

At a meeting of the WEST SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE held in THE TANSEY CENTRE, CHURCH ROAD, SOUTH HYLTON, SUNDERLAND on WEDNESDAY 12TH JUNE, 2019 at 5.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor P. Gibson in the Chair

Councillors, Atkinson, Blackett, Crosby, D. Dixon, Greener, Haswell, McDonough, Mann, Mullen, O'Brien, G. Smith, P. Smith, Tye, Waller, Watson, and K. Wood.

Also Present:-

Fiona Brown	Executive Director of Neighbourhoods	Sunderland City Council
Kevin Burns	Station Manager	Tyne & Wear Fire & Rescue Service
Alan Duffy	Head of Operations	Gentoo
David Hardy	Area Response Manager	Sunderland City Council
Joanne Laverick	VCS Network Representative	Youth Almighty
William Leach	VCS Network Representative	Pennywell Com. Centre
Sandra Mitchell	Assistant Director of Community Resilience	Sunderland City Council
David Noon	Principal Governance Services Officer	Sunderland City Council
Helen Peverley	West Area Co-ordinator	Sunderland City Council
Marie Pollock	Inspector	Northumbria Police
Ang Sinclair	Community Partnership Coordinator	Gentoo
Gilly Stanley	Area Community Development Lead	Sunderland City Council

Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting especially those attending their first West Sunderland Area Committee and introductions were made.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor A. Wilson and also on behalf of Andrea Lanaghan.

Declarations of Interest

Item 5 – Financial Statement and proposals for further allocation of resources.

Councillor Tye declared an interest as the Chair of Youth Almighty and withdrew from the meeting during consideration of the item.

Councillor K. Wood declared an interest as a member of Pallion Action Group and the Parker Trust and withdrew from the meeting during consideration of the item.

Mr Leach and Ms Laverick also declared an interest in the item and withdrew from the meeting during its consideration.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 20th March, 2019 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Change in the Order of Business

The Chairman advised that he was going to take items 4a to 4d on the agenda (Partner Reports) at this juncture to allow partners to leave immediately thereafter if they wished.

Report of the West Area Voluntary and Community Sector Network (AVCN)

The AVCS Network submitted a progress report (copy circulated) which briefed members on issues pertinent to the Committee and the Voluntary and Community Sector.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Consideration was given to the report presented by William Leach which highlighted the following feedback and input arising from the two Voluntary and Community Sector Network meetings held since the Area Committee last met in March, 2019 :-

i) the VCS workshop held in March to discuss current and future priorities in the West. The priorities were incorporated into and helped inform West local area priorities for 2019/2020.

ii) an update on the SIB funded West NEET project and how the young people were progressing. The organisations at the network highlighted volunteering opportunities and sharing of skills to the young people.

iii) the continuing support from the VCS with regard to the promotion of the West Area Clean and Green Barnes Park event.

iv) the ongoing support given to the West VCS organisations to help attract external funding to deliver projects that benefitted local residents.

v) West VCS social media training and the continuing receipt of GRANTfinder and NEPO opportunities on a regular basis.

There being no questions for Mr Leach, the Chairman thanked him for his report, and it was:-

2. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

Report of the Northumbria Police – Sunderland West

Inspector Marie Pollock of Northumbria Police presented a report (copy circulated) which provided the Committee with an update on the Force's most recent performance information for the period 9th March, 2019, to 3rd June, 2019.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

In addition Inspector Pollock briefed members on:-

i) the Police priorities for the year ahead, namely:-

Anti-Social Behaviour.

Child Sexual Exploitation, Domestic Abuse and Serious Sexual Offending.

Counter Terrorism and Domestic Extremism.

Signal Crime (Emerging Crime).

Organised Crime. (Human Trafficking / Foreign nationals / Modern day Slavery).

Cyber Crime.

ii) Community Engagement,

iii) Anti-Social Behaviour matters - including the delivery of Operation Constellate which saw the Police together with Tenancy Enforcement and the Council's ASB team carrying out home visits to involve parents in managing youth behaviour. It was intended that early intervention would assist in curbing behaviours and allow the young person to understand the impact on others of their behaviour and the potential consequences for them and their families.

iv) Motorcycle Disorder - including the continuation of Operation Adjust 2 and the successful deployment of DNA Selecta Spray, Body worn cameras and CTTV to assist in identifying offenders.

v) Forward Planning and Forthcoming Engagement

vi) Staffing matters

With regard to issues arising from the last meeting, Inspector Pollock advised that she had circulated an update to members regarding changes to staffing and the operating model. She also confirmed that the 'Your Northumbria' App had now been replaced by NP Alerts, a facility on the Northumbria Police website to register for updates in respect of issues that were of interest. Inspector Pollock thanked the members of the Committee for their continued support and asked them to reassure their residents that Northumbria Police were striving to make them safe.

