

**REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE PLACE BOARD**  
**Place Board Progress Report**

**1 Purpose of Report**

1.1 This report provides an update of the 2016/17 Work Plan.

**2. Background**

2.1 At the beginning of each financial/municipal year Washington Area Committee agrees its Local Area Plan priorities associated with Place and refers the priorities to the Washington Place Board to action on behalf of the Area Committee.

2.2 The Place Board has presented interim reports to each Area Committee meeting to update on action taken on those priorities and highlighted key achievements during that period.

2.3 This report provides the update to the work plan

**3. Update of 2016/17 Place Board Work Plan**

3.1 The 2016/17 Work Plan is attached as **Item 5 Annex 1**

3.2 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of influence / achievements of the Washington Place Board up to end of February 2017.

<b>Influencing role: Local Services, Place Management</b>	<p>Following the presentation of the Local Services Area Delivery Plan to the extraordinary Area Committee in May 2016, as agreed, Place Board continue to oversee the development and delivery of the 2016/2017 Delivery Plan.</p> <p>Members have reviewed the performance data presented by the Place Management Service at Place Boards in September 2016 and January 2017, and discussed opportunities to engage further with communities.</p> <p>The delivery plan for Local Services moving forward into 2017/2018 continues to be discussed extensively at the Place Board. Local area delivery plans are currently being developed for future Area Committee approval.</p>
<b>Influencing role: Highways Capital Programme 2017/18</b>	<p>Infrastructure and Transportation Service attended November Board presenting an update on the 2016 – 2017 highway maintenance programme and the process for Members to influence and prioritise the areas of capital maintenance works for 2017 – 2018.</p> <p>Locations for consideration identified by elected members, residents and highways maintenance staff were presented to the Board in February 2017 and Members agreed recommendations to Area Committee for the completion of capital maintenance programmes in Washington as described at <b>Annex 2</b>. An amendment was approved replacing Oxclose Road Bus Terminus and Biddick Village Centre with The Terraces.</p>
<b>Area Priority: Environment and Green Space</b>	
<b>Action</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
Neighbourhood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A number of ward based projects are under</li> </ul>

Improvement Project	<p>development as part of the Neighbourhood Improvement Project (NIP). Area Place Manager continues to meet with Ward Members to discuss potential proposals, to identify partners and to aid development and delivery. Detailed reports are presented to each Place Board.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>February Board noted work is underway to spend unallocated funding – lighting projects will be completed, a number of proposals are being considered for Washington East, and Washington Central have approved a survey and capital funding for Columbia CA.</li> <li>Place Board requests Area Committee to support a recommendation to extend the life time and milestones of the project to June 2017. Any unallocated balances will then be returned to the SIB budget.</li> </ul>
Washington Clean and Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Place Board requested officers to meet with relevant partners re how to deliver a co-ordinated approach to neighbourhood management and environmental improvements to respond to local concerns across the area. The first Steering Group of the Washington Clean and Green Project met in February which confirmed methodology and joint working protocols.</li> <li>Friends Group Support project is underway with key support being provided to Springwell Village Residents Group. Discussions are on-going with residents supporting the Pastures play area to identify appropriate support and guidance with regards to helping to maintain the site.</li> <li>Following Area Committee requesting the Healthy Places Healthy People application from Groundwork NE be deferred to the Place Board for further consideration and clarification of issues. The Board invited the lead agent to the last meeting to clarify those issues and the application is now recommended for approval – subject to additional terms and conditions re performance monitoring, and Cllr Dianne Snowdon being appointed to represent the Place board on the Project Steering Group. This will be considered under <b>Item 6 Finance Report</b></li> </ul>
<b>Area priority: Member and Community Engagement</b>	
Encourage partnerships with the local community and VCS, link Ward Members to activities and events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Walk and talk programmes to identify community partnerships</li> <li>Members engage residents re AC role at key Washington events and involved in steering an events and culture programme</li> </ul>
<b>Area priority: Heritage and Culture</b>	
Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work is underway with the appointed lead with regards to planning for the summer Carnival.</li> <li>At the request of local residents discussions are underway to explore options for the provision of a Christmas tree for Washington Village.</li> </ul>
Washington's heritage and culture offer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Heritage Strategy Refresh:</b> Work on the strategy is nearing completion. The lead is attending the April Board to present the reviewed strategy.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Events:</b> The project has met with Beamish Museum and a number of primary schools to get them on board with the event to celebrate the school meals strike 100 years ago. Washington Trust is pleased to announce that the Heritage Lottery Fund has awarded a grant to the Trust from the First World War Then and Now fund. Washington Heritage groups have indicated they wish to be included in a Heritage Fair – proposed date early June at Bowes Railway Museum.</li> <li>• <b>City of Culture:</b> Report completed and handed over to team.</li> </ul>
Health and Heritage	Proposals for a joint health and heritage were discussed at the February Board. The Board supports proposals to align £50,000 SIB to research and develop the potential for a project which will use heritage to improve health and well-being. This will be undertaken with assistance from Public Health and the proposed outcomes are for community based projects that foster positive relationships, connect communities and heritage, improve health and well-being as well as provide accurate 'people based' information that can evidence and inform health related policy for future working. This will be considered under <b>Item 6 Finance Report.</b>

#### 4. Recommendations

##### 4.1 Members are requested to:-

- a. Consider the Performance Update with regard to the Washington Area Place Board's Work Plan for 2016/17 attached as **Item 5 Annex 1**
- b. Note the updates as presented in paragraph 3.2
- c. Confirm the schemes recommended attached as **Item 5 Annex 2** for inclusion in the Highway Maintenance Capital Programme 2017-2018
- d. Agree to extend the lifetime of the Neighbourhood Improvement Project to June 2017

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**Annex 1:** Place Board work plan 2016/17

**Annex 2:** Highways Maintenance Capital Programme 2017 – 18