

CIVIC CENTRE,
SUNDERLAND
16 September 2013

TO THE MEMBERS OF SUNDERLAND CITY COUNCIL

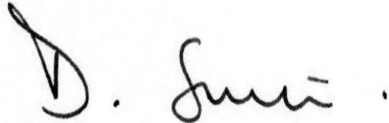
YOU ARE SUMMONED TO ATTEND A MEETING of Sunderland City Council to be held in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Sunderland, on **WEDNESDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2013** at **6.00 p.m.**, at which it is proposed to consider and transact the following business:-

Item	Page
1. To read the Notice convening the meeting.	-
2. To approve the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on 19 June 2013 and those of the extraordinary meeting of the Council held on 24 July 2013 (copies herewith).	3 11
3. Receipt of Declarations of Interest (if any).	-
4. Announcements (if any) under Rule 2(iv).	-
5. Reception of Petitions.	-
6. Apologies.	-
7. Report of the Cabinet (copy herewith).	15
8. Honorary Freedom of the City – Report of the Chief Executive (copy herewith).	67
9. Report of the Audit and Governance Committee (copy herewith).	73

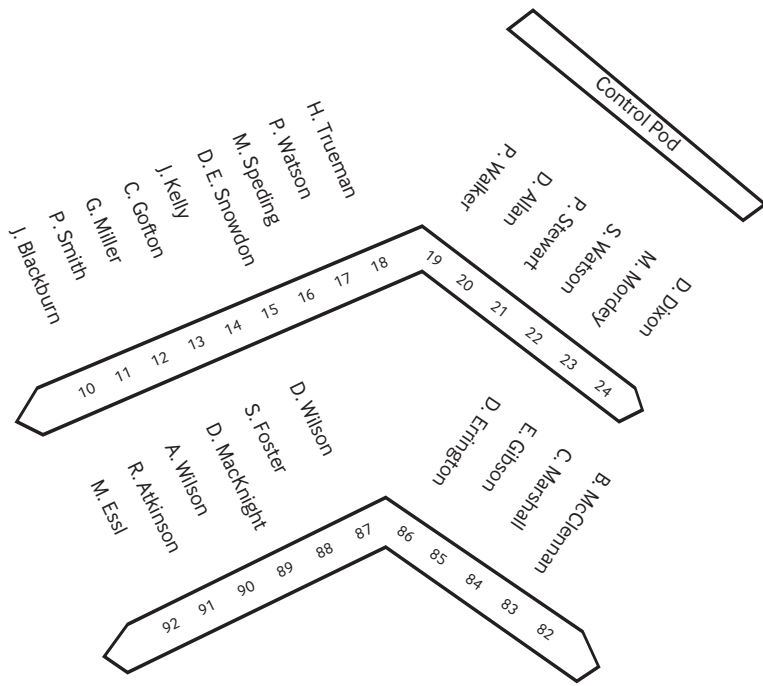
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Information contained in this agenda can be made available in other languages and formats on request.

10.	Written Questions (if any) under Rule 8.2.	-
11.	To receive a report on action taken on petitions.	81
12.	To consider the attached motion.	87
13.	To consider the undermentioned reports:-	
(i)	Quarterly Report on Special Urgency Decisions – Report of the Leader (copy herewith), and	93
(ii)	Appointment to the Health and Wellbeing Board NHS Provider Forum – Report of the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services (Copy herewith).	95



CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Head of Law
and Governance
E. Waugh

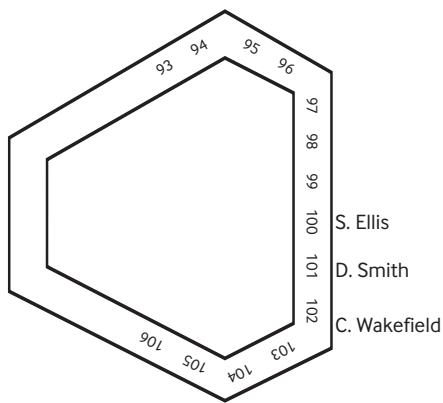
Mayor
R. Heron

Chief Executive
D. Smith

Deputy Mayor
S. Porthouse

Governance
Services

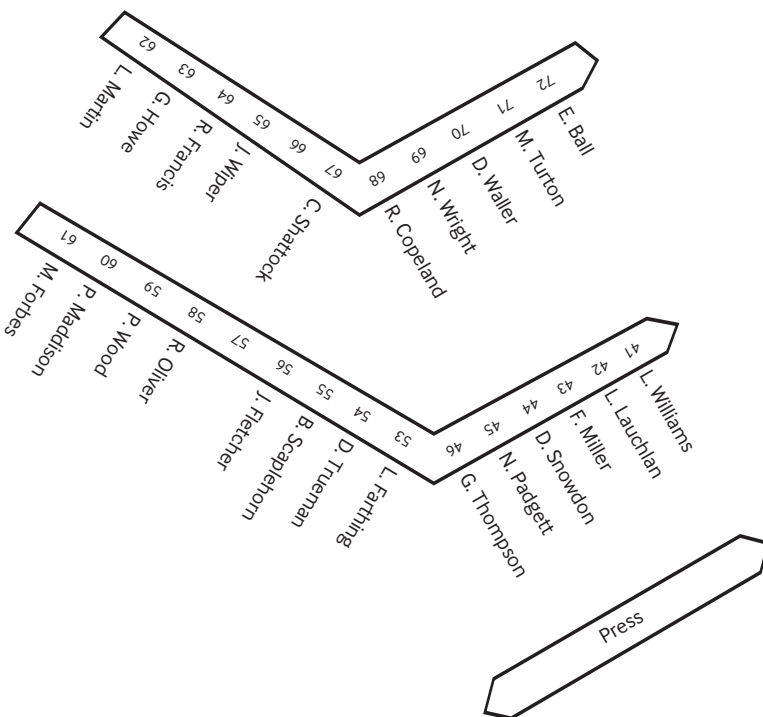
Governance
Services



81 T. Wright
80 L. Smiles
79 I. W. Kay
78 L. Scanlan
77 B. Price
76 R. Bell
75 R. Davison
74 A. Farr
73 A. Emerson

29 A. Lawson
30 J. Scott
31 P. Tye
32 P. Gibson
33 F. Anderson
34 D. Tate
35 D. Richardson
36 G. Taylor
37 B. Curran
38 S. Bonallie
39 J. Jackson
40 T. Martin

Public Gallery



Minutes

Sunderland City Council

At a meeting of SUNDERLAND CITY COUNCIL held in the CIVIC CENTRE on WEDNESDAY, 19th JUNE, 2013 at 6.00 p.m.

Present: The Mayor (Councillor R Heron) in the Chair

Councillors	Allan	Gibson, E	Padgett	Taylor
	Ball	Gibson, P	Porthouse	Trueman, D.
	Bell	Gofton	Price	Trueman, H.
	Blackburn	Howe	Richardson	Turton
	Bonallie	Jackson	Scanlan	Tye
	Copeland	Kay	Scaplehorn	Wakefield
	Curran	Kelly	Scott	Walker
	Davison	Lawson	Shattock	Waller
	Dixon	McClennan	Smiles	Watson, S
	Ellis	MacKnight	Smith, D	Williams
	Emerson	Marshall	Smith, P.	Wilson, A.
	Essl	Martin, L	Snowdon, D	Wilson, D.
	Fletcher	Miller, F	Snowdon, DE	Wood
	Forbes	Miller, G	Speding	Wright, N
	Foster	Mordey	Tate	Wright, T
	Francis	Oliver		

The notice convening the meeting was read.

Minutes

10. RESOLVED that the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 15th May, 2013 (copy circulated) be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Declarations of Interest

The following Councillors declared interests as follows and left the meeting during consideration of the item: -

Item 9 – Notice of Motion - Business Improvement District (BID)	Councillor Kay	Owner of business within the boundary of the BID
	Councillor McClennan	Member of Riverside Consultancy CIC, located within the boundary of the BID
	Councillor Scanlan	Owner of property within the

boundary of the BID

Councillor L. Martin made an open declaration in Item 9 – Notice of Motion – Business Improvement District as his elections expenses were paid from the proceeds of Albion House.

Announcements

(i) Death of Former Councillor Norman Bohill

The Mayor paid tribute to former Councillor and colleague, Norman Bohill who had recently passed away.

Members and Officers stood for a minute's silence as a mark of respect.

Reception of Petitions

11. RESOLVED that the under - mentioned petition, submitted by the Councillor named, be received and referred for consideration in accordance with the Council's Petitions Scheme:-

Councillor Ellis – Petition to Protect The Green at Redburn Row, Houghton-le-Spring and the field lying to the rear of Redburn Row.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors Anderson, Atkinson, Errington, Farr, Farthing, Lauchlan, Stewart, Thompson, P. Watson and Wiper.

Written Questions under Rule 8.2

Pursuant to Rule 8.2 of the Council Rules of Procedure, Members of the Council asked questions of the Leader and Members of the Executive.

Action Taken on Petitions

The Council received the under mentioned report on action taken in relation to the following petition which had been presented to Council.

(i) Petition to improve street lighting in various parts of Farringdon Estate – Presented by Councillor Porthouse on 26 September, 2012

The petitioners requested the Council to improve street lighting in various parts of Farringdon Estate stating that there were several streets where

the existing lighting columns were not adequate and were not replaced under the Street Lighting PFI. The streets the petition referred to were Farrington Avenue, Avalon Road, Arundel Road, Arnold Road and part of Ashdown Road.

The Council had already identified the area as one which required improvement and commissioned designers to work up a scheme that would satisfy current lighting standards. Works to improve street lighting in the Avalon Road/Arundel Road area were scheduled to start in the week commencing 13th May, 2013 and were due to be completed within a week.

Councillor Porthouse and the lead petitioner had been notified accordingly.

Notices of Motion

(i) Notice of Motion – Business Improvement District

Councillor Oliver seconded by Councillor Wood moved the following motion in relation to the Business Improvement District:-

“This Council recognises the need to make the city centre more attractive to residents and visitors and will back the plans for a business improvement district.”

Councillor Speding, seconded by Councillor H. Trueman moved the following amendment:-

After ‘This Council’ insert ‘**in line with its agreed policies,**’

After ‘and will’ insert ‘**continue to**’

Upon being put to the meeting, the amendment was carried unanimously. The new substantive motion was then put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

Accordingly it was :-

12. RESOLVED that this Council, in line with its agreed policies, recognises the need to make the city centre more attractive to residents and visitors and will continue to back the plans for a business improvement district.

Scrutiny Matters: Annual Scrutiny Report 2012/2013

The Chief Executive submitted the Annual Scrutiny Report (copy circulated) which summarised the work of the Scrutiny Committee during the year 2012/2013

(for copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor Tate, duly seconded by Councillor N. Wright, moved the Annual Report of the Scrutiny Committee and it was:-

13. RESOLVED that the operation, achievements and impact of the Scrutiny Committee during 2012/2013, as outlined in the Annual Report, be received and noted.

Area Committees Annual Report 2012/2013

The Chief Executive submitted the Combined Area Committee Annual Report (copy circulated) which summarised the work of the five Area Committees during the year 2012/2013

(for copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor Gofton, duly seconded by Councillor A. Wilson, moved the Combined Annual Report of the Area Committees and it was:-

14. RESOLVED that the achievements and impact of the work of the Area Committees during 2012/2013, as outlined in the Annual Report, be received and noted.

Quarterly Report on Special Urgency Decisions

The Leader of the Council submitted a quarterly report (copy circulated) on executive decisions which had been taken under Regulation 11 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

15. RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies – Newcastle Airport Local Authority Holding Company Limited and the North East Local Transport Body

The Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services submitted a report (copy circulated) requesting Council to consider appointments to the Newcastle Airport Local Authority Holding Company Limited and the North East Local Transport Body.

(for copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor H. Trueman moved the recommendations contained within the report and was duly seconded by Councillor Speding.

Accordingly it was:-

16. RESOLVED that approval be given to: -

- (i) the appointment of the Leader of the Council to Newcastle Airport Local Authority Holding Company Limited and that the appointment of the Deputy Leader as his alternate be noted; and
- (ii) the appointment of the Leader of the Council to the North East Local Transport Body and the appointment of Councillor Blackburn as his alternate.

