

14 November 2018

REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE PLACE BOARD**Place Board Progress Report****1 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To provide an update of progress against the current year's (2018/19) Place Board Work Plan, and provide an update on performance.

2. Background

- 2.1 Earlier this year the Local Area Plan priorities associated with Place were referred to the Coalfield Place Board to action on behalf of the Area Committee. The Place Board continue to initiate action on those priorities. Progress to date is outlined below, and in the Work Plan at **Annex 1**.

3. Area Governance Arrangements

- 3.1 The Area Committees are part of the Council's Executive Function and have two key roles:-
- a. Influencing decisions on services delivered at a local level; and
 - b. Identification of key priorities for their areas, in the context of supporting the delivery of the Council's Corporate Outcomes Framework at a local level and ensures maximum impact where necessary through utilising its own resources.
- 3.2 Area Place and People Boards were set up to support the Area Committee in identifying areas of priority and ensure action in line with those priorities.
- 3.3 Each ward has one elected member representative, whose role it is to liaise with their ward colleagues in between meetings and feedback collective views into the Board meetings. Members will work alongside key officers in what will be practical action orientated groups. It should be noted that the Board is not a decision making body and the work / recommendations of the Board will be presented to the Area Committees for final endorsement. Elected member representation on the Place Board for this Area Committee is as follows:-

Ward	Place Board Membership
Chair/Houghton	Cllr Juliana Heron
Copt Hill	Cllr Jack Cunningham
Hetton	Cllr Claire Rowntree
Houghton	Cllr Alex Scullion
Shiney Row	Cllr Mel Speding

4. Key Areas of Influence/Achievements to October 2018

- 4.1 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of influence / achievements of the Coalfield Place Board to date.

Influence: Highways Capital Maintenance	
Influence the highways capital maintenance budget 2019/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Place boards will receive information on the highways requiring capital maintenance works across the Coalfield area at their December 2018 and January 2019 meetings. The proposed areas will be prioritised into high, medium and low priority to assist members. Members will be asked to consult with ward colleagues to agree which of the proposed programmes should be recommended to March

	2019 Area Committee.
Influence: Place Management	
Develop service schedule for 2018/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members reviewed the performance data presented by the Place Management Service at Place Board in July 2018, and discussed opportunities to engage further with communities.
Area Priority: Support for Local Shopping Centres	
Support and develop trader groups and initiatives to increase footfall in local shopping centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To date, the SIB Retail Support programme, delivered by the Business & Innovation Centre (BIC), has supported 83 individual businesses across Hetton, Houghton and Shiney Row. A total of 70 business diagnostic forms have been completed. Hetton, Houghton and Shiney Row trader groups have attracted new members and all have met to formalise the groups with a constitution and membership for each. Hetton Traders group is continuing to grow and attract a wider range of businesses from Front Street and Market Street. A new Facebook page – Hetton Post – has been set up and is being managed by the Traders Association. This provides a useful platform to promote business and communicate with the local community. Environmental awareness/education has been carried out with traders as part of the My Place, Our Space project. Traders in all three areas have progressed issues and ideas and have pledged to take on certain aspects of improvements, and their maintenance. Bunting will be installed on the lamp posts in Newbottle Street, Houghton following the removal of the Christmas lights Shops in all three centres are exploring the possibility of decorating their own windows for the period leading up to Christmas Traders in Shiney Row will be involved in the Christmas lights switch on event on Monday 3 December. In partnership with the local community, Hetton mini park has seen some environmental improvements and work will continue to further improve the area Painting of seats, bollards, bike racks and handrails has taken place in Newbottle Street, The Broadway and Church Street, Houghton le Spring, and also in Westbourne Tce, Shiney Row. The Retail Support project continues to work with other projects and community groups including the SIB funded Communities Connected IT project, and My Space, Our Place environmental project. This brings further support to the shopping areas by involving a wider range of partners. A proposal to further develop the Retail Support project and allocate an additional SIB grant is contained in Item 6 Area Budget Report
Area Priority: Environmental Improvement and Education	
Encourage local residents to participate in maintaining the local natural environment and continue to deliver 'Love	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> My Place, Our Space, Groundwork North East is a two year SIB funded project which is working with all 15 primary, and two secondary schools, traders and shoppers, residents, Friends of Groups, community organisations and key partners such as Gentoo and Sunderland City Council.

