

7 December 2022

REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF WEST SUNDERLAND NEIGHBOURHOODS AND COMMUNITY BOARD

West Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020-2023

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 This report:-

- a. Provides an annual performance update of the West Neighbourhood Investment Delivery Plan 2020-2023
- b. Provides an update of progress against the Area Priorities associated with the Delivery Plan, which will be the focus for the West Area Committee during 2022-2023.
- c. Provides an update on Neighbourhood and Community Board Governance Arrangements for 2022 -2023.

2. Background

- 2.1 Following the approval of the Neighbourhood Investment Plans in March 2020, the West Area Committee has worked together to finalise their Delivery Plans. All priorities have been determined following significant resident consultation via Let's Talk Sunderland.

3. Area Committee and Neighbourhood Investment Plan 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 neighbourhood level; and
 - b. Identification of key priorities for their areas, in the context of supporting the delivery of the Council's City Plan at a neighbourhood level and ensuring maximum impact where necessary, through utilising its own resources.
- 3.2 The Article 10 Neighbourhood Investment Plans were approved at Cabinet in March 2020.
- 3.3 It is now the responsibility of each Area Committee to deliver their agreed priorities to support the delivery of the Neighbourhood Investment Plan. Area Committee Delivery Plans have been developed to enable this to happen.
- 3.4 The Neighbourhood and Community Board will be Chaired by the Vice-Chair of the Area Committee. Neighbourhood and Community Board meetings will be held in July, November, February and April and dates are included in the council diary. If required, the Board may convene a further meeting(s) should there be a business need to do so and essential to ensuring delivery of the Area Neighbourhood Investment Plan Delivery Plan. All Committee members are invited to attend all board meetings.
- 3.5 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 Committee for final endorsement. The Area Committee Chair and Vice-Chair were agreed at Annual Council in May 2022.

4. Neighbourhood Investment Delivery Plan 2020-2023- Areas of Key Action/Progress

- 4.1 The Plan, which includes an introduction from the Chair of the Area Committee, commits to a significant number of priorities, which are being delivered within the West area of Sunderland, to address the key issues raised by residents. The Plan is monitored by the Area Committee and actions will continue to be addressed up to 2023, via the West Neighbourhood and Community Board.
- 4.2 Residents will be able to review the Area Committee Delivery Plan and monitor delivery of the plan via the Council's website which is available to access at www.sunderland.gov.uk, as well as through Area Committee update reports. Funding to support delivery of the plan has been allocated and further information can be found at **Item 4 Area Budget Report**
- 4.3 Progress against the Delivery Plan has been reported regularly to Neighbourhood and Community Board and Area Committee. Good news stories and promotion of projects and local information have been posted on the West Sunderland Community facebook page.
- 4.4 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of action/progress of the Board up to August 2022.

Priority/Issue	Update
'Love where you live'	Having amended and readvertised the Pallion Clean and Green Call brief the Neighbourhood and Community board are making a recommendation to approve <ul style="list-style-type: none">Clean and Green – Springboard £27,000 And reject <ul style="list-style-type: none">Clean it and Green it Pallion – Community Opportunities £27,000 Total Neighbourhood Fund awarded £134,990 and a recommendation of a further £27,000 for Pallion
Invest in highways, pavements and street lighting	Highways officers attend the Neighbourhood and Community Board in November and discussed schemes from the current year and asked that members feed in recommendations for 23/24. Consideration will be given in February to the schemes proposed.
Support the voluntary and community sector to grow capacity	A 'taking stock' survey have been completed by 33 organisations in the West with findings being discussed at the November Neighbourhood and Community Board. Results were considered alongside the activities within the ward, members will continue to consider this data and discuss at future meetings.
Stephenson Trail	Three local community organisations (one from each of the Coalfield, East and West areas) are supporting the project by carrying out environmental and physical improvements with the support of volunteers. The groups will also assist in the design of interpretation boards for each area, at relevant points along the route. The groups will work in partnership with colleagues from Local Services who are also carrying out work to improve the trail. A celebration event took place in November 2022 at City Hall. All groups, schools, Members and volunteers were invited, it was a great event with schools from across the three areas attending.
Welfare Rights	The Neighbourhood and Community Board received an update in November on the project and achievements to date Over 1000 residents have been supported with information, advice and guidance on benefits. 84 residents have received specialist support and 12 tribunal hearings were supported.

	Backdated payments of over 200k have been secured.
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5. Recommendations - Members are requested to: -

- 5.1 Consider the progress and performance update with regard to West Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020/23 and agree proposals for future delivery as contained within **Annex**

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Annex 1 West Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020/2023

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