Approval of Reason for Failure to Attend Meetings – Councillor F Anderson

The Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services submitted a report seeking the approval of the Council, under Section 85 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972, to the reason for Councillor Anderson's current inability to attend meetings due to illness.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

17. RESOLVED that approval be given to Councillor Anderson's reason for failure to attend meetings, in accordance with Section 85 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972.

(Signed) R. Heron,
Mayor.

Sunderland City Council

At an EXTRAORDINARY meeting of SUNDERLAND CITY COUNCIL held in the CIVIC CENTRE on WEDNESDAY, 24th JULY, 2013 at 6.00 p.m.

Present: The Mayor (Councillor R Heron) in the Chair

Councillors	Atkinson	Francis	Porthouse	Trueman, D.
	Ball	Gibson, E	Price	Trueman, H.
	Bell	Gibson, P	Richardson	Tye
	Blackburn	Gofton	Scaplehorn	Wakefield
	Bonallie	Howe	Scott	Walker
	Curran	Jackson	Smiles	Waller
	Davison	Kay	Smith, P.	Watson, P
	Dixon	Kelly	Snowdon, D	Watson, S
	Emerson	Lauchlan	Snowdon, DE	Williams
	Errington	McClennan	Speding	Wilson, A.
	Essl	MacKnight	Stewart	Wilson, D.
	Farthing	Marshall	Tate	Wiper
	Fletcher	Miller, F	Taylor	Wood
	Forbes	Miller, G	Thompson	Wright, T
	Foster	Oliver		

The notice convening the meeting was read.

Declarations of Interest

The following Councillors declared interests as follows and left the meeting during consideration of the item: -

Item 4 (1) – Report of the Cabinet – Creation of a Combined Authority	Councillor Curran	Vice Chair of Tyne and Wear Integrated Transport Authority
	Councillor Errington	Member of Integrated Transport Authority
	Councillor F. Miller	Member of Integrated Transport Authority
	Councillor G. Miller	Member of Integrated Transport Authority
	Councillor P Wood	Member of Integrated Transport Authority

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors Allan, Anderson, Atkinson, Copeland, Ellis, Farr, Lawson, L. Martin, Mordey, Padgett, Scanlan, Shattock, D. Smith, Turton and N.Wright

Report of the Cabinet

The Cabinet reported and recommended as follows:-

1. Creation of a Combined Authority

That they had given consideration to a report of the Chief Executive (copy attached) on the outcome of the extensive area-wide review of governance arrangements undertaken in relation to local authority functions concerning economic growth, skills and transportation across the seven North East Local Authority areas comprising: Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside and Sunderland and the proposed submission to Government of a request to establish a Combined Authority covering the area of the seven local authorities.

Accordingly the Cabinet, having agreed the recommendations in the report, recommended the Council to endorse its decisions upon those recommendations.

2. Capital Programme Outturn 2012/2013 and First Capital Review 2013/2014 (Including Treasury Management)

That they had given consideration to a report of the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services on an aspect of the report on the Capital Programme Outturn 2012/2013 and First Review 2013/2014 (including Treasury Management), namely requesting the Council to approve the variations to the capital programme for both years to include additional schemes with an estimated cost in excess of £250,000.

Accordingly, the Cabinet recommended the Council to approve the proposed variation to the Capital Programme for 2012/2013 and 2013/2014 to include additional schemes with an estimated cost in excess of £250,000 as set out in the attached extract.

They also referred the report to the Scrutiny Committee for advice and consideration. The Scrutiny Committee supported the Cabinet recommendation to recommend the Council to approve the proposed variations to the Capital Programme for 2012/2013 and 2013/2014 to include the additional schemes.

3. Revenue Budget Outturn for 2012/2013 and First Revenue Review 2013/2014

That they had given consideration to a report of the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services on the Revenue Budget Outturn for 2012/2013 and First Revenue Review 2013/2014 namely requesting the Council to approve the transfer of funds.

In accordance with the Council's Budget and Policy Framework certain transfers require Council approval. An attached extract set out the relevant extract from the Cabinet report, which referred to the transfer of £6.031m underspending on the budget in 2012/2013 to the Strategic Investment Reserve to support one off transitional costs arising from the implementation of budget savings proposals in 2013/2014 and future years.

Accordingly the Cabinet recommended the Council to approve the budget transfers for the first quarter of 2013/2014 as set above and in the attached extract.

They also referred the extract of the budget transfers to the Scrutiny Committee, for advice and consideration. The Scrutiny Committee supported the Cabinet recommendation to recommend the Council to approve the transfer of the £6.031 million underspend as proposed.

4. Establishment of People Directorate: Transfer of Delegated Council Functions and Update to the Constitution

The Cabinet, at its meeting held on 17 July 2013, gave consideration to a report of the Head of Law and Governance regarding a reference from the Human Resources Committee. The report concerned changes to the senior management structure, including the creation of a People Directorate, to be implemented immediately following the retirement of the Executive Directorate of Children's Services on 31 July 2013.

The report recommended Council to agree to the transfer of delegated Council functions from the Executive Directors of Children's Services and Health, Housing and Adult Services to the Executive Director of People Services, upon implementation of the new structure and to authorise the Head of Law and Governance to amend the constitution accordingly to reflect the new arrangements.

The Leader of the Council, duly seconded by the Deputy Leader of the Council, moved the report of the Cabinet.

Upon the report of the Cabinet being put to the meeting, it was: -

18. RESOLVED that the report of the Cabinet be approved and adopted.

Appointments – Quality Training and Development Community Interest Company, Local Authority Trading Company Regarding Care and Support and Corporate Parenting Board

The Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services submitted a report (copy attached) for Council to consider appointments to the Quality Training and Development Community Interest Company, a new Local Authority Trading Company in respect of care and support provision and the Corporate Parenting Board.

Accordingly it was

19. RESOLVED to:-

- (i) appoint Councillor Gofton as Director to the Board of the Quality Training and Development (or QTD) Community Interest Company, and
- (ii) appoint Councillors A.Wilson, Fletcher and Lawson as directors to the Board of the Local Authority Trading Company (and its subsidiary), and
- (iii) appoint Councillor D. MacKnight in place of Councillor S. Foster on the Corporate Parenting Board.

(Signed) R. Heron,
Mayor

Report of the Cabinet

THE CABINET reports as follows:-

1. Honorary Freedom of the City

That they have given consideration to a joint report of the Chief Executive and the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services (copy attached) recommending that the Council formally confer the Honorary Freedom of the City upon Monsieur Joël Batteux OBE, Mayor of St Nazaire and Mr Niall Quinn MBE to formally recognise their outstanding contributions to the well-being and community spirit of the City as outlined in the report.

Accordingly, the Cabinet recommends that:-

- (i) it agrees to the conferring, in accordance with the provisions of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, of the Honorary Freedom of the City upon Monsieur Joël Batteux OBE, Mayor of St Nazaire and Mr Niall Quinn MBE., and
- (ii) authority be given for the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to agree all appropriate arrangements for the formal ceremony at an extraordinary meeting of the Council to be held on 11 November 2013.

2. Appointment of Aldermen

That they have given consideration to a joint report of the Chief Executive and the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services (copy attached) recommending that the Council agree arrangements for the appointment of Honorary Alderman for the Council of the City of Sunderland to recognise distinguished service to the Council, the city and its communities, by former Members.

Accordingly the Cabinet recommends the Council to Council to approve the arrangements for the Appointment of Honorary Aldermen for the Council of the City of Sunderland.

3. Proposed amendments to the Council's Delegation Scheme

That they have given consideration to a joint report of the Deputy Chief Executive and the Head of Law and Governance (copy attached) to seek approval to amend the Council's Delegation Scheme in order to authorise the Deputy Chief Executive to exercise the Council's full enforcement powers in respect of trees under Part VIII of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and also to authorise the Regulatory Committee, Deputy Chief Executive and Head of Street Scene to exercise functions under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013

Accordingly the Cabinet recommends the Council to approve the amendment of the Council's Delegation Scheme in Part 3 of the Constitution as follows:-

Paragraph 2.22 (Deputy Chief Executive) be deleted and substituted as follows:-

"2.22 To authorise the making of Tree Preservation Orders (including any variation or revocation Order) (provided that if any statutory representations or objections are received to any such Orders which the Council is required to consider they shall be reported to the Planning and Highways Committee for consideration) and to exercise the Council's enforcement powers in respect of trees under Part VIII of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990,"

and

The further amendments set out in the Schedule to the report be made in relation to the exercise of functions under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 and that the Head of Street Scene be appointed as the person to whom oral representations are to be made under paragraph 7(8) of Schedule 1 to the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013.

4. Youth Justice Plan 2013/14 to 2015/16

That they have given consideration to a report of the Executive Director of People Services (copy attached) seeking approval to the publication and distribution of the Youth Justice Plan 2013/14 to 2015/16. The report outlines the background, purpose and intentions of the Plan and provides the Plan intended for publication.

They also referred the report to the Scrutiny Committee for further advice and consideration. The Scrutiny Committee recommended that future reports give more detailed cost benefit analysis in order to demonstrate value for money. The Scrutiny Committee were satisfied with the remaining content of the Youth Justice Plan and had no further comment to make.

Accordingly the Cabinet recommends the Council to consider the contents of the report and approve the Youth Justice Plan 2013/14 to 2015/16 and agree to its publication and distribution.

CABINET

4 SEPTEMBER 2013

HONORARY FREEDOM OF THE CITY

Joint report of the Chief Executive and Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services

1.0- Purpose of Report

To consider recommending Council formally to confer the Honorary Freedom of the City upon Monsieur Joël Batteux, Mayor of St Nazaire and Mr Niall Quinn MBE.

2.0 Description of Decision

To recommend to Council that:-

- (i) it agrees to the conferring, in accordance with the provisions of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, of the Honorary Freedom of the City upon Monsieur Joël Batteux, and Mr Niall Quinn MBE
- (ii) authority be given for the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to agree all appropriate arrangements for the formal ceremony at an extraordinary meeting of the Council to be held on 11th November 2013.

3.0 Background

The Council has traditionally honoured notable citizens of Sunderland who have made significant contributions to the well being and community spirit of the City by conferring on them the Honorary Freedom of the City.

Members of the Council have now nominated two candidates for consideration:-

3.1 Monsieur Joël Batteux

Joël Batteux has been nominated in recognition of his longstanding commitment to the town twinning relationship between Sunderland and Saint-Nazaire throughout his time as Mayor and his significant work with British veterans.

Joël was born on 16th December 1943 in Vitré in Brittany. He went on to train as a chemical engineer before entering politics and being elected as a Member of the Saint-Nazaire Mairie (Town Council) on 13th March 1977. He quickly became Deputy Mayor the following year and was elected Mayor of Saint-Nazaire for the first time in 1983. He will stand down next year, having been re-elected for five successive terms (in 1989, 1995, 2001 and 2008).

During this time he has done much to transform his own town and the wider region. He is the President of the CARENE (a group of 10 local authorities within the Saint-Nazaire and Loire estuary region) and has been a member of the Regional Council for the Pays de la Loire region (one of 27 regions in France) since 1981, for which he held lead responsibility for Economic Development from 2004 to 2010. He has also been a longstanding ambassador for the town's international relationships and outward-looking approach. He was recognised for his exceptional service by the French state by being designated officer of the *Ordre National de Mérite* in 1992 and appointed a Knight of the Legion of Honour in 1999.

Joël's engagement with Sunderland predates his time as Mayor, dating back almost as long as the twinning relationship itself which is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year. He participated in one of the very first school exchange visits to Sunderland as a teenager in the late 1950's, spending a week at Bede School. Although at that time he did not dream that he might go on to become Mayor, and play such a significant role in supporting twinning, his commitment as Mayor is founded on the enthusiasm for international cooperation developed during that first visit to Sunderland.

Over the course of his five terms he has consistently ensured a lead within his Cabinet for international relations to support the development of the partnership. He has encouraged officers from a variety of service areas to take part in joint activity and to visit Sunderland as well as welcoming delegations from our city to Saint-Nazaire on numerous occasions to share good practice on a wide range of topics. He has also supported the foundation and ongoing development of Saint-Nazaire's Town Twinning Committee, which is starting to develop new joint activities with Sunderland partners this year.