Inspector Pollock then proceeded to address questions and comments from Members.

Councillor Haswell thanked Inspector Pollock for her regular attendance at the Pallion Traders Meeting which was much appreciated. With regard to Inspector Pollock's request for opportunities regarding community engagement, Councillor Haswell advised that there was residents' association covering Barnes, Pallion and Millfield which met on the first Tuesday of every month. In addition Councillor Haswell asked if it was

possible to align the information in respect of policing in the east and west areas as currently there seemed to be some inconsistencies in the reporting. In conclusion he referred to the discussion at a succession of Area Committee meetings regarding the issue of police staffing and again sought assurances that the budget remained in place to recruit to the outstanding vacancies currently being carried in the west area.

Inspector Pollock replied that she would take on board Councillor Haswell's comment regarding the inconsistencies between reporting in the east and west. She would link in with the City Centre Inspector in order to try and improve attendance however the inconsistencies were possibly due to the more concentrated shift patterns worked by officers in the city centre. With regard to staffing Inspector Pollock stated that there would be a brand new police officer recruited to the West area together with two PCSOs and the possibility of one more to follow.

Councillor D. Dixon thanked Inspector Pollock for the Police's ongoing efforts to curb motorcycle disorder in the West area and welcomed the plans to extend the delivery of operation Adjust 2 over as many weekends as possible. He stated that it was a sad indictment of the present police funding system that Inspector Pollock had to seek financial support from the Area Committee to purchase the DNA Seleta spray used successfully in the operation. In response to an enquiry from Councillor Dixon regarding the recording of violence resulting in injury, Inspector Pollock replied that unless it was reported then such crimes would remain 'hidden'. It was difficult for the Police to secure prosecutions without evidence and witnesses however victimless prosecutions were pursued on occasion. In response to a further enquiry from Councillor Dixon, the Committee was informed that residential burglaries had declined by 28%.

Councillor McDonough referred to the drugs sweep undertaken at one of the secondary schools in the West Area and stated that the Head Teacher had expressed concerns at a lack of a police presence at key times which may have helped to curb the issue. Inspector Pollock replied that she was due to meet with the Head Teacher shortly to try and address her concerns.

Councillor McDonough asked if the Force had lost cell space in the area and as a result suspects were being released. Inspector Pollock replied that decisions in relation to the detention or release of suspects was based purely on the rights of the individual. What had they been arrested for? What was the evidence to hold them.

Councillor Atkinson suggested that as part of their social engagement the Police should be pro-active in explaining how Policing had changed in respect of funding and the operating model.

As a new Councillor, Councillor Mann asked if Inspector Pollock could provide details in relation to operation Adjust 2. Inspector Pollock advised that the operation had been developed because motorcycle disorder had become a particular concern for members and residents in the West Sunderland area. The operation had been an attempt to 'think outside the box' in order to address the problem. Traditionally barriers had been installed at specific points but they were often ineffective and impinged on the rights of people going about their legitimate business. Throughout the operation plain clothed officers had been used in addition to those in uniform wearing body worn cameras and carrying DNA Selecta spray. Partners were assisting in providing intelligence eg housing partners who were aware of tenants owning off road bikes and

also garages providing cctv footage of bikes been refuelled and in particular people buying petrol in jerrycans. In addition to regular visits to hot spots, a major part of the operation had been school visits to warn of the dangers.

There being no further questions or comments for Inspector Pollock, the Chairman thanked her for her attendance and it was:-

3. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

Report of the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service

A report of the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service (TWFRS) (copy circulated) was submitted which provided the Committee with an update on the Service's performance indicators for the period 1st March, 2019 to 31st May, 2019 with particular reference to the L133 Incidents (deliberate fires) broken down by property type.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Kevin Burns, Station Manager presented the report informing members that there had been no deaths recorded during the reporting period. There had been five deliberate property fires during this period, 3 of which were dwellings. Mr Burns then addressed questions and comments from Members thereon.

Councillor Haswell informed Mr Burns that he was incredibly pleased to see the decrease in L133 incidents in Pallion ward as it was the first reduction in 18 months. He stated that he would be interested in receiving the target hardening information being used to tackle the increase in deliberate fires caused by an increase in loose refuse fires which he could then take to the cleansing team. Ms Brown cautioned Councillor Haswell that such issues should not be taken directly to the cleansing team but should be reported via the customer services network (CSN).

