

27<sup>th</sup> September 2012

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**Place Board Progress Report**

**1 Purpose of Report**

1.1 The report provides an update of progress against the current year's (2012/13) Place Board Work Plan.

**2 Background**

- 2.1 At its meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2012 Washington Area Committee agreed its Local Area Plan for 2012/13. In doing so Area Committee agreed how it can most effectively contribute to delivering Sunderland City Council's Corporate Outcome Framework (COF) at a local level and relevant to the Place and People themes.
- 2.2 Those Local Area Plan priorities associated with Place were referred to the Place Board to action on behalf of the Area Committee. The Place Board have started to initiate action on those priorities and agreed target dates for delivery and feedback to the Area Committee for the year ahead. The Place Board Work Plan and target delivery dates are attached as Annex 1.
- 2.3 This report provides Area Committee with a progress update on the Place Board Work Plan during period June - September including requests for decisions where necessary.

**3 Responsive Local Services (RLS): Streetscene**

- 3.1 In supporting the Area Committee to influence the delivery, design and review of services at an Area level the Place Board has a key role in terms of influencing the operational redeployment of Streetscene (RLS) core service. As such each Place Board meeting has a dedicated agenda item to discuss streetscene services. The Area Response Manager (ARM) presents information on services, such as, graffiti removal, fly tipping, litter, dog fouling, grass cutting, refuse collection and recycling, parks and maintenance of play areas.
- 3.2 Meetings are underway with the Galleries Management and supermarkets with regard to better co-ordination to address the issue of dumping of shopping trolleys. A number of supermarkets are now signed up to using Trolley Wise. This includes Asda, Sainsburys, Aldi, Pets at Home, and Home and Bargains. Work is ongoing to encourage other supermarkets to utilise the scheme. Further discussions with regard to PR and enforcement are still taking place.
- 3.3 The Area Response Manager is co-ordinating resident engagement in the Love Where You Live Campaign. Both Gentoo and Asda were involved in Washington's campaign on September 11<sup>th</sup>. This included activity in both Sulgrave and Lower Oxclose with Gentoo, and at Patterson Road with Asda.
- 3.4 The Board is also recommending an Officer Working Group is to be established to consider how Members can be better supported to develop their influencing role with regard to Responsive Local Services.

#### **4. Area Priority: Investment in Washington's built and natural environment**

- 4.1 In order to consider the feasibility of additional CCTV networking in Washington a recent exercise mapping CCTV resources across the area has now been presented to the Place Board. There have been limited requests for redeployment of the LMAPs 3G cameras. It has also been confirmed new networked cameras at over £12,000 per camera plus running costs are cost prohibitive, therefore the recommendation of the Board is to encourage better use of resources through LMAPs and close this action on the Washington Place Board Work Plan.
- 4.2 Current investigations are underway to understand the corporate approach to enforcement in relation to environmental standards on private sector owned industrial estates. The findings will be reported to the October Place Board.
- 4.3 In support of proposals for the new Washington Leisure Centre, consultation with users began in August 2012 to find out what services are important to them. Further focus groups and newsletters are also planned. It is anticipated the preferred design option will be presented to Cabinet in December 2012.
- 4.4 Work continues on the Washington Managed Workspace project with the aim of submitting to planning in September 2012. Further progress reports will be presented to a future Place Board meeting.
- 4.5 Following flooding incidents in Washington, Members plotted hotspots and problem areas to inform the wider vision and approach for the area, at the September Place Board meeting. A detailed file of complaints and issues has been forwarded to the Assistant Head of Service for Highways and Transportation. City Engineers will attend a future meeting to discuss solutions, preventative engineering work and better use of current resources.

The City's Security and Emergency Planning Manager attended the September Place Board to discuss training for Elected Members and the corporate position re emergency planning and response.

There are still outstanding issues to resolve relating to working with Northumbria Water to respond better to resident's complaints. Members are seeking guidance from our legal section response to this issue.

#### **5 Area Priority: A well connected Washington**

- 5.1 There is a possibility of funding via the TPCT for green space/cycleway initiatives which will help address obesity. Meetings have taken place to consider options for projects and a pilot across Washington. The development and linking of Washington's cycleways have been identified as a local priority and will be discussed at the October Place Board. It is anticipated that should the TPCT confirm the opportunity for additional funding, a number of 'quick win' proposals can be delivered to improve and link the cycleways and villages of Washington. The Place Board will then consider a recommendation to full Area Committee for SIB match funding.

#### **6 Further actions and reporting**

- 6.1 A number of actions will report to the October Place Board. This includes:
- An update with regard to activity to resolve outstanding issues to help achieve safer walkways, subways and green spaces
  - Member's consultation on the LDF/Core Strategy

- Helping Members to understand the corporate approach to enforcing environmental standards on private sector managed industrial estates
- Further communication and co-ordination with the Area Community Voluntary Sector Network re collaboration to deliver services in Washington
- Further updates with regard to the development of the Washington Managed Work Space
- Information with regard to investigating options for improved Broadband provision
- Development of Member's influencing role to determine a future strategy for managing and delivering local events and celebrations.
- Washington Heritage Feasibility progress report

**7 Recommendations:** Members are requested to:

- a. Note the report, and the Place Board's timetable for activity for the year ahead as detailed in annex 1
- b. Agree to accept further progress update reports based on the timetable outlined in Annex 1.

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