As well as supporting the direct international partnership that Saint-Nazaire shares with Sunderland, Joël's commitment to Anglo-French relations has included significant work with British veterans, for which he was awarded the Order of the British Empire on behalf of Saint-Nazaire by the then-British Ambassador to France, Sir Peter Westmacott, in Paris in 2008. Sunderland's then Deputy Mayor Cllr Dennis Richardson was delighted to represent the city on this occasion to hear Sir Peter praise 'the exceptional relations that Saint-Nazaire has with Great Britain'. The Ambassador referred particularly to the annual remembrance ceremonies Saint-Nazaire hosts for more than

4,000 people who lost their lives as a result of the sinking of the RMS Lancastria following the Dunkirk evacuation, as well as those who took part in the daring commando raid on the port of Saint-Nazaire as part of Operation Chariot.

3.2 Mr Niall Quinn MBE

A former professional footballer, Niall Quinn MBE played for Arsenal, Manchester City and Sunderland in a glittering career lasting two decades.

Serving the Republic of Ireland with distinction, Niall amassed 21 goals in 92 appearances for his country and played starring roles in FIFA World Cup competitions in Italy in 1990 and Japan and South Korea in 2002.

He received widespread praise following his testimonial game between Sunderland and a Republic of Ireland XI in 2002, breaking with tradition to selflessly donate all proceeds from the game to charities including major children's hospitals in Dublin, Sunderland and India.

His contributions to football and charity earned him an honorary MBE in 2003.

After retiring as a player that year, Niall returned to the game and to Sunderland in 2006 when he brokered the deal which saw the Drumaville Consortium of Irish businessmen take control at the Stadium of Light. Appointed as chairman, his first season resulted in the club's promotion to the Barclays Premier League where it has remained and flourished since.

He attracted millions of pounds of investment to the club which also benefited the city's economy and he played a major role in Sunderland's 2018 World Cup bid

Hugely respected in the game, Niall went on to spearhead the growth of Sunderland AFC's global profile as its head of international development. He stood down from the club in 2012 to further his business interests and spend time with his family and is now a regular commentator on Sky Sports.

During his time in Sunderland Niall not only made a major contribution to its sporting life, but also became a real champion for the city and its people.

As well as helping fund the Niall Quinn Children's Centre at Sunderland Royal Hospital through his 2002 testimonial, he raised millions for charities across the city.

Under his chairmanship at the club, the SAFC Foundation went from strength to strength, working with thousands of young people and their families across the north east,

The annual Niall's Mile walking event lives on to this day, encouraging children to take part in exercise at the same time as raising funds for charity.

4.0 Current Position

Given Sunderland's long tradition of conferring the Freedom of the City on those notable individuals who, through their various achievements, have contributed to the well being and community spirit of the City, it is considered appropriate to recommend the Council to confer the Freedom of the City upon the two nominees.

5.0 Reasons for Decision

The proposal will formally seal the relationships between the nominees and the City of Sunderland and will recognise their contributions to the well being and community spirit of the City. The proposal will also further strengthen the relationship between the City and its twin town St Nazaire.

6.0 Alternative Options

There are no alternative options submitted for consideration, as the conferring of honorary freedoms is considered to be appropriate in order to recognise the outstanding contributions made by the nominated individuals.

7.0 Background Papers

None.

CABINET – 14 SEPTEMBER 2013

APPOINTMENT OF ALDERMEN

Report of the Chief Executive and Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services

1. Purpose of the Report

To propose arrangements for the Appointment of Honorary Aldermen.

2. Description of Decision (Recommendations)

To recommend to Council arrangements for the Appointment of Honorary Aldermen for the Council of the City of Sunderland.

3. Introduction/Background

Under the provisions of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council may, by resolutions passed by not less than two-thirds of the councillors voting thereon at a meeting specially convened for the purpose:

- (i) admit to be Honorary Freemen of the Borough persons of distinction and persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent service to the Borough; and
- (ii) confer the title of Honorary Alderman upon persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent service to the Council as past councillors.

4. Current Position

While Sunderland Council has an established practice of granting Freedom of the City to distinguished individuals who have contributed to civic life, and to the armed forces, the Council has not previously had any arrangement for awarding the recognition for service to the Council that is conferred by the title of Honorary Alderman.

It is now timely to consider, in the context of the council's community leadership work, how the council may want to recognise distinguished service to the council, the city and its communities, by former Members. In adopting a scheme for the appointment of Honorary Aldermen the council has an opportunity to honour and celebrate the achievements of past Councillors for their services.

The role is not political and does not attract any payment or allowance, but may, at the Council's discretion, provide those appointed Alderman with some small privileges in recognition of their distinguished service, and an opportunity to continue to play a valuable role in civic life.

5. Reasons for the Decision

To ensure that there are appropriate arrangements for the Council to recognise formally the distinguished service of former councillors, to both the Council and to the City of Sunderland.

6. Alternative Options

To maintain no formal arrangement that recognises the distinguished service of former councillors. This option is not recommended as it would fail to embrace the opportunity presented through such formal arrangements for the Council and the city to recognise and celebrate the contribution made to civic life through the distinguished service of former councillors.

7. Impact Analysis

- 7(a) Equalities** - The proposed arrangement will contribute to the promotion of civic values of fairness and decency.
- 7(b) Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA)** –administrative arrangements will safeguard the privacy of potential nominees until such time as nominations for the title of Honorary Alderman are made public.
- 7(c) Sustainability** – The proposals will promote and, in its broadest sense, sustain contributions to civic life.
- 7(d) Reduction of Crime and Disorder – Community Cohesion / Social Inclusion** – The proposals support promotion of community cohesion through civic leadership.

8. Other Relevant Considerations / Consultations

The Leaders of the principal political groups have been consulted and indicate their support for the proposals

11. Background Papers

none

SUNDERLAND CITY COUNCIL

SCHEME FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY ALDERMEN

PURPOSE OF THE SCHEME

This scheme sets out the arrangements Sunderland City Council has decided it will apply when Council exercises its power to appoint Honorary Aldermen contained in Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972.

The Council has decided that it will confer this Honorary title in recognition of the exceptional services to the City and its people that have been provided by those past Members of the Council that Council may select for the honour.

WHO CAN BE AN HONORARY ALDERMAN?

The title of Honorary Alderman can only be conferred on former Members of the Council who are not Councillors at the time the title is conferred.

The title is awarded to those former Councillors who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent services to the Council.

The following criteria will be considered when nominations are put forward, but will be applied flexibly and as a non-exclusive list of criteria that are relevant when considering the service of past members of the Council with a view to appointing them Alderman.

- Distinguished service in the Council Chamber
- Distinguished service to Council committees, boards, panels and working groups
- Service that is notable for achieving improvements in the community
- Notable achievements in helping to develop and promote the growth of new Councillors in their role
- Eminent service contributing to the broader civic life of the City

It is not anticipated that appointments will be made in each civic year, since election to the roll of Honorary Alderman is an honour that will not be conferred lightly or as a matter of routine.

Group Leaders are, however, recommended to give consideration to selection of potential nominees at the start of each civic year to allow for early recognition of the contribution made by Members who have recently office. Group Leaders will seek, together, to arrive at agreement regarding nominations to be put forward to Council. Group Leaders will advise the Chief Executive of nominations and, provided it appears that there is majority support for the nomination, and the nominee is content for their name to be put forward, a report will be submitted to the next Council meeting for the Council to decide whether it wishes to convene a special meeting for appointment of Aldermen.

If an Alderman decides to resume their political role and stand as a candidate for election to the Council, they will no longer hold the position of Honorary Alderman. Entitlement to the position will end with immediate effect if they are still standing as a candidate immediately following the deadline for withdrawal of candidates.

The title may also be withdrawn on a formal motion to full Council which sets out the reasons for the proposal to withdraw, if this is supported by not less than two thirds of the Members present and voting at the Council meeting.

THE ROLE OF ALDERMAN

The role of an Honorary Alderman is a non-political civic honorary role. It is not compatible with continuing political activity, other than campaigning work on matters that do not bring the Alderman into conflict with the council.

Those nominated are recognised for their individual contribution to the activities of the Council and the wellbeing of the people of the city. As such, the Council recognises the value of the contribution they have and may continue to wish to make to civic life. The Mayor may therefore, from time to time, seek the support of one or more of the city's Aldermen in promoting the civic interests of the city, through activities such as providing a civic welcome and hospitality and attending at events on the Mayor's behalf.

An Alderman is entitled to attend and take their honorary seat in the chamber at Council meetings, and to make use of some of the facilities available for Members at the Civic Centre.

APPOINTMENT

Honorary Aldermen are appointed by a resolution of the Council passed at a meeting that has been specially convened to consider the appointment(s). Appointments must be approved by not less than two thirds of the councillors voting at the meeting.

At the conferment ceremony a certificate and badge of office will be presented to each newly appointed Honorary Alderman.

PRIVILEGES

As an eminent former Member of the Council, each Honorary Alderman is entitled to the following privileges;

- To be named in the Roll of Honorary Aldermen of the City of Sunderland
- To take and be addressed by the courtesy title of Alderman
- To take their seat in the Council Chamber (although they have no vote and do not contribute to debate)
- To walk in civic procession in a position immediately senior to the current Members
- Use of the Members' rooms and of the Members' dining room
- Use of the Civic Centre car park when undertaking their duties as Alderman
- Use of an ID card, fob and locker in the Members' rooms.
- Invitation to major civic ceremonies and events
- Invitation at the Mayor's discretion to civic events, or to represent the Mayor where the Alderman's knowledge and experience would assist the Mayor in their civic role

CABINET MEETING

4th SEPTEMBER 2013

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE COUNCIL'S DELEGATION SCHEME

Report of Deputy Chief Executive and the Head of Law and Governance

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 To seek approval to amend the Council's Delegation Scheme for the following:

to authorise the Deputy Chief Executive to exercise the Council's full enforcement powers in respect of trees under Part VIII of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990

and also

to authorise the Regulatory Committee, Deputy Chief Executive and Head of Street Scene to exercise functions under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013.

2. Description of Decision

2.1 That Cabinet recommend to Full Council that the Council's Delegation Scheme in Part 3 of the Constitution be amended as follows:-

Paragraph 2.22 (Deputy Chief Executive) be deleted and substituted as follows:-

"2.22 To authorise the making of Tree Preservation Orders (including any variation or revocation Order) (provided that if any statutory representations or objections are received to any such Orders which the Council is required to consider they shall be reported to the Planning and Highways Committee for consideration) and to exercise the Council's enforcement powers in respect of trees under Part VIII of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990".

and

The further amendments set out in the Schedule to this report be made in relation to the exercise of functions under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013.

And that the Head of Street Scene be appointed as the person to whom oral representations are to be made under paragraph 7(8) of Schedule 1 to the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013.

3. Introduction and Current Position

Town and Country Planning Act 1990

- 3.1 Under the Council's Delegation Scheme, the authorisation of enforcement action in respect of breaches of planning, advertisement and listed building control is delegated to the Deputy Chief Executive to ensure that operational enforcement decisions can be made expeditiously where necessary in the public interest.
- 3.2 It is important to ensure that Chief Officers are authorised to exercise the full scope of statutory enforcement powers under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended).
- 3.3 The existing Delegation Scheme requires updating so that the Deputy Chief Executive has the following additional powers:-
- (a) to vary and revoke existing Tree Preservation Orders (TPO) (provided that if any statutory representations or objections are received which the Council is required to consider they shall be reported to the Planning and Highways Committee for consideration);
 - (b) to serve tree replacement notices under Section 207 of the 1990 Act in respect of trees that have been removed, uprooted or destroyed either in contravention of a TPO or without consent (express or deemed) in a conservation area and to carry out replanting works in default under Section 209 of the Act.
- 3.4 The Council has not previously served any notices under Section 207 of the Act. However it is important to ensure that the Deputy Chief Executive has authority to serve such notices in the event they are required in the future.

Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013

- 3.5 On 28 February 2013 the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 ('the Act') received Royal Assent. The Act revises the regulatory regime for scrap metal dealing and vehicle dismantling. The aim of the Act is to revise the regulatory regime for scrap metal dealing and vehicle dismantling and to give Councils and Police more powers to refuse and revoke licences as well as granting greater rights of entry and inspection. The Scrap Metal Dealers Act 1964 is revoked and also Part I of the Vehicles (Crime) Act 2001, which previously conferred powers and duties upon local authorities in respect of the registration of motor salvage operators.
- 3.6 The Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 creates two types of licence. Namely a site licence which will allow a dealer to operate from the sites named on the licence and a collector's licence which will allow dealers to operate as mobile collectors in a council area. An application for a site licence must also name a site manager for each site to be covered by the licence. Each licence lasts for a period of three years. A number of new offences are also created by the Act, such as operating as a scrap metal dealer without a licence, failure to notify changes affecting a licence, failure of a licensee to verify the address of a person selling scrap metal to the dealer and paying for scrap metal in cash. As enforcers of the provisions of the Act, the Police and local authorities are given powers to enter and inspect, powers to issue (and subsequently cancel) closure notices in respect of unlicensed sites and power to apply to the magistrates' court for a closure order.

- 3.7 On 6 August 2013 the Government issued the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 (Commencement and Transitional Provisions) Order 2013 (SI2013/1966) which requires the council to accept and process applications from 1 October 2013.
- 3.8 The existing Delegation Scheme therefore also requires updating so that the necessary delegated powers are in place in relation to the enforcement of the provisions of the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013, including the issue, revocation, refusal and variation of licences. In relation to the refusal, revocation and variation of licences, the Act allows applicants/licence holders to make representations where the local authority proposes to take any of those steps. Such representations may be in writing or, alternatively, the applicant/licence holder may ask to make oral representations. In the latter case, they must be given the opportunity of appearing before, and being heard by, “a person appointed by the authority.” This mirrors a similar provision in the Vehicles (Crime) Act 2001, which the 2013 Act repeals and replaces. In the case of the 2001 Act, the Council’s current Delegation Scheme authorises the Head of Street Scene as the person to whom oral representations may be made and it is proposed that this authorisation be continued in relation to the new legislation. With regard to the licensing provisions of the Act, therefore, it is proposed that the power to issue licences, and to revoke, refuse or vary licences in any cases where no representations are received, be delegated to the Deputy Chief Executive. Any proposal to revoke, refuse or vary a licence in cases where representations are received would be referred to the Regulatory Committee for determination. In cases where representations are made orally, the Head of Street Scene will receive these in accordance with the requirements of the Act and subsequently prepare a written report for consideration by members.
- 3.9 The changes proposed to the Delegation Scheme in relation to the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 are set out in the Appendix to this report.

4. Reasons for Decision

- 4.1 To ensure that the Deputy Chief Executive is authorised to exercise all necessary operational enforcement powers expeditiously under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 in respect of trees that are either subject to Tree Preservation Orders or situated in a conservation area.
- 4.2 To ensure that the Council is able to accept and process applications for Site Licences and Collector’s Licences from 1 October 2013 and that the Deputy Chief Executive is authorised to exercise all necessary operational enforcement powers expeditiously under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013.

5. Alternative Options

- 5.1 There are no viable alternative options to ensure the Council is able to exercise its full statutory enforcement powers in respect of trees or in relation to processing licence applications or serve notices relating to the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 in an expeditious manner.

6. Impact Assessment

- 6.1** The purpose of this report is to seek approval to amend the Council's Delegation Scheme so that the Deputy Chief Executive is authorised to exercise the full scope of enforcement powers in respect of trees as contained in the 1990 Act and also that the Regulatory Committee, the Deputy Chief Executive and Head of Street Scene are authorised to exercise functions under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013. . Any proposal to take action would then be subject to an individual decision by the Deputy Chief Executive in appropriate cases and in light of the statutory grounds for taking action.

SCHEDULE

AMENDMENTS TO DELEGATION SCHEME IN RELATION TO THE SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT 2013

Powers delegated to the Deputy Chief Executive

Paragraph 2.96

Currently reads:

“To undertake the enforcement of all legislation relating to the Council’s powers, duties and functions in connection with the following areas [including the issuing of certificates, licences, notices (including fixed penalty notices), consents and orders, the authorisation of registration and the maintenance of registers and lists]:

- ...
 - Control of the following trades:
 - ...
 - Scrap metal dealers

and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing specifically in connection with current provisions:”

In the list of current provisions that then follows, **insert** as a new paragraph (s)(s):
(s)(s) Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013
and re-letter the remainder of the list accordingly.

Paragraph 2.100

Currently reads:

“To authorise the registration of scrap metal dealers and to grant exemption to the keeping of records by itinerant collectors under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 1964.”

This paragraph to be **deleted** and **replaced** by the following:

“To undertake the Authority’s powers, duties and functions under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013, including – in addition to the powers set out in paragraph 2.96 and without prejudice to the generality thereof or to the power delegated to the Head of Street Scene in paragraph 8.1 below – the power to refuse applications for licences and to revoke or vary licences and to apply to the magistrates’ court for closure orders.

Paragraph 2.106

Currently reads:

“To undertake the Authority’s powers, duties and functions under Part I of the Vehicles (Crime) Act 2001 in relation to the registration of Motor Salvage Operators, including the granting and renewal of registrations, the refusal of applications for registration or renewal of registration and the cancellation of registrations.”

This paragraph to be **deleted** and subsequent paragraphs re-numbered accordingly.

Powers delegated to the Head of Street Scene

Paragraph 8.1

Currently reads:

“The Head of Street Scene, within the Deputy Chief Executive’s Directorate, shall be the person to whom oral representations may be made for the purposes of section 5(6) of the Vehicles (Crime) Act 2001 and is authorised to determine whether or not the registration of the operator concerned should be refused or cancelled in the light of such representations.”

This paragraph to be **amended** to read as follows:

“The Head of Street Scene, within the Deputy Chief Executive’s Directorate, shall be the person to whom oral representations may be made for the purposes of paragraph 7(8) of Schedule 1 to the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013.”

Powers delegated to the Regulatory Committee

Constitution – Responsibility for Council Functions

C – Licensing and Registration Functions

Currently reads (in relation to the Regulatory Committee):

“The Regulatory Committee shall exercise ... the functions of considering the grant, refusal, amendment and cancellation of licences, certificates, permits or registration (except insofar as such matters have been delegated to Chief Officers) in respect of:

1. ...
2. ...
3. ...
4. ...
5. ...
6. ...
7. ...
8. ...”

Add to the list of matters 1-8:

9. Scrap Metal Dealers

CABINET

4 SEPTEMBER 2013

YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2013/14 to 2015/16

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PEOPLE SERVICES

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The Youth Justice Plan is an Article 4 plan which requires full Council approval.
- 1.2 The report informs Cabinet of the background, purpose and intentions of the plan and seeks to consult with and gain approval from Cabinet and to refer to Scrutiny Committee for comment.

2. Description of Decision (Recommendations)

- 2.1 Following consultation with various partners, including the Youth Offending Service Board, the Children's Trust, the Safer Sunderland Partnership, managers and practitioners from the Youth Offending Service and officers from the Council's Strategy, Policy and Performance Management, Cabinet is recommended to provide comment on the Youth Justice Plan 2013/14 to 2015/16 (attached) and recommend that it is referred to Scrutiny Committee for their advice and consideration.
- 2.2 Cabinet are further requested to give delegated authority to the Portfolio Holder for Children and Executive Director People Services to accept any amendments to the plan being referred to Council for final approval.

3. Introduction/Background

- 3.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires the Chief Executive of each local authority area to set up a multi-agency Youth Offending Team / Service (YOT / YOS) governed by a multi-agency Management Board. The act requires that each Team / Service produce an annual Youth Justice Plan.
- 3.2 The Sunderland YOS Management Board comprises the four statutory agencies of the Local Authority, Police, Probation and Health as well as the area courts as a local partner. The attached Youth Justice Plan 2013/14 to 2015/16 was considered by the multi-agency YOS Management Board on 30 May 2012.
- 3.3 The Youth Justice Board (YJB) oversees the youth justice system in England and Wales. The YJB is required to monitor performance of the youth justice system and report to the Secretary of State for Justice. The YJB does this through the collection of performance data and annual Youth Justice Plans.

- 3.4 Each year the YJB issues guidance on the required content for the annual Youth Justice Plan and sets out the required submission date. The Youth Offending Service partnership is therefore given a defined period for the development of the Youth Justice Plan and for the relevant consultations to be undertaken.
- 3.5 The YJB stated that from 2013 there would be no set criteria or templates and that the content of the plan should be in line with local planning arrangements. Therefore, Sunderland Youth Justice Board agreed to produce a three year plan, which will be reviewed and published annually.

4. Current Position – Youth Justice Plan 2013/14 to 2015/16

- 4.1 The Youth Justice Plan 2013/14 to 2015/16 sets out the principal aim of the Sunderland Youth offending Service to *'prevent offending and re-offending by children and young people'*. It also sets out the key related outcomes of reducing the numbers of first time entrants to the criminal justice system, reducing the proven rate of re-offending for children and young people and maintaining a low use of custody.
- 4.2 The Youth Justice Plan 2013/14 to 2015/16 sets out a number of service development priorities that have been developed on the basis of a comprehensive needs analysis drawing on evidence from a range of sources including:-
- The national and local policy context for youth justice.
 - Performance against key national and local outcome targets.
 - Analysis of prevention and youth offending service assessment data.
 - Outcomes of practice quality assurance audits and good practice guidance.
 - Analysis Viewpoint data (an interactive game style evaluation tool for use with young people).
 - Outcomes of consultations with parents and carers.
 - Outcomes of consultations and satisfaction surveys with victims of crime (this takes into consideration young victims and the views of the wider population of children and young people through the young people's fear of crime survey)
 - Consultation with members of the general public on restorative justice services.
- 4.3 The plan sets out the outstanding performance of Sunderland Youth Offending service and it's achievements during 2012-2013. The service's validated achievements for the whole of 2012-13 are:
- First time entrants have reduced by 65% since 2010 (501 to 176). In 2012/13 in particular early intervention approaches have contributed to a 31% decrease in full time equivalents (256 to 176).
 - The overall number of young people reoffending has reduced by 55% between 2009/10 (442 young people) and 2011/12 (198 young people), as measured against the tracked sample cohort.
 - Use of custody has been maintained at a low rate of 0.67. This represents a 19% reduction in the number of custodial disposals since 2010 (21 in 2010 to 17 in 2012/13).
 - At the end of 2012/13, only 1.6% of the overall 10 to 17 population in Sunderland received a substantive outcome in the year, against a position of 3.9% at the end of 2009/10.

- Successful implementation of a national pathfinder pilot for Liaison and Diversion, established to implement a formal process of undertaking early assessment of children and young people on the edge of the criminal justice system.
- Continuing successes of the Sunderland YOS Family Intervention Programme that plays a direct and key role in the delivery of the Strengthening Families Strategy, a Strategy which has received national praise and particular recognition by Louise Casey, Director General for Troubled Families as best practice. Cost benefit analysis demonstrates that £211,967 has been saved by for the local authority by FIP between April and December 2012 by keeping young people out of care and getting them back into school; reducing families' anti-social behaviour and offending and getting them closer to the job market.
- Implementation of compliance panels in 2012 in response to providing an effective approach to young people who breach their orders, reducing breaches from 70% in 2011 to 38% during 2012. Sunderland's compliance panels are also referenced in the Youth Justice Board's Effective Practice Library.
- Sunderland's overall continued high performance is recognised by the Youth Justice Board with a review in March 2013 concluding that Sunderland continue to demonstrate significant progress in several areas of their partnership work around youth justice and continues to perform well against national indicators.

5. Reasons for the Decision

- 5.1 The Youth Justice Plan is an Article 4 plan under the Constitution of the Council and is the primary document for YOT partnerships to set out how they will deliver against Youth Justice Board (YJB) performance management framework for Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) and is a key source for local youth justice planning.

6. Alternative Options

- 6.1 The alternative option is not to submit the Youth Justice Plan to full Council. This would have a negative impact on local youth justice planning, and the service's ability to deliver against its action plans.

