

26th June 2025

REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF NORTH SUNDERLAND NEIGHBOURHOOD AND COMMUNITY BOARD

North 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 North Area Committee during 2025-2026

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.

2.5 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**

2.6 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 (**Item 2 Annex 2**)

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

- 3.1 The Neighbourhood and Community Board are recommending to Area Committee the approval of **£75,000 (£15,000 per ward)** for the Ward Improvement Budget. The budget will be used for priorities to help improve the ward and for activity that is both in keeping with council policy and contribute to the Area Committee's Area Plan. A Maximum of 3 projects will be funded from the £15k budget.
- 3.2 Attached as **Item 2 Annex 1** is the North Area Committee Delivery plan which highlights progress against the Area Committee plan. Good news stories and promotion of projects are shared at every opportunity.
- 3.3 Attached as **Item 2 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.
- 3.4 In April 2025 the Board agreed a Call for Project for release to the Voluntary and Community Sector network for a Ranger Project to cover the Castle and Redhill Wards. The Board recommended, via correspondence, to approve the application from Community Opportunities and reject the other application. June Area Committee are to consider the applications received with full details included in **Item 4 Annex 1**.
- 3.5 In May 2025 the Board agreed, via correspondence, a Call for Project brief for a Ranger Project in the Fulwell Ward. June Area Committee are to consider the brief and to consider aligning £35,000 for this project, subject to the Ward Improvement Budget (at section **3.1**) being agreed. The proposed brief is attached at **Item 4 Annex 2**.
- 3.6 The April board invited an application for the Southwick Christmas Switch On Event. June Area Committee are to consider the application received from Southwick Neighbourhood Youth Project to manage the event for 2025 and 2026. Full details are included in **Item 4 Annex 3**.

4. Recommendations - Members are requested to:

- 4.1 Consider the progress and performance update with regard to North Area Committee Area Plan 2023 – 2026 (**Item 2 Annex 1**).
- 4.2 Consider the progress update with regard to Sunderland City Council Service Plans - Area Priorities, for information purposes only (**Item 2 Annex 2**).

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