The Chairman referred to the reference in the report to community involvement stating that he had recently received a Home Service visit and asked why this had been the case. Mr Burns advised that the Fire Service used a system called Mosaic to target their visits. It used a number of criteria but he suspected in this case it was probably because there had been a fire at a property nearby.

There being no further questions or comments for Mr Burns, the Chairman thanked him for his report, and it was:-

4. RESOLVED the report be received and noted

Report of Gentoo

Alan Duffy, Head of Operations, Gentoo Group presented a report (copy circulated) which briefed the Committee on Gentoo developments, projects and priorities undertaken during the period March, 2019 to June, 2019 including the review of Gentoo's delivery model, the launch of its second Customer Survey and the granting of the planning application to transform Gentoo's vacant land on the old Pennywell Estate site at Chester Gate.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

In response to an enquiry from Councillor O'Brien, Mr Duffy advised that he had no specific figures as yet with regard to the number of homes on the Chester Gate site that would be either affordable or social housing.

With regard to Gentoo's painting programme, Councillor P. Smith informed Mr Duffy of the condition of the railings in Cornelius Ave, Silksworth which were rusting and in need of attention. Mr Duffy confirmed that he would investigate the matter.

Councillor McDonough asked Mr Duffy to thank the Gentoo staff involved in the refurbishment undertaken in Farrington and in addition Councillor Mann paid tribute to the work carried out by Catherine Loftus in respect of land clearances.

There being no further questions or comments, the Chairman thanked Mr Duffy for his report and it was :-

5. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

Place Board Progress Report

The Chairman of the West Sunderland Area Place Board, Councillor K. Wood presented a report (copy circulated) which provided an annual update of the 2018/19 work plan, including SIB funded projects, sought approval for the work plan 2019/20 Place priorities; and provided an update on the Governance arrangements for the Place Board for 2019/20.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

With regard to the Board membership it was moved by Councillor Haswell and seconded by Councillor O'Brien that a recorded vote be taken in respect of those wards where representation to the Place Board was being contested. This was agreed accordingly.

The Chairman advised that the contested wards were Pallion with nominations received from Councillors Haswell and A. Wilson and St. Chad's with nominations from Councillors D. Dixon and McDonough.

The nominations in respect of Pallion ward were put to the vote with 9 members voting in favour of Councillor Haswell (namely Cllrs Blackett, Crosby, Greener, Haswell, McDonough, Mann, Mullen, O'Brien and G. Smith) and 8 members voting in favour of Councillor A. Wilson (namely Cllrs Atkinson, D. Dixon, P. Gibson, P. Smith, Tye, Waller, Watson and K. Wood).

Accordingly it was agreed that Councillor Haswell be appointed as the Pallion Ward representative on West Area Place Board.

The nominations in respect of St Chad's Ward ward were put to the vote with 9 members voting in favour of Councillor Mc Donough (namely Cllrs Blackett, Crosby, Greener, Haswell, McDonough, Mann, Mullen, O'Brien and G. Smith) and 8 members

voting in favour of Councillor D. Dixon (namely Cllrs Atkinson, D. Dixon, P. Gibson, P. Smith, Tye, Waller, Watson and K. Wood).

Accordingly it was agreed that Councillor McDonough be appointed as the St Chad's Ward representative on West Area Place Board.

There being no further questions or comments on the report, it was:-

6. RESOLVED that:-

- i) the report be received and noted;
- ii) the annual performance update with regard to the West Sunderland Area's Place Board Work Plan for 2018/19 be received and noted;
- iii) the West Sunderland Area Place Board Work Plan Priorities for 2019/20 be approved;
- iv) the Area Governance arrangements as outlined in the report, including the appointment of Councillor K. Wood as Chair of the Place Board by Council at its annual meeting, be noted; and
- v) approval be given to the appointment of the following elected members as ward representatives on the Place Board:-

Councillor Haswell
Councillor McDonough
Councillor Mullen
Councillor O'Brien
Councillor Tye
Councillor Watson

People Board Progress Report

The Chairman of the West Sunderland Area People Board, Councillor Watson presented a report (copy circulated) which provided an annual update of the 2018/19 work plan, including SIB funded projects, sought approval for the work plan 2019/20 People priorities; and provided an update on the Governance arrangements for the People Board for 2019/20.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

With regard to the Board membership it was moved by Councillor Haswell and seconded by Councillor O'Brien that a recorded vote was taken in respect of those wards where representation to the People Board was being contested. This was agreed accordingly.