7. Relevant Considerations / Consultations

- 7.1 The relevant statutory partners, including the Sunderland Children's Trust and Safer Sunderland Partnership, as well as local partners have been consulted on the plan through the YOS Management Board.
- 7.2 Consultations and service user feedback have informed the development of the plan through the needs analysis underpinning the plan.
- 7.3 The report and plan will be presented to the Scrutiny Committee, Cabinet and full Council.
- 7.4 **Impacts Analysis: Crime and Disorder**
- 7.4.1 The principal aim of the Youth Offending Service is to prevent offending and re-offending by children and young people in Sunderland.

- 7.4.2 The role and responsibilities of the local YOT/YOS are set out in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and the Youth Offending Service continues to work with four statutory agencies of Police, Probation, Health and the Local Authority to ensure that the service continues to be a high performing which delivers outcomes which contribute to the Council's priorities.

8. Glossary

MOJ Ministry of Justice
YJB Youth Justice Board
YOS Youth Offending Service

9. List of Appendices

Appendix 1 – Sunderland Youth Justice Plan 2013/14 to 2015/16.

10. Background Papers

There are no background papers.

SUNDERLAND YOUTH OFFENDING SERVICE

YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2013/14 to 2015/16

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FOREWORD

On behalf of Sunderland Youth Offending Service (YOS) Management Board, we are pleased to introduce the service's three year strategic Youth Justice Plan for 2013/14 to 2015/16.

Over the past year, the service has seen significant changes in the both the local and wider strategic landscape, most notably in relation to Sunderland's Strengthening Families approach, the Legal Aid Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act (LASPO) 2012, the appointment of Police Crime Commissioners and revised youth justice national standards.

The service's historical successes in delivering effective outcomes for children and young people has continued with significant reductions in first time entrants and reoffending and at the same time has made positive impacts on families, victims and the wider community.

The creativity, innovation and passion of staff continue to drive the service through a transformation which will enable it to embed a whole family approach to its work with children young people and their families and carers and an extended restorative justice offer across the City.

The LASPO Act has made a number of significant changes to how children and young people are dealt with in the earliest part of the criminal justice system. This has helped to further strengthen the service's relationships with Northumbria Police and partners delivering specialist services. The changes to out of court disposals firmly embeds an early intervention approach to dealing with young people at the earliest opportunity, aiming to ensure outcomes are both proportionate to the crime committed as well as being effective in reducing the risk of further offending. The historical successes with key partners of the service's prevention agenda and the already established Liaison and Diversion project have created the innovative working practices needed to successfully support the LASPO changes.

As both a criminal justice agency and a children's service, partnership working continues to be at the heart of our approach to tackle offending, ensuring public protection and safeguarding children. This plan sets out how the Sunderland Youth Offending Service partnership will work effectively with partners to prevent young people entering the youth justice system, to continue to reduce reoffending and support families, victims and the wider community. The partnership has identified 5 key priorities across this year and beyond to 2015/16 which will define the service's approach to both core statutory youth justice approaches but also how the service will support the City's wider strategic priorities across the strengthening families agenda, community cohesion, community safety, health and wellbeing, community resilience and the priorities of the Police Crime Commissioner.

The YOS Management Board continues to be seen as a strong and committed partnership in the city and will lead and support the service throughout the next three years to develop and maintain its partnership working to achieve positive outcomes for children and young people who offend and who are at risk of offending.

The significant achievements of the YOS during 2012/13 have demonstrated how the service has been able to adapt and realign its resources to meet the ongoing future challenges to prevent offending and reduce reoffending in the City, with the support of its key partners.

Cllr Patricia Smith

Portfolio Holder for Children and Learning City of Sunderland Council

Keith Moore

Chair of the Sunderland Youth Offending Service Management Board
Executive Director of Children's Services

DRAFT

INTRODUCTION

Sunderland Youth Offending Service is a multi-agency service comprising of the four statutory agencies of Police, Probation, Health and the Local Authority. The service works in partnership with other key agencies such as the area courts and specialist service providers including child mental health, substance misuse, accommodation, etc.

The principal aim of the service is **to prevent offending and re-offending by children and young people**. In doing so, the service works in partnership to deliver both statutory and non-statutory services to:

- Young people aged 10-17 who, because of potential or actual offending have become involved in the criminal justice system;
- Children and young people identified as at risk of offending;
- Families of children and young people offending or at risk of offending; and
- Victims of young people who have offended.

The role and responsibilities of local Youth Offending Teams/Services (YOT/YOS) was set down by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. It also included the requirement for each local area to produce an annual Youth Justice Plan setting out how youth justice services will be delivered in the local area.

This plan is a 3-year plan which will allow to YOS to embed its longer term strategic approach to reducing offending and re-offending. It sets out the strategic priorities of how both statutory and non statutory youth justice services will be delivered in Sunderland across 2013/14 to 2015/16 and outlines individual service development priorities for the forthcoming year. The detail on how these priorities will be implemented will be included within a delivery plan, which will be refreshed on an annual basis.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2012/13

What we have achieved

Celebrating continuing success with creative and innovative projects

Historically, Sunderland YOS has received praise and accolades for its innovation and positive approach to expanding and improving the services it provides to children, young people and their families and carers and victims.

The service continues to maintain excellent performance against the national priorities set by the Youth Justice Board:

- First time entrants have reduced by 65% since 2010. In 2012/13 in particular early intervention approaches have contributed to a 31% decrease in FTEs
- The overall number of young people reoffending has reduced by 55% between 2009/10 (442 young people) and 2011/12 (198 young people), as measured against the tracked sample cohort.
- Use of custody has been maintained at a low rate of 0.67. This represents a 19% reduction in the number of custodial disposals since 2010.

At the end of 2012/13, only 1.6% of the overall 10 to 17 population in Sunderland received a substantive outcome in the year, against a position of 3.9% at the end of 2009/10.

As both a children's service and a criminal justice agency, Sunderland YOS is committed to delivering life changing outcomes for children and young people who offend, for those at risk of offending and for their families, whilst also ensuring that justice is done for the victims of their offending and the wider community affected by youth crime.

Youth Justice Board – Performance Rating

Sunderland YOS partnership continues to perform very well against all 3 national indicators and continues to be considered a high performing partnership.

“Sunderland continues to demonstrate significant progress in several areas of their partnership work around youth justice.” YJB – March 2013

In 2012/13 we also achieved.....

The service continues to build on its first decade of successes and expand to support youth justice priorities, corporate priorities and a number of partnership priorities. Key partnership developments include:

- **Liaison and Diversion Pathfinder Project**

Liaison and Diversion pathfinders were established to implement a formal process of undertaking early assessment of children and young people on the edge of the criminal justice system with a specific focus in considering physical and mental health problems including speech, language, communication, learning disability, emotional and mental health) and a range of other related difficulties such as school, family and wider health issues (substance misuse).

The Government has made a commitment to having diversion services in place (for children and for adults) in all local areas by November 2014, subject to business case approval. Sunderland YOS received national pathfinder status in August 2011 to deliver diversion services, based on its successful delivery of the early youth crime assessment project funded by Youth Crime Action Plan resources. Sunderland's developing practice and dataset is being used to inform a robust business case that is to be presented to Ministers to support a national roll out.

Between May and November 2012 393 young people were eligible for assessment through the pathfinder project and of those 106 accepted the interventions offered resulting in 149 referrals being made across partnership and specialist services in the period including ETE/Connexions, Parenting/Family Intervention Project, Offending Behaviour, Wear Kids, Safeguarding, health and mental health services and substance misuse.

Led by a high level Strategic Steering Group, significant developments to date include:

- Improving the service's ability to identify specific learning disability and speech, language and communication needs of young people through the pathfinder project by developing and implementing a range of screening tools for identification of these needs.
- Creating and embedding appropriate referral routes needed with the Community Support Team in order to better support and assess the needs of children on the edge of care.
- Strengthening the partnership with the new South of Tyne Children and Young People's Service for Mental Health (CYPS) by evidencing the need of those young people through the pathfinder pilot which has ensured that children and young people's needs are identified early and they can access the service as soon as they need it.
- Strengthening the role of the public health nurse within the YOS ensuring children's health needs are assessed early in order that they can be signposted to the services they may need.

- Established links with the Adult Diversion pilot in Sunderland in order that service developments can be shared and effective transition plans agreed for young people on the cusp of 18.

“John” was arrested for theft and was assessed through the Liaison and Diversion scheme which identified mild to moderate emotional health difficulties and speech problems in relation to a stammer. “John” was to attend an interview for a position as an apprentice and his anxieties were aggravating his stammer. John gave consent to undergo a brief intervention from the Speech and Language Team (SALT) and for YOS staff to support his parents in liaising with the training provider to inform them of his speech difficulties. After working with SALT “John” was successful at interview, the police took no further action in relation to the offence and “John” has not offended since.

• Early Intervention

The LASPO Act has introduced significant changes to early disposals with the final warnings being replaced by the Youth Caution and Youth Conditional Caution. The service’s final warning delivery model, supported by Liaison and Diversion practice, which encompasses an early assessment and intervention approach jointly with Northumbria Police with a restorative justice disposal, has enabled the YOS to be extremely well placed to support the change in practice to the delivery of cautions.

In line with good practice identified within the *Youth Out-of-Court Disposals Guide for Police and Youth Offending Services*, published by the YJB and Ministry of Justice, the YOS will establish annual scrutiny panels with relevant criminal justice partners, to review the decision making process that underpins conditional cautions, looking at cases which are exceptional, controversial, involve non-compliance and are successful.

• Strengthening Families

Sunderland’s Strengthening Families Strategy has received national praise and particular recognition by Louise Casey, Director General for Troubled Families as best practice. The YOS FIP plays a direct and key role in the delivery of the local Strategy.

“I was really impressed by the work of Sunderland FIP and it’s clear your team are extremely skilled and have a really positive relationship with the families you are working with”

Louise Casey, Director General, Troubled Families

Based on its historical successes in delivering a family intervention model, the YOS Family Intervention Project (FIP) has expanded, with the support of additional resources from the Strengthening Families Strategic Board (Family Focus¹) to deliver the intensive offer to families within the city on behalf of partners. The Team has expanded from 3 to 7 full time key workers and is

¹ Part of the Troubled Families national initiative.

using the family wheel² to evaluate progress and outcomes being achieved for families referred, alongside a negative costings tool to demonstrate the efficiencies created.

"(She) makes me feel like I have the strength to get through any problems that I have."

Parent supported by FIP

Since April 1st 2012, 34 new families have been engaged by FIP. Of those, 9 cases have been closed. Cost benefit analysis demonstrates that £211,967.99 has been saved by for the local authority by FIP between April and December 2012 by keeping young people out of care and getting them back into school; reducing families' anti-social behaviour and offending and getting them closer to the job market.

What did the FIP achieve for you?
"How good they are and the changes they help you make in family and the confidence they give you"
Parent supported by FIP

The FIP Team now also have a key role to support Family Focus with its communication strategy; deliver key worker training and co-deliver the Teen Triple P and Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities parenting programmes with internal and external partners. An extension of their partnership with the Tyne and Fire and Rescue Service to extend the nationally recognised Phoenix Project has enabled that project to extend to include parents and carers.

- **Compliance Panels**

Sunderland YOS introduced compliance panels in June 2012 in response to the high rate of breach on Youth Rehabilitation Orders (YRO) and custody cases.

The compliance panel process provides the YOS with the ability to ensure that every effort has been made to support young people's compliance with their court orders and promote flexible ways of engaging young people. Evaluation shows that the use of breach within YRO and custody cases has reduced from 70% of cases during 2011, to 38% of cases during 2012. This has directly impacted and reduced the need for staff resources in both the YOS and the

² The Family Wheel is the family assessment tool being used with families by Sunderland Family Focus which is designed to provide key workers with a simple yet effective way of monitoring family change and the measurement of outcomes by applying a systematic way of analysing, understanding and recording what is happening to families and the wider context of the community in which they live. The wheel can also track progress and change across multiple and inter-linked needs and issues which makes it particularly suited to engaging and supporting families identified under Family Focus.

court system by keeping young people out of the court process and tackling potential breach issues when they arise without having to return young people to court. Compliance panels have not only reduced the need for young people to go to court but that tackling potential breach issues as they arise by promoting compliance and engagement with their orders avoids the need to return young people to court.

