

ITEM 5

EAST SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE

10 DECEMBER 2019

REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE AREA PLACE BOARD



Place Board Interim Update Report

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report provides Area Committee with an update on Area Place Neighbourhood Plan, as set out in Annex One.

2. Background

- 2.1 At the beginning of each municipal year, East Sunderland Area Committee agrees its Neighbourhood Plan priorities associated with Place and refers the priorities to the East Sunderland Area Place Board to action on behalf of the Area Committee.
- 2.2 The Area Place Board presented interim reports to each Area Committee meeting to update on action taken on those priorities and highlighted key areas of influence and achievements during that period.

3. Key Areas of Influence / Achievements

- 3.1 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of influence / achievements of the East Sunderland Area Place Board up to November 2019.

Area Priority	Progress Report
Work Plan Reference 3.a)	<p>Heritage Action Zone</p> <p>At November's Place Board members had a presentation delivered on Sunderland's 'Historic High Streets' Heritage Action Zone which aims to bring Sunderland's high street heritage back to life. The scheme builds on partnership work delivered by Sunderland City Council and local partners to revive historic Sunderland and reconnect it with the modern city centre. The delivery plan stretches over five years (2017 – 2022), and covers the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research and listings: which covers Historic Area Assessments, Historic Buildings Assessment and lists enrichments.• Enforcement: which ensures the better care and improvement of historic buildings, Section 215 notices and urgent works notices to secure repairs to buildings in poor condition• Feasibility studies: have been carried out on key buildings which will determine the scope and costs of repair and sustainable future uses i.e. Mackie's Corner.• Building repairs and restoration: to key historical buildings to bring them back into use, such as, 170-175 High Street West

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community engagement: promoting Old Sunderland as a heritage destination, hosting events in the community and local school, supporting skills training and professional development <p>It was agreed that the Area Board would continue to receive annual updates on the progress of the Heritage Action Zone.</p>
<p>Work Plan Reference 3.a)</p>	<p>Bishopwearmouth Townscape Heritage Scheme</p> <p>At November's Place Board members had a presentation delivered on Bishopwearmouth Townscape Heritage Scheme.</p> <p>Sunderland City Council has been awarded £1.9m from the National Lottery Heritage Fund in June 2018 to operate the Bishopwearmouth Townscape Heritage Scheme.</p> <p>The Townscape Heritage Scheme will deliver a range of restoration and enhancement works to historic buildings, improve public realm works within Town Park and deliver a program of events, training and activities over the next five years.</p> <p>The lottery funding combined with match funding from the Council's City Centre Investment Corridor Budget and third-party contributions from owners and tenants of historic buildings creates a total fund of almost £3m to be spent within the project area.</p> <p>The Scheme boundary includes a range of high-quality Victorian and Edwardian buildings such as the Empire Theatre, the Dun Cow and Peacock public houses, as well as the historic core of the medieval settlement around Sunderland Minster and Town Park. The Townscape Heritage Scheme includes 22 potential building restoration and enhancement projects within the project area.</p> <p>Telling the story of Bishopwearmouth, raising awareness of its rich history and architectural importance is a key part of the Townscape Heritage Scheme. An activity plan has been developed to provide a range of family events, talks and tours and training opportunities in heritage craft skills over the five-year programme.</p> <p>For example, the Bishopwearmouth Village Atlas is a volunteer led project looking at the architecture, history, archaeology, geology and landscape of Bishopwearmouth and how the parish has changed over time. Local residents and members of the community are working with archaeologists and historians to gather existing information such as historic maps, plans and photographs. The volunteers visit the buildings, take part in walking tours and record memories from current and former local residents as part of the research. The project officially launched in March 2019 and is expected to be completed by March 2020.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Area Board would continue to receive annual updates on the progress of the Scheme.</p>

Neighbourhood Services WPF 4.b)	<p>Highways Maintenance Programme 2020 / 2021</p> <p>An update on the capital Highway Maintenance Programme was provided to the November Area Board. The proposal for the 2020 / 2021 Highways Maintenance programme is to continue, as in previous years, with 25% Member influence of the Local Transport Plan maintenance allocation. The financial value of the 25% will be determined once the Capital Programme value is confirmed early in the new calendar year (2020) but is likely to be similar to last year. (£100,000).</p> <p>The deadline for Councillors to submit streets to be considered was November 2019. From this information a list has been compiled, the streets on the list will be inspected and prioritised before appropriate treatments for the type of repair needed are determined and accurate estimates prepared.</p> <p>Once this information is known a potential list of priority schemes for each area will be presented to the January 2020 Area Board for discussion and agreement, with a full list of recommendations being submitted to the March 2020 Area Committee for endorsement.</p> <p>Members are requested to note the update.</p>
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4. Recommendations

4.1 Members are requested to:

- (a) Note the updates on the Heritage Action Zone, Bishopwearmouth Townscape Heritage Scheme and the Highways Maintenance Programme 2020 / 2021.

Annex 1 East Sunderland Area Place Board Neighbourhood Plan 2019 / 2020

Background Papers East Sunderland Area Place Board Agendas, Reports and Action List

Contact Officer: Nicol McConnell, Area Community Development Lead Tel: 0191 561 1162
Email: nicol.mcconnell@sunderland.gov.uk