Where You Live' activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ During the previous quarter to September 2018, 19 educational sessions have been held in local primary schools across the Coalfield area. Pupils from Gillas Lane school visited the Energy from Waste Centre in Teesside to gain a fuller understanding of impact on the environment. ○ Environment Week sessions have been booked with New Penshaw Academy, Barnwell Academy, St Michaels RC Primary, Newbottle Primary and Hetton Lyons Primary. Each pupil taking part will pledge to share something they have learned with 5 people at home. ○ The project has worked with Traders in Shiney Row, Hetton and Houghton, with traders signing a pledge to maintain planters which are being provided in the shopping areas. ○ The project is working with Hetton Lyons, Herrington and Rectory park Friends groups to support the work they are developing with volunteers. ○ Two schools and one community group have been supported to carry out litter picks during the last quarter. An area of Langley Street, Herrington was supported by St Aidan's community group volunteers. A total of 56 volunteers have taken part in the My Space, Our Place project during the quarter to September 2018. ● The Friends of Herrington Country Park hold regular events and community clean ups. Three family/community litter picks have taken place over the last 6 months, the July 2018 clean up attracted 19 adults and 16 children who wanted to take part and make a difference to their local area. Volunteers at the latest litter day in October 2018 removed an old bicycle, a disused 'den' and a number of sacks of rubbish. ● The Friends of Hetton Lyons Country Park are being supported by My Space, Our Place to attract new volunteers, including corporate support from businesses such as 'Tombola' who have offered to volunteer some hours in the park. The Friends group has delivered a number of community events including a bug hunt, bat watch, hedgehogs in the park and worked on an environmental project with pupils from the Houghton Kepier Believe unit. ● The Friends of Rectory Park continue to work two sessions per week in the park and are looking to re-focus activity in partnership with Groundwork and Acumen Community Buildings who occupy The Old Rectory. ● At the December and January Place Board meetings, the Board will further discuss and develop a Coalfield-wide environment and education programme to follow on from the My Space, Our Place project and propose further allocation of SIB funding. Further information contained in Item 6 Area Budget Report. ● Place Board are keen to offer support to Friends Groups to ensure their volunteering activities can continue and grow. A proposal to offer financial support is contained within Item
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	6, Area Budget Report
Area Priority: Celebrate Local Events and Heritage	
Support long standing historical events and celebrations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £10,000 SIB was provided to develop the community element of Houghton Feast and its opening ceremony on Friday 5 October. The theme of the Feast was 'The Greatest Show on Earth'. A series of singing workshops was delivered to 9 schools from across the Coalfield area who took part in the opening ceremony, singing two songs from the movie 'The Greatest Showman'. Over 100 children formed the 'Houghton Feast Schools' Choir'. The budget was also used to engage local groups and bands including Houghton Pipe Band, Houghton Area Youth Band and Zazz Dance in the opening ceremony. Entertainment including stilt walkers, face painters and balloon modelling was also provided. • Working with local artists an 'inter-school' competition was held to celebrate the Tall Ships Races. Five schools (30 pupils per school) each received a series of 4 workshops to design and make a ship in textiles, ceramic or glass. The completed artwork was judged by members of the VCS Network at a special meeting in July. • Five local Miners Banner Parades were supported as part of the Durham Miners' Gala in July 2018. Remembrance parades in a number of locations are also supported. • Christmas events are being supported across the Coalfield area. Shiney Christmas switch on, supported by Shiney Advice and Resource Centre (ShARP), local traders, Ward Councillors and the local community is planned for Monday 3 December. Easington Lane switch on, supported by Ward Councillors, 3Together, SNCBC, ELCAP, the local community and Aurora is planned for Friday 30 November 2018.

5. Recommendations

Members are requested to:

- Consider the progress and performance update with regard to Coalfield Place Board's Work Plan for 2018/19 and agree proposals for future delivery

Annex 1 2018/19 Work plan

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