As the panels include a review of the restorative justice element of a young person's order, they have significantly developed stronger focus upon the wishes of victims and joined up working relationships between case management and restorative justice teams. The compliance panels also strengthened the opportunities for young people/ carers to give direct feedback to the YOS about the quality of service provided, thereby contributing to Sunderland Council's Participation agenda.

The YJB have produced a national compliance panel framework to help YOTs manage and monitor compliance. The YJB also has a national directory of emerging practice. Sunderland YOS compliance panels are referenced in both documents as examples of innovative/good practice in promoting compliance.

- **Restorative Justice**

The service's Restorative Justice Team continues to deliver an award winning restorative justice service enabling young people to face the consequences of their offending and payback to their individual victims and wider community. In 2012/13 the Team were shortlisted for the Northumbria Youth Justice Award for their innovative project "*A present from Sunderland*", a collaboration between the YOS, young people, the community and cultural services of the City Council. The Team consistently exceed internal service target expectations for victim satisfaction by achieving over 90% of victims satisfied with the service they received and exceeded the target for 2012/13 to increase direct restorative justice opportunities between young people and their victims.

The ongoing success of the RJ approach in the service is being developed into a traded business model, thereby offering local partners and organisations the opportunity to deliver RJ and victim best practice.

Case Study

A Present from Sunderland – Restorative Justice

Linking with the regeneration of the Roker area in Sunderland, the YOS and Cultural services joined forces with Helix Arts in August 2012. The young people involved in the project on community payback led on the community consultation and worked alongside a local community group to develop ideas leading to the development of a leaflet/Roker Beach Activity Kit for young children highlighting local historical and cultural venues. As part of the project a range of “souvenirs” were also designed by the young people. The focus for the work was driven by the local community, councillors and courts as part of community payback and making amends to victims of their offending behaviour.

The souvenirs are to be sold in the tourist centres and local shops to generate income for future. The brand '*a present from Sunderland*' will now be taken forward as a model in other areas of Sunderland for projects, and the YOS is looking to present them as gifts to cultural and business partners visiting Sunderland in the future. Of the group of young people who produced these objects, more than 90% have not re-offended. One young person has been offered a reference by the artists for any future art courses he may wish to apply for.

- **Wrap Around Services**

Sunderland YOS have extended its wrap around service (Intensive Resettlement Support - IRS) to support engagement with education, training and employment and offering additional support for young people assessed through the Liaison and Diversion scheme. In addition, young people who have received formal IRS support will be tracked at 1 month, 3 months and 6 month intervals after closure to check progress and offer additional support if a need is identified, in order to achieve longer term sustainable reductions in their re-offending.

- **“One” Plans**

In line with the Justice Green Paper, Trial National Standards and Munro Review, Sunderland YOS introduced 'one plans' which incorporate the elements of both risk management and vulnerability management plans for a young person allowing for a more streamlined and effective risk management approach within the service in line with YJB guidance.

The development of these plans is identified as an example of good practice by the YJB and is included on the YJB Effective Practice website.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

National Context

At a national level, the work of the YOS is overseen by the Youth Justice Board (YJB) which is a non-departmental public body created by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to oversee the youth justice system for England and Wales. The YJB is now sponsored by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) and its Board members are appointed by the Secretary of State for Justice. The YJB also receives funding from the Home Office (HO) and from the Department for Education, via the MoJ.

Principally the YJB supports local youth offending services to deliver against the three national youth justice outcome indicators set by government:

- reducing first time entrants to the criminal justice system
- reducing reoffending; and
- reducing the use of custody.

The “Breaking the Cycle” government consultation moved away from setting specific national targets in relation to the outcomes above. Instead, it set in place a framework for self-assessment for use by local professionals and a sector-led peer review process, enabling high performing YOTs to pass on their skills and expertise. The YJB are continuing to develop this approach, providing more transparent and easily accessible data to help local youth justice services benchmark their performance and direct their resources to deliver the three youth justice outcomes.

The framework for self assessment is designed to be flexible for local use and is aligned with other assessment processes including Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Probation risk-led inspection. As recommended by the YJB, Sunderland YOS has used this tool to identify areas of good practice and areas for improvement. This assessment, alongside staff and partnership consultation, provides a focus for the YOS’ service development priorities and individual delivery plan targets for 2013/14 and beyond.

National Standards

Following the trialling of a more flexible set of national standards for youth justice provision in 2012/13, revised national standards have now been published. These are set and agreed by the Secretary of State to set minimum expectations for youth justice service delivery and practice, consistent with ensuring;

- delivery of effective practice in youth justice services
- safeguarding of children and young people who come into contact with youth justice services
- protection of the public from the harmful activities of children and young people who offend

In defining these standards the Secretary of State also requires that:

- where possible and appropriate, youth justice services are afforded the maximum freedom and flexibility to adapt their practice to local context
- the public have confidence that children and young people subject to statutory supervision by youth justice services are fairly punished and are supported to reform their lives.

The recent revisions to the standards are necessary to assist the introduction of the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders (LASPO) Act 2012 and the introduction of AssetPlus, the new assessment, planning and interventions framework, due to replace the current system (Asset) from April 2014. The standards have been updated with the latest developments in resettlement, restorative justice and work with victims.

Sunderland YOS trialled the national standards on behalf of the YJB and fed back on the pilot thus helping to shape the revised national standards.

Quality and Inspection

Sunderland YOS is committed to delivering a quality service to children, young people, families and victims, to ensure that best outcomes are achieved. A quality assurance process is embedded at individual, management and service level using a number of tools and methodologies including case file audits, thematic reviews, supervision and management oversight. The YOS quality assurance approach is prioritised and monitored through the service's delivery plan and supported by regular performance reporting.

The new inspection framework tool is being used in the service to guide and improve practice. Alongside this, the service will also be piloting the "Index of Excellence" approach to review the service at a strategic and operational level during 2013/14.

Local Context

Structure and Governance

Youth Offending Teams were set up under the statutory provisions of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The act set down the requirement for a local youth offending teams comprising the four statutory agencies of: the Local Authority (including Children's Services Social Care and Education), Police, Probation and Health. Accompanying the Crime and Disorder Act of 1998 was an inter-departmental circular on 'Establishing Youth Offending Teams' that set out the requirements for a governing chief officer steering group. In 2004 the YJB published "*Sustaining the Success: Extending the Guidance, Establishing Youth Offending Teams*", that set down the requirements for steering groups to transfer into governing YOT Management Boards. The role and responsibilities of Youth Offending Teams and their governing Management Boards have since, and continue to be, regulated by National Standards for Youth Justice Services.

Sunderland YOS Management Board is chaired by the Executive Director of Children's Services with a direct link to the Chief Executive of the local authority. The Sunderland YOS Management Board comprises representatives of the statutory partners as well as other local partners such as the area court (see Appendix 1 for membership).

The multi-agency Sunderland YOS Management Board is identified as a 'significant partnership' for Sunderland and it also provides the strategic links with other significant partnerships, and their associated strategic plans across children's services, criminal justice and community safety.

The Youth Offending Service sits within the council's safeguarding structure of Sunderland's Children's Services, providing effective links and joint working relationships with children's social care.

Strategic Approaches and Local Partnership Arrangements

The work of the YOS cuts across and supports the delivery a number of high level strategies in the city including community safety, strengthening families, health and wellbeing, child and family poverty and community resilience. For example, it will have a positive impact on the mental health and emotional wellbeing of young people, thereby supporting objective 2 within the Health and Wellbeing Strategy to ensure all children and young people are provided with the best start in life. This is not just about early years, but throughout childhood and adolescence. The Youth Justice Plan is aligned to a number of key strategic partnerships, outcomes and priorities. This plan includes illustrations of how the work of the YOS is already embedding (and will look for further opportunities to embed) a number of city-wide strategic principles such as:

- § **Prevention:** by identifying young people at risk of offending at the earliest opportunity and ensuring that a young person should not have to come to the attention of statutory YOS services to get the services and support they need. The service has recently embedded links into the City's Risk and Resilience locality working arrangements following transition of the YOS Wear Kids prevention team into that structure.
- § **Early intervention:** by supporting the early intervention agenda, critical relationships have been strengthened with Northumbria Police and specialist providers to deliver successfully on the changes to the out of court disposal framework³. The changes to youth justice services with the implementation of the LASPO Act have enabled the service to transform its delivery and practice in early assessment and diversion through the successful delivery of Triage and the Liaison and Diversion scheme.
- § **A whole family approach:** The service's Family Intervention Project (FIP) team has played a key role in shaping and delivering the intensive intervention

³ The Out of Court Disposal framework introduced by the LASPO Act replaces the Final Warning Scheme with a range of options which offer a more proportionate approach to low level offending including Community Resolution, Youth Caution, Youth Conditional Caution, all of which include a restorative justice element.

offer of the Strengthening Families initiative and will continue to play a key role in embedding a whole family approach during 2013/14 and beyond.

§ **Joint working:** The YOS has a long history of partnership working in providing flexible and tailored services that respond to the needs of those at risk of offending, young offenders and their families, and to achieve better outcomes for victims and local communities. The YOS remains committed to working in partnership with others around numerous issues including safeguarding children, public protection, reducing child and family poverty, swift administration of justice, reducing teenage pregnancy, domestic abuse and teenage relationship abuse, and many other key outcomes that support the service's core outcomes of preventing offending and re-offending. The service has also helped shape and manage cost effective interventions through integrated services.

§ **An asset based approach:** The implementation of the new AssetPlus assessment moves away from a primary focus on risk factors to a greater focus on ways in which a young person's positive influences can be enhanced. There will be a stronger focus on a young person's potential to change, opportunities for desistance, along with a greater degree of self-assessment by the young person, and new assessment tools to be completed by parents and carers. A stronger focus will also be placed on the promotion of restorative justice. The successes of the restorative justice approach within the service are being shaped into a business model that will see the service offering restorative justice and training to partners in the city and beyond, and this will make a key contribution to community resilience and community cohesion. The FIP's Family Wheel is also a strengths-based assessment, designed to identify and build on family strengths and help identify the support they need to achieve their aspirations and to empower families to change.

The YOS Management Board links into the Safer Sunderland Partnership which is the local Community Safety Partnership, by acting as a key delivery group in supporting delivery of the Safer Sunderland Strategy 2008-2023 to ensure that "everyone in Sunderland will be, and feel, safe and secure".

The Youth Justice Plan will also support the delivery of a number of key outcomes in both the refreshed Sunderland Strategy and Sunderland City Council's corporate plan as illustrated in the table below.

Sunderland Strategy Outcomes	Sunderland City Council Corporate Outcomes
• A city which is, and feels even safer and more secure	• A city which is, and feels even safer and more secure (People)
• A city that cares for its most vulnerable	• A city that ensures people are able to look after themselves where possible (People)
• Lasting and resilient neighbourhoods	• A responsible, well looked after city that is adaptable to change (Place)

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The YOS Management Board is aligned with the Children's Trust and contributes to its vision to work together to improve the life chances and aspirations for each child and young person in Sunderland. It supports the Children's Trust to embed its principles of improving outcomes through early intervention and preventative approaches and effective multi-agency working. Through its Youth Justice Plan, the YOS Management Board is the responsible partnership for improving Priority Outcome 11 (Youth Offending) in the Children and Young People's Delivery Plan 2010-2013, the initial 3 year plan for implementing the Children and Young People Strategy 2010-2025. The 2013-16 plan will be in place in the autumn of 2013, and youth offending will continue to feature as a priority for the Children's Trust.

Sunderland YOS will work with the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria, alongside other Northumbria YOTs to share and deliver effective and innovative practice that prevent offending and reduce reoffending.

It is within this national and local context that the Sunderland Youth Justice Plan priorities are set.

AIMS AND OUTCOMES

The principal aim of Sunderland Youth Offending Service is to:

“Prevent offending and re-offending by children and young people”.