The Chairman advised that the contested wards were Barnes with nominations received from Councillors Atkinson and Greener, Sandhill with nominations from Councillors Crosby and Waller and St Anne's with nominations from Councillors K. Wood and Mann.

The nominations in respect of Barnes Ward were put to the vote with 9 members voting in favour of Councillor Greener (namely Cllrs Blackett, Crosby, Greener, Haswell, McDonough, Mann, Mullen, O'Brien and G. Smith) and 8 members voting in favour of

Councillor Atkinson (namely Cllrs Atkinson, D. Dixon, P. Gibson, P. Smith, Tye, Waller, Watson and K. Wood).

Accordingly it was agreed that Councillor Greener be appointed as the Barnes Ward representative on West Area People Board.

The nominations in respect of Sandhill Ward were put to the vote with 9 members voting in favour of Councillor Crosby (namely Cllrs Blackett, Crosby, Greener, Haswell, McDonough, Mann, Mullen, O'Brien and G. Smith) and 8 members voting in favour of Councillor Waller (namely Cllrs Atkinson, D. Dixon, P. Gibson, P. Smith, Tye, Waller, Watson and K. Wood).

Accordingly it was agreed that Councillor Crosby be appointed as the Sandhill Ward representative on West Area Place Board.

The nominations in respect of St Anne's Ward were put to the vote with 9 members voting in favour of Councillor Mann (namely Cllrs Blackett, Crosby, Greener, Haswell, McDonough, Mann, Mullen, O'Brien and G. Smith) and 8 members voting in favour of Councillor K. Wood (namely Cllrs Atkinson, D. Dixon, P. Gibson, P. Smith, Tye, Waller, Watson and K. Wood).

Accordingly it was agreed that Councillor Mann be appointed as the St Anne's Ward representative on West Area Place Board.

There being no further questions or comments on the report, it was:-

7. RESOLVED that:-

- i) the report be received and noted;
- ii) the annual performance update with regard to the West Sunderland Area's People Board Work Plan for 2018/19 be received and noted;
- iii) the West Sunderland Area People Board Work Plan Priorities for 2019/20 be approved;
- iv) the Area Governance arrangements as outlined in the report together with the appointment of Councillor Watson as Chair of the Place Board by Council at its annual meeting be noted; and
- v) approval be given to the appointment of the following ward members to the People Board:-

Councillor Blackett
Councillor Crosby
Councillor Greener
Councillor Mann
Councillor G. Smith
Councillor P. Smith

Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB) and Community Chest – Financial Statement and Proposals for Further Allocation of Resources

The Assistant Director of Community Resilience submitted a report (copy circulated) in respect of the above matter.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Helen Peverley, Area Coordinator, presented the report highlighting the Committee's financial statement, an offer of £20,000 match funding from Sunderland City Council's Children's Services to support the delivery of youth activity projects, an offer of £40,000 funding from Sunderland CCG to meet local health outcomes, details of 8 projects approved under delegated powers for support from the 2019/20 Community Chest budget, together with 2 from the 2018/19 budget and details of proposals for the allocation of SIB funding.

Consideration having been given to the report, it was:-

8. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the Area Committee's funding statement be received and noted;
- (ii) approval be given to the acceptance of £20,000 match funding from Sunderland City Council, Children's Services to support the delivery of youth activity projects within the west area;
- (iii) approval be given to the West Holiday Hunger projects as detailed in Annexes 1, 2 and 3 of the report;
- (iv) approval be given to the acceptance of £40,000 funding from the Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to meet local health outcomes and to delegate the responsibility to oversee the development and delivery of projects and the allocation of funding via the small grants process to the West People Board;
- (v) the approval of the 2 Community Chest applications from the 2018/19 budget as detailed in Annex 4 of the report be noted;
- (vi) the approval of the 8 Community Chest applications from the 2019/20 budget as detailed in Annex 5 of the report be noted;

West Area Committee Annual Report 2018-19

The Chair of the West Sunderland Area Committee submitted a report (copy circulated) which sought the committee's approval of the West Sunderland Area Committee Annual Report for 2018-19 which would be presented to full Council as part of the combined Area Committee Annual Report 2018-19.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Committee members having paid tribute to Helen Peverley, Area Coordinator and Gilly Stanley, Area Community Development Lead for all their hard work on behalf of the West Area Committee over the course of the year, it was:-

9. RESOLVED that approval be given to the inclusion of the West Sunderland Area Annual Report in the combined Area Committee Annual Report for 2018-19.

The Chairman then closed the meeting having thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions and particularly to everyone at the Tansey Centre for their assistance in hosting the meeting and the community event.

(Signed) P. GIBSON,
Chairman.