

13<sup>h</sup> March 2024

## REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF WEST SUNDERLAND NEIGHBOURHOOD AND COMMUNITY BOARD

### West Area Committee Delivery Plan 2023-2026

#### 1. Purpose of Report

1.1 This report is to provide an update of progress against the Area Committee's Area Plan priorities, which will be the focus for the West Area Committee during 2023-2024.

#### 2. Background

2.1 The Area Committees are part of the Council's Executive Function. The purpose of the Area Committees is to:

- Lead on the development, implementation, and effective delivery of an Area Plan, working closely with residents to ensure the plans include all main priorities for the Area, which enables residents to be resilient, The Area Plans are linked to the City Plan and other significant strategies for the city.
- Actively encourage local residents to become involved in shaping the Area Plan, ensuring delivery of activities to support matters which affect them.

2.2 The Article 10 Area Committee Area Plans for 2023 - 2026 were agreed by Area Committees in June 2023 and approved at Cabinet in July 2023.

2.3 It is now the responsibility of each Area Committee to deliver their agreed priorities to support the delivery of the Area Plan.

2.4 The Neighbourhood and Community Board supports the work of the Area Committee and specifically the delivery of the Area Plan. The Boards are chaired by the Vice-Chair of the Area Committee and are practical and action-orientated groups. The role of the Board is to respond to all priorities in the Area Committee Area Plan, as agreed by the Area Committee. They develop and implement plans for the delivery of each priority and make recommendations to the Area Committee based on information and research and working closely with partner agencies, particularly the VCS, to ensure effective delivery of the plan.

2.6 The Board is not a decision-making body, the work of the board is presented to each Area Committee via this Report of the Chair of the Neighbourhood and Community Board. The purpose of the report is to update on progress in relation to the delivery of the Area Plan in addition to making any recommendations of the Board to the Area Committee for final approval. Funding decisions to support delivery of the plan can be found at **Item 4 Area Budget Report**

2.7 Additionally all Sunderland City Council Service leads, when producing Service Plans this year, provided a list of Area Priorities, where relevant, for each of the five geographical Areas of Sunderland and have agreed that regular updates for those priorities will be appended to this report, to the relevant Area Committee, to provide quarterly performance updates (**Annex 2**).

### **3. Area Committee Area Plan 2023-2026- Areas of Key Action and Progress**

- 3.1 The Neighbourhood and Community Board discussed a range of Area Priorities. It was agreed to make recommendations to Area Committee to support a Call for projects for improvements to Community Assets, To invite existing projects leads to extend the West Ranger/Clean and Clean and to recommend approval of all In Bloom/Grow your own projects. The Board has also arranged a Task and Finish group to discuss School Parking
- 3.2 Colleagues from Highways attended the November 2023 Neighbourhood and Community Board meeting to consult with members regarding the development of the West highways maintenance programme for 2024/25. Further updates were received and Members put forward areas for consideration in the 2024/2025 programme. The suggested locations have been assessed and following discussions at the February 2024 Board meeting, recommendations are contained at **Annex 3 to this report**. The Board are also recommending to Area Committee to align £100,000 Neighbourhood Funding to support Highways schemes, details to be presented to a future Board and Area Committee.
- 3.3 Attached as **Annex 1** is the West Area Committee Delivery plan which highlights progress against the Area Committee plan. Good news stories and promotion of projects are shared at every opportunity.
- 3.4 Attached as **Annex 2** is an update on Sunderland City Council Service Plans - Area Priorities, specifically relevant to the area, including a quarterly update on progress for information purposes only.

### **4. Recommendations - Members are requested to:**

- 4.1 Consider the progress and performance update with regard to West Area Committee Area Plan 2023- 2026.
- 4.2 Consider the progress update with regard to Sunderland City Council Service Plans - Area Priorities, for information purposes only.
- 4.3 Approve the locations contained in **Annex 3** to be included in the Highways Maintenance Programme for 2024/25.

Annex 1 - West Area Delivery Plan

Annex 2 – Sunderland City Council Service Plans – West Area Priorities

Annex 3 – Highways Maintenance Programme 2024/25

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