The key outcomes for our principal aim are:-

1. maintaining the numbers of children and young people entering the criminal justice system for the first time (first time entrants) at current rates or lower
2. Maintaining re-offending by children and young people (proven rate of re-offending and frequency of re-offending) at current rates or lower

Additionally Sunderland Youth Offending Services is committed to preventing young people entering the secure estate (use of custody) and thus a third key outcome is:-

3. Maintaining low levels of custodial sentencing.

Targets and actions against each outcome have been identified below.

Entering the Youth Justice System (First Time Entrants)

Preventing young people entering the Youth Justice System in the first place.

We will achieve this by:

- Working jointly with key partners, including the city's Risk and Resilience structure to deliver early intervention approaches that divert young people from the criminal justice system.
- Further development of the out of court disposal framework and the Liaison and Diversion pathfinder project to enable screening for risk and need at the earliest opportunity upon entry to the youth justice system and deliver appropriate restorative justice interventions.
- Ensuring that young people identified as at risk of offending are engaged in suitable Education, Training and Employment.
- Embedding a whole family approach to intervene early with families who have children at risk of entering the criminal justice system.

Outcome Target: To maintain first time entrants below a rate of 850 per 100,000 of the 10-17 population.

Reducing Re-offending

We will achieve this by:

- Ensuring that young people who offend are engaged in suitable Education, Training and Employment.
- Ensuring that young people who offend are enabled to secure to suitable accommodation and are appropriately supported in relation to these needs.
- Supporting young people to access the health services they need, particularly mental health whilst working with the service and beyond.
- Ensuring the delivery of an effective whole family approach to the delivery of interventions with young people and their parents/carers.
- Continue to deliver evidence-based restorative justice interventions.
- Delivering an effective programme of offending behaviour intervention with impact and cost benefits measured through evaluation.
- Further develop the quality assurance programme of Sunderland Youth Offending Service case management to ensure the service is delivering best practice.
- Implementation of new national standards and continue the delivery of compliance panels.

Outcome Target: To maintain the percentage of young offenders re-offending below 37% and to maintain re-offending below a frequency rate of re-offences at a rate of 1.30.

Maintaining low levels of custodial sentencing

We will achieve this by:

- Reviewing all cases of young people remanded or sentenced to ensure robust and appropriate court services are provided in all cases.
- Ensuring that the YOS offers credible community based alternatives for young people at risk of remand.
- Continuing to deliver successful and innovative alternatives to custody through the intensive supervision and surveillance scheme (ISS).

Outcome Target: To maintain custodial sentencing below a rate of 0.71 per 1,000 of the 10 to 17 Sunderland population.

SERVICE DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

To ensure that Sunderland Youth Offending Service is effectively responding to local and national priorities in relation to youth justice and wider key strategic agendas, the following five overarching service development priorities have been identified. These will be reviewed and refreshed on an annual basis across the life of this strategy.

- A preventative approach to reducing reoffending
- Reducing Reoffending
- A family approach
- A restorative justice approach
- Service Evaluation

Improvement actions for each of these priorities are set out below. An annual delivery plan accompanies this strategic plan which contains more of the detail on how these priorities will be delivered.

A PREVENTATIVE APPROACH TO REDUCING REOFFENDING

- Embed strategic and operational links with People and Place Boards.
- Through the Liaison and Diversion Strategy, raise awareness of the health needs of children and young people, improve identification and secure appropriate pathways to meet those needs.
- Further evaluate the delivery of wrap around advocate services to target the services where they are most effective and improve the engagement and compliance of young people working with the service.
- Work with key partners to ensure the effective delivery of the implications of the LASPO Act in relation to out of court disposals (cautions and conditional cautions).
- Maintain a focus on the specific needs of children looked after (LAC) who offend through the delivery of the YOS LAC Action Plan to develop targeted interventions and restorative justice approaches.
- Work with key partners to improve the transition of young people aged 17 and over in order to promote better engagement with adult services.
- Work with key partners to raise the profile of domestic violence and teenage relationship abuse and work towards the implementation of interventions that can meet individual need.
- Ensuring the preventative approach is embedded into partnership working so that children and young people receive the support they need as soon risk of offending are identified.

Outcome Target:

Refine and secure the partnership relationships, both at a city wide and locality level, which will meet the needs of children and young people working with the service at the earliest stage to maintain the reductions in children offending in the city.

REDUCING REOFFENDING

- Review the service's approach to case management to ensure caseloads and responsibilities match appropriately to skill and grade of YOS practitioners
- Ensure offenders from minority groups, including female offenders, receive equitable interventions which address assessed needs and achieve equitable outcomes as the majority offending population.
- Improve the accommodation solutions for difficult to place young people in the City to support pathways out of re-offending.
- Review the current offer in relation to specialist offending behaviour interventions within the service to ensure individual and specialist needs are being met.
- Monitor the use of specialist offending behaviour interventions within the service to ensure they are delivering the best outcomes for those working with the service

Outcome Target:

To ensure that the YOS is providing effective and specialist interventions that achieve positive and best outcomes for reduced re-offending for children and young people.

A FAMILY APPROACH

- Ensure that all existing and new FIP Key Workers understand the needs of the City's 'Intensive' Family Focus families and are appropriately trained and supported to perform this role.
- Agree across the City the definitions of "Level 1" and "Level 2" family intervention and identify which YOS staff outside of FIP who can offer this intervention.
- Ensure that these staff understand the needs of the City's Level 1 and 2 Family Focus families and are appropriately trained and supported to perform this role.
- Ensure that YOS practitioners are supported to effectively engage with families to deliver voluntary family support to embed the whole family approach within the service.
- Ensure that YOS practitioners are supported to effectively identify key family issues including domestic violence, teenage relationship abuse, bullying and sexual offending.

Outcome Target:

To embed a whole family approach to services across the Youth Offending Service.

A RESTORATIVE JUSTICE APPROACH

- Develop and embed restorative justice approaches for out of court disposals and community resolution.
- Develop an effective restorative justice approach in relation to children looked after.
- Develop a cost effective business model for the delivery of restorative justice within the YOS and with external partners.
- Ensure restorative justice is effectively integrated into the whole family approach of the service.
- Further increase direct restorative justice between young people and their individual victims.
- Develop specialist victim modules to improve individual victim work with a focus on domestic violence, teenage relationship abuse, sexual offending, hate crime offences and young victims.

Outcome Target:

To deliver an innovative, transformational and targeted restorative justice service which meets the individual needs of all victims.

SERVICE EVALUATION

- Implement a service evaluation methodology that supports the service in better understanding the effectiveness of its statutory and voluntary interventions aimed at reducing offending and re-offending and ensure that service planning is evidence based.
- Refine the quality assurance process to ensure it reflects on inspection and relevant research reports in relation to effective practice and embed a reflective practice approach to ongoing professional learning.
- Embed a refined service user participation process to inform future service development.
- Maintain a focus on performance and needs analysis in line with service developments and practice agreed for 2013/14.

Outcome Target:

Through service evaluation and quality assurance, develop a better understanding of the most effective interventions in terms of impact and value for money that prevent offending and re-offending as well as fitting with the needs and wishes of the children and young people we work with.

OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

The landscape for youth justice services has and will continue to change over the lifetime of this plan. This brings both opportunities and challenges for 2013/14 and beyond.

Sunderland YOS has used a variety of means to identify and consider opportunities and challenges to the service including the YJB Self Assessment, national and best practice research (including thematic inspection), consideration of local and national priorities and a review of the YOS Partnership Risk Management plan.

Opportunities we have identified:

- Strong YOS Management Board
- Opportunities for joint working supported by the Police and Crime Commissioner
- Development of YOS Family Intervention Project in delivering Strengthening Families Intensive Offer city wide
- Successful and maintained performance on national indicators
- Out of court interventions including Liaison and Diversion pathfinder pilot
- Innovative restorative justice and victim work across the service and with key partners to embed early intervention approaches and improve community resilience
- To better understand and identify the assets available to the YOS in helping deliver its outcomes and key priorities
- Reducing demand by strengthening the whole family, preventative and early intervention approaches with those at risk of offending.

The opportunities identified are embedded within the service's development priorities for 2013/14 and will be refreshed annually as part of the delivery planning process that supports this Youth Justice Plan

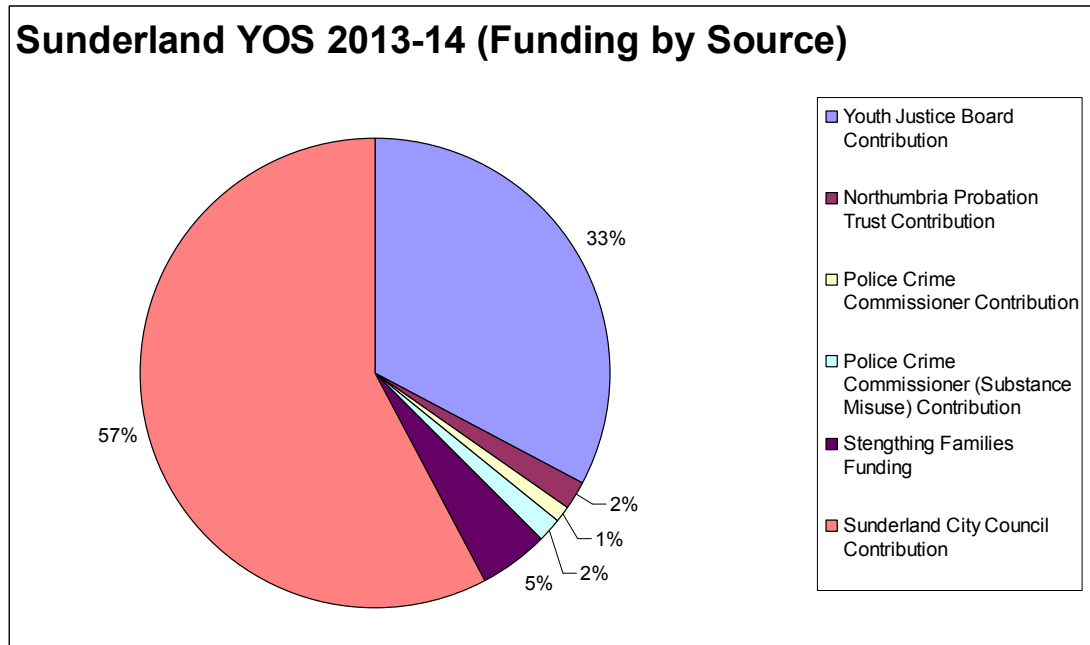
Challenges we have identified:

- Future budget efficiencies
- Potential for increased costs linked to new remand framework for children
- Potential for reduced funding linked to payment by results
- Potential for fewer funding streams
- Increased competition for national grant funding
- Maintaining performance in reoffending
- Maintaining and strengthening the prevention and early intervention aspects of the service's delivery in the face of reducing resources
- Uncertainty over future policing agenda in relation to LASPO Act.

The challenges identified are embedded in the YOS Risk Management Plan which is reviewed and overseen by the YOS Management Board.

RESOURCING AND VALUE FOR MONEY

The YOS budget for 2013/14 is made up of statutory partner agency funding and in kind contributions, core government funding from the Youth Justice Board and other grants. The chart below summarises each of the funding sources for the current financial year:



Within this budget, Sunderland YOS will deliver the core statutory youth justice service as set out by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and other subsequent legislation.

