Grangetown on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2011 at 5pm – 6:30pm. This is the site where regular youth bus session takes place on Tuesday evening between 6pm and 8:30pm. The session was held with Councillor Peter Wood and SYP member.

4.5.2 This session was divided into two parts. In the first part young people under 13 years of age who congregate outside the youth bus but are not actively engaged because of their age, were give the opportunity to talk to the Councillor about their issues. 13 young people engaged in discussion with the councillor including 6 who were under 13 years of age.

4.5.3 Following issues were raised by young people under 13 years of age:-

- Young people wanted a play park for the younger children on the communal space which is a mix of tarmac and grass, situated on Westheath Avenue. Items wanted in the park included swings, a zipline, roundabouts, and a variety of items feature in other of city parks.
- Young people expressed their concerns that if something is put on the Hollow the older youths might destroy it or seriously damage it, as had been the case previously. The young people requested lighting and gates on the park if it was to be developed.
- Young people complained that they are not allowed on the youth buses due to funding rules, which they think is unfair and unreasonable

4.5.4 Following issues were raised by young people over 13 years of age:-

- A football pitch for older young people was requested at the Hollow
- Broken glass is an issue in the area, as many young people get injured or hurt by it.
- Young people stated that there is a lack of activities for them to do in the holidays in their area and to attend events or activities outside of their area it is too expensive.
- Young people stated that Hendon Beach needs a clean up and it would be beneficial for all the community if more facilities and activities were held there.
- Young people requested a bike track and skate park near the gas tanks in Hendon.

#### **4.6 Ryhope Ward**

4.6.1 The session took place on the youth bus in the yard of Venerable Bede School with a class of year 8 pupils accompanied by their teacher on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2011 at 9am – 10:30pm. This session was negotiated with a teacher from the school who has responsibility for democracy and citizenship curriculum within the school.

4.6.2 A class of 18 pupils who were undertaking citizenship lesson engaged in discussion with Councillor Alan Emerson assisted by two members of SYP.

4.6.3 Following issues were raised:-

- According to those who attend the local youth projects there are far too many people in youth club sessions therefore there should be more youth centres or bigger venues and facilities.
- Young people drinking on streets and in fields were raised as a concern in the area.
- Young people stated that there are too many pubs in the area and as a result there are too many drunk adults who cause problems at times
- Young people are concerned about litter, glass bottles and broken alcohol bottles on streets and in fields. They suggested that there should be a co-ordinated clean up campaign involving volunteers and schools should run education programmes around keeping your neighbourhood clean.
- More bins with lids on and ones that don't fall over should be provided by the council together with posters stating stricter punishment for those caught littering.
- There should be designated places for smokers to put cigarette butts out rather than throw them on the streets.
- Streets roads have pot holes which need repairing.
- There have been incidents of neighbours fighting over car spaces in street.
- Parks and play areas are been taken over by gangs, and are been vandalised i.e. graffiti.
- There is a general lack of tidiness in the area, i.e. hedges needs trimming, vandalism on the street and smashed cars.
- There is a general consensus among young people that more police should be seen on streets and harsher punishment for breaking the law.
- Young people stated that they enjoyed this opportunity to hold discussion with the councillor and wanted people to visit the school more and felt the council should educate people more about what is right and wrong.

#### **4.7 Hendon Ward**

4.7.1 Two Councillors from Hendon ward participated in the pilot. Two separate sessions were planned one in Thornhill School and the other in Southmoor School.

4.7.2 The first session took place on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2011 at 12 noon – 1:30pm in a hall in Southmoor School during lunch time. The deputy head teacher specifically requested for Councillor Michael Mordey as he is an ex-pupil of the school.

4.7.3 Councillor Mordey was supported by a three members of SYP, one of which is a member of the UK Youth Parliament. Together they held dialogue with a group of 11 pupils from different year groups who are on the school council.

4.7.4 Following issues were raised:-

- Cllr Mordey asked young people how they felt about the changes to funding in the higher education this government is proposing. Almost all stated that changes to funding will have an impact on going away to study at university hence young people will not be able to be independent.
- Introduction to higher fees for courses will mean that most young people will struggle to meet the cost of education and will leave universities with a large debt. Some young people are seriously thinking whether to go to university.
- Southmoor School had a sixth form a few years ago where young people were able to study up to A Levels. Young people stated that if this option was available they would

have preferred to stay in Southmoor School and attend 6<sup>th</sup> form as a way of keeping the cost of commuting down as public transport is too expensive for young people.

- Young people were disappointed that the ending of the Building School for the Future programme meant Southmoor School would not be refurbished and transformed to a state of the art school.
- All young people were in agreement that pupils learn better in a modern upgraded school with new resources.
- The discussion focussed on the poor state Southmoor School was in and that they had to close the swimming pool due to lack of funding for repairs. The all weather pitch is in a bad condition and could do with upgrading.
- Latter part of the session focused on issues within the wider community they live in. Young people are concerned with the amount of litter on the streets; vandalism, burglary and theft, bad behaviour of people and racism.
- Young people said that they don't like being labelled because they live in certain areas of the City.

4.7.5 The second session was held in Thornhill School on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2011 at 2:30pm – 4pm on the youth bus parked within the school's playground. The Deputy Head Teacher organised a group of pupils who are involved in planning a citywide event to gather the views of young people on issues to do with schools and learning. The session was held after school with Councillor Barbara McClennan, unfortunately, the SYP member was unable to join the Councillor. 8 young people participated in discussion with Councillor McClennan.

4.7.6 Following issues were raised:-

- The state of the road leading to Pallion shops, in particular the footbridge near the Matalan area which is covered with scattered broken glass and dog excrement.
- The problem of dog fouling is very bad in the back lanes of most of Millfield ward, in the Barnes View area and at the top of Toward Road, near Mowbray Park, next to St Vincent Street and young people specifically asked if the council could consider providing more doggy bins and even consider providing dispensers for plastic bags so dog owners could be encouraged to take their pet's rubbish home.
- Concerns were expressed over the lack of youth activities at the weekend in the city, in particular concern over the loss of the ice rink and swimming pool at Crowtree. A suggestion was put forward for the council to consider putting on sports activities at Crowtree centring around 'the sports they like playing at school' i.e. team sports such as football, badminton, tennis, basketball with a court reserved for young people.
- Young people stated that the cost of engaging in leisure activities has increased so much that some young people from low income families would struggle to access activities in the leisure centres. They suggested that the council could consider setting aside times at Crowtree for concessionary priced youth team sports activities with a 'facilitator' offering tuition.
- Young people compared the 'events programme' offered by Newcastle with what is on offer in Sunderland and suggested that Sunderland's programme could be improved at relatively low cost (retaining shoppers and their spending power in the city). Their idea was to hold a series of band concerts for local bands/university bands in either Crowtree or The Bridges, or the Sunnyside Amphitheatre.
- Young people were eagerly waiting for the Barnes Park development to complete but they are also concerned that teenagers are intimidating 11-13yr olds at the park, discouraging their usage.
- Young people are unaware of any plans for Pocket Park in Millfield, and would like to see more equipment and facilities being provided.

- A young person heard rumours that Barnes Junior School was set to be replaced and concerned as he has siblings
- 4.7.7 Councillor McClennan noted issues raised by young people and subsequently shared them with different departments of the council to provide responses which were then fed back to groups or individual young people via the Youth Participation Officer.

#### **4.7.8 Millfield Ward**

4.7.9 The session was held at St. Marks Youth Project on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2011 at 6pm – 7:30pm with Councillor Iain Kay and a member of SYP. 12 young people took part in discussion with the Councillor.

4.7.10 Following issues were raised:-

- Young people felt let down by the recently regenerated Diamond Hall Pocket Park where they gave ideas at consultation stage to find that none of it was taken on board. They felt that it lacked the equipment and facilities they desired.
- Young people would like to see suitable lighting especially during winter months and without it the facilities would be useless. The facilities they would like in the Pocket Park are football pitch with goal posts and basketball.
- Personal safety was raised as a major concern by most young people. A number of young people stated that they had been assaulted by older youths and teenagers and many felt unsafe and vulnerable on the streets, particularly at night. A specific issue was raised and acted upon as urgent, facilitated by YDG.
- Young people felt that greater police coverage in the Millfield area could help to curb the crime rates and instil a sense of safety on the streets.
- St. Mark Youth Project was mentioned as a good facility and provided them with a greater degree of safety, off the streets and away from possible danger.
- Young people suggested that the council could clean up areas within Millfield and make them more attractive. References were made to a supposed rat infestation and general lack of cleanliness at the Millfield Metro Station.
- Young people stated that they wanted the council to take greater action in ensuring that streets were clean as it caused discomfort and presented a bad image of the area.

## **5.0 Summary**

- 5.1 The pilot was successful in engaging a wide range of young people from different wards of the Sunderland East area. Councillors and young people appreciated the opportunity to have a dialogue about issues that mattered to young people and their communities. This method of engagement with young people should be considered for future of ways of working.
- 5.2 A partnership approach between Councillors and young people from Sunderland Youth Parliament (SYP) worked well as they complimented each other by bringing different knowledge and understanding of representation.
- 5.3 Appropriate venues that are young people friendly and where young people are likely to attend should be prioritised to hold events.
- 5.4 Issues concerning young people relating to the ward they live in are best addressed by their ward Councillors and as such recruiting Councillors from the ward the event is taking place in would be the most effective approach to achieve this. In some venues such as schools young people attending the event are likely to be from outside the ward

and it would be useful to agree a protocol on who pursues issues raised, e.g. the appropriate ward Councillor or the Councillor participating in the event.

- 5.5 For young people to have confidence in this form of engagement there should be a clear procedure for feedback so that they can be assured that their engagement has led to some form of action.

## 6.0 Recommendations

Committee are requested to:

- i. Organise a feedback sessions between elected members, SYP members and young people who participated during the first wave.
- ii. Future events should be organised as a partnership between Councillors and Sunderland Youth Parliament members.
- iii. Each Youth Team Leader in the new area structure within the Children's Services could be given the responsibilities to organise such events in their respective areas with the support and guidance of the Participation Officer, subject to individual ward Councillors.
- iv. Agree a protocol on who pursues issues raised, e.g. the appropriate ward Councillor or the Councillor participating in the event.
- v. Agree a procedure for feedback so that children and young people who participated in the road shows can be assured that their engagement has led to some form of action.

Contact Officers: Abdul Amin, Youth Participation Officer,  
Tel: 0191 5617404 Email: [abdul.amin@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:abdul.amin@sunderland.gov.uk)

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Annex 1: Sunderland East Area Committee: Work Plan 2011-2012

19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2011

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

COMMUNITY ACTION: REVIEWING PROGRESS AND AGREEING NEXT STEPS

TACKLING CRIME

**1.0 Why has it come to Committee?**

1.1 The report provides an update of progress against agreed actions in the current year's (2011/12) Work Plan, see annex 1, on behalf of the Crime Task and Finish Group.

**2.0 Crime Statistics and Fire Statistics**

2.1 Local Neighbourhood Police Inspectors to provide an update on crime statistics and Operation X, which was funded from July 2011 to June 2012 to reduce key crimes by 2%, these include speeding and dangerous driving, burglary, car crime, criminal damage, ASB most serious violent crime, violent crime, hate and victimisation.

2.2 Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue to provide an update on fire statistics and on Championing the East project, which was funded from July 2011 to June 2013 to reduce secondary fires by 2%, engaging with 60 volunteering and 40 community groups.

**3.0 East LMAPs**

3.1 Northumbria Police are currently reviewing the way it works across Sunderland. Included in the review is changing the geographical area covered by the current Neighbourhood Teams across the City to match with the areas of the Council, thus mirroring the boundaries of each of the five Area Committees. In addition, refreshing the current membership of the Local Multi Agency Problem Solving Groups (LMAPs) which meet every five weeks to discuss issues and how to solve problems using a partnership approach.

3.2 Currently the East area is split across four LMAPs, with six elected members from the East area attending, see below:

Cllr Mordey	City Centre LMAPs
Cllr Kay and Cllr Forbes	Millfield/St Michaels LMAPs
Cllr Martin and Cllr Emerson	Hendon/Ryhope LMAPs
Cllr Gibson	South LMAPs covering Doxford

3.3 It has been agreed from the 1 October 2011 to:

- Dissolve the South LMAPs group - St Chads and Silksworth wards will move under the banner of the West LMAPs and Doxford ward will move under the banner of East LMAPs, along with City Centre, Millfield/St Michaels and Hendon/Ryhope.
- Establish a new membership, across all partners, for both the West and East LMAPs.

3.4 A new membership list for East LMAPs is to be agreed before the 1 October 2011 therefore Committee are asked to nominate a maximum of two representatives, one main and the other substitute.



3.5 The role of the East LMAPs representatives will be to represent the whole of the East area at LMAPs, and feed information from Area Committee to LMAPs and vice versa, with support from the Area Officer.

#### **4.0 Recommendation**

Committee are requested to:

- i. Agree two elected member representatives for East LMAPs.

#### **5.0 Traffic Calming Measures**

5.1 To investigate the feasibility of reducing speeding and dangerous driving along Glenesk Road, St Marks Road North and Besford Close.

- Glenesk Road – Local elected members to consult residents on options, preferred option to inform SIB application, estimated budget £7,000.
- St Marks Road North - Kerb extension recommended, estimated budget £3,700.
- Besford Grove - Upon investigate the design of the road already encourages 20mph and meets requirement. No action.

#### **6.0 Recommendation**

Committee are requested to:

Invite the submission of a SIB funding application to carry out traffic calming measures, if deemed appropriate, totalling £10,700.

Contact Officer: Neal Craig, Sunderland Central Neighbourhood Inspector (City Centre, Millfield and St Michaels wards) [neal.craig.7300@northumbria.pnn.police](mailto:neal.craig.7300@northumbria.pnn.police)

John Connolly, Sunderland East Neighbourhood Inspector (Doxford, Hendon and Ryhope wards) [john.connolly.7623@northumbria.pnn.police](mailto:john.connolly.7623@northumbria.pnn.police)

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