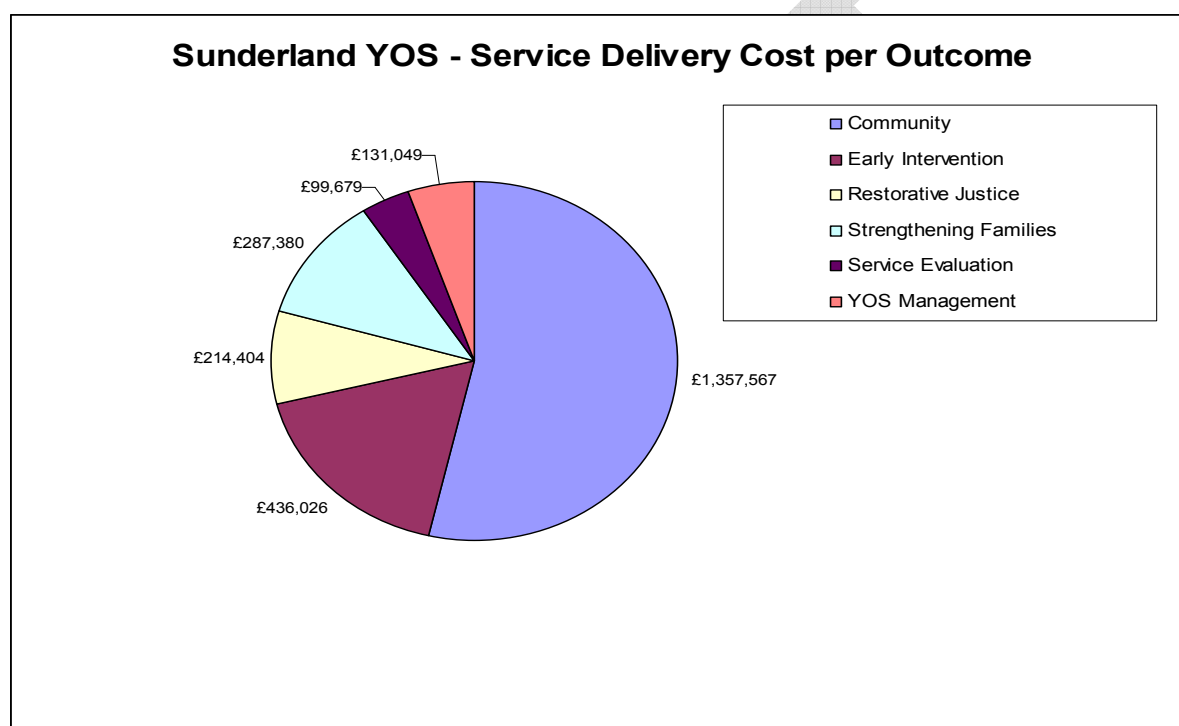
Northumbria YOTs have undertaken a significant amount of work with the Police Crime Commissioner for Northumbria, supported by the YJB, to make representations in relation to the successes achieved in relation to preventing offending and reducing reoffending.

However, whilst there is a changing landscape in terms of funding, Sunderland YOS will continue to deliver the core statutory youth justice services as set out by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and other subsequent legislation. The core statutory youth justice services can be summarised as:

- The provision of appropriate adults to safeguard the interests of children and young people detained or questioned by police officers;
- The provision of voluntary interventions in respect of out of court disposals;
- The provision of court services including reports for the courts;
- Support for children and young people remanded;

- Assessment and supervision of children and young people sentenced by the court to youth justice disposals, and the provision of rehabilitation programmes;
- Supervision of young people sentenced to custody including post release interventions for Detention and Training Orders;
- The provision of restorative justice including information and support to victims of young offenders.

The chart below summarises the YOS budget spend in the individual areas of the service:



Workforce and Specialist Resources

Sunderland YOS works with young people across both pre-court and post court intervention and ensures the delivery of court orders (both in the community and custody) in line with National Standards for Youth Justice, case management guidance and other areas of effective practice and statutory requirements.

In order to support the service's core full-time staff group (in line with the requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998), the service also recruits, trains and manages volunteer and sessional staff to support delivery of elements of the out of court functions and restorative justice. In order to effectively safeguard children and young people, Sunderland YOS facilitates and manages its own appropriate adult service and operates a fully staffed court rota and out of hours rota, including weekends and out of hours.

The service also continues to be well resourced in terms of maintaining all the multi-agency professionals required to form the local youth offending service (as set out in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998) for 2013/14 including child mental health services, health, probation, substance misuse, accommodation and education, training and employment.

Additional to statutory responsibilities, Sunderland YOS provides and supports a range of specialist and award winning intervention programmes that are targeted at specific need and risk groups. These include:

- Phoenix Fire Safety Programme in Partnership with Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service.
- A Triage process with Northumbria Police that provides an out of court restorative justice approach to dealing with young people at the earliest possible opportunity; a project which will be evolving to support delivery of the Police Restorative Disposal which will offer a quick and proportionate response a young person's low-level offending and allows victims to have a voice in how the offence is resolved.
- Liaison and Diversion project, encompassing an early identification and assessment of the health needs of children and young people with Northumbria Police and other partners.
- A family intervention programme for hard to reach families that has evolved to support delivery of the Intensive Family Offer for the Strengthening Families strategy within the City.
- Resettlement after care provision for young people leaving custody.

These statutory and specialist provisions combine to form youth justice services across prevention, early intervention, enforced community based interventions and custody. They are also particularly important in contributing to the delivery of a number of strategic design principles in several of the city's key strategies including strengthening families, community safety, health and wellbeing, child and family poverty and community resilience through a focus on prevention, early intervention, joint working, taking a whole family approach and making better use of existing and new assets. For example, during 2012/13, Sunderland YOS Wear Kids (prevention and early intervention team) transitioned into the Risk and Resilience locality based structure which provides support and access to address the risks of offending as part of the city's Prevention Offer. Focussed partnership working with Wear Kids staff and local partners is supporting increasing referrals to the service which has been re-designed to offer both a brief and full intervention approach depending on needs of individual young people.

Sunderland YOS' restorative justice scheme supports victims of youth crime and enables young people who offend to repair the costs of their offending to their individual victims or to the wider community (community payback services). The RJ schemes works with representatives of local communities to target community payback where it can make the most difference.

The YOS Management Board maintains oversight of YOS resources through regular reports across the financial year.

Value for Money

Sunderland YOS has a strong performance management culture and effective performance management arrangements to ensure the value of services is effectively measured. Over the forthcoming year Sunderland YOS will enhance this capacity through the further development of cost benefit models that link performance and financial information to develop a greater understanding of the social return on investment. Key service developments for 2013/14 also include further qualitative analysis on outcomes in areas of the service such as compliance panels, offending behaviour interventions and strengthening families.

This will help to demonstrate the value of the work carried out and will enable Sunderland YOS to demonstrate best value, and will be well placed to respond to the shift towards Payment by Results, as well as the opportunity of developing effective partnership working with the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Sunderland YOS will continue to build on existing successful cost benefit analysis models such as negative outcomes cost analysis and Family Wheel approach used within the YOS' FIP and will work with the YJB evaluation products to better demonstrate the outcomes being achieved.

Glossary

ETE	Education, Training and Employment
FIP	Family Intervention Project
FTE	First Time Entrants
HO	Home Office
IRS	Intensive Resettlement and Support
ISS	Intensive Supervision and Surveillance
LAC	Looked After Children
LASPO	Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders (Act)
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
RJ	Restorative Justice
SALT	Speech and Language Team
YJB	Youth Justice Board
YRO	Youth Rehabilitation Order
YOS	Youth Offending Service
YOT	Youth Offending Team

How to Contact Us

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Web: www.sunderlandcitycouncil.com/yos

If you would like this document in any other format, please do not hesitate to contact the staff base above.

DRAFT

Report of the Chief Executive

HONORARY FREEDOM OF THE CITY

Report of the Chief Executive

1. Introduction

The Council has traditionally honoured notable citizens of Sunderland who have made significant contributions to the well being and community spirit of the City by conferring on them the Honorary Freedom of the City. A report recommending that the Freedom of the City is conferred on Monsieur Joël Batteux OBE, Mayor of St Nazaire and Mr Niall Quinn MBE is contained in Cabinet's report to Council.

Members of the Council have now nominated the following additional candidate for consideration:-

2. Nomination of Mr Trevor Mann CBE

Trevor was appointed as Nissan Motor Company's Executive Vice president and Chairman of the Management Committee for Africa, Middle East, India and Europe, in January 2013.

His appointment is the latest in a succession of key roles at Nissan, based for the most part at the Sunderland plant, as he has risen through the ranks since joining the company in 1985.

Trevor was born in Lancashire and moved to the North East with his family at the age of 15. Having attended college, Trevor began his career in 1980 as a management trainee at BBH Coil & Transformer Limited. Five years later, he joined Nissan Motor Manufacturing Limited (NMUK) as team leader assigned to Trim and Final Assembly in the production department.

Following several promotions, Trevor was appointed in 1994, to help oversee the production of the Micra, which was an historic moment in Sunderland's motor manufacturing history. Not only did securing the Micra contract bring hundreds of jobs to the city, but it was significant in helping to cement Sunderland's growing reputation as a world leading location for automotive engineering and manufacturing.

Ever since negotiations began on the destination for Nissan's UK plant in the early 1980s, the city council has been incredibly proud of its partnership with the company, and of the benefits and opportunities generated as a result, for the local community and economy.

Since his involvement with the Micra, Trevor has been central to this relationship and through subsequent roles including Director of Operations and Production, Deputy Managing Director and Vice President - Manufacturing UK, he has made an enormous contribution to Sunderland's economy.

Spearheading successful campaigns to win contract after contract to build models such as the Qashqai, Juke and Leaf, Trevor led the Sunderland plant from strength to strength, securing and creating highly skilled jobs and rewarding careers for people in Sunderland and the wider region, both at Nissan and throughout its significant supply chain. He was also integral to assuring future investment in the plant in the securing of the Infinity small luxury car, set to roll off the assembly line in 2015.

Trevor made an invaluable contribution to the development of the Sunderland Economic Masterplan and was a thoughtful and respected member of the city's Economic Leadership Board. This all demonstrated his commitment to create opportunity for local people and ensure that Nissan continued to be a key player in the recovery and growth of the local economy. "I like the people here" he was quoted as saying at the time, "they're open, friendly and to the point. There's a bit of a buzz about the area too, with a great business community that really wants to push forward and progress."

Having been made Senior Vice President for Manufacturing, Purchasing and Supply Chain Management with responsibility for all plants in Europe, India and South Africa in 2007, he was appointed Senior Vice President Global Supply Chain and Operating Committee – Africa, Middle East and India, in 2012.

Whilst this meant that everyone who knew and worked with Trevor was extremely sorry to see him finally leave Sunderland, it was a cause for tremendous celebration and pride that someone who had started on a city production line had risen to the very top of his industry.

In 2010, Trevor received an honorary doctorate from the University of Sunderland and a year later from the University of Northumbria, in recognition of his services to the business community and the North East region. In 2012, he was awarded a CBE (Commander of the British Empire) in the New Year's Honours List.

His remarkable journey from team leader to executive vice president of one of the world's leading motor manufacturing companies - and the very highest levels of recognition that he has achieved - make Trevor an outstanding role model and example of what is possible for the young people of Sunderland.

Therefore, at a time when the city council and its partners including the business community, are working hard to implement the Sunderland

Economic Masterplan, ensuring that our children and young people are supported to follow whatever job and career paths they choose, it is considered entirely fitting that the Freedom of the City should be conferred upon Trevor Mann.

Given Sunderland's long tradition of conferring the Freedom of the City on those notable individuals who, through their various achievements, have contributed to the well being and community spirit of the City, it is considered appropriate to recommend the Council to confer the Freedom of the City upon Mr Trevor Mann CBE.

The proposal will formally seal the relationship between Mr Mann and the City of Sunderland in recognition of all he has done for the city, the example of achievement he sets to the city's young people, and his personal contribution to the economic well being of the City and people of Sunderland.

3. Recommendation

That Council;

- (i) Agrees to the conferring, in accordance with the provisions of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, of the Honorary Freedom of the City upon Mr Trevor Mann CBE
- (ii) Gives authority for the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to agree all appropriate arrangements for the formal ceremony at an extraordinary meeting of the Council to be held on a date to be fixed.

Report of the Audit and Governance Committee

THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE reports and recommends as follows:

1. Annual Report on the work of the Audit and Governance Committee 2012/13

That they have given consideration to a report by the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services (copy attached) on the work of the Audit and Governance Committee during 2012/13, demonstrating how they have fulfilled their delegated responsibilities.

Accordingly, the Committee recommends Council to note the Annual Report on the Work of the Audit and Governance Committee 2012/13.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE 2012/13

Report of the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report provides a summary of the work undertaken by the Audit and Governance Committee during 2012/13 and the outcome of this work. The purpose of this report is to demonstrate how the Committee has fulfilled its role and will be presented to Council once agreed by this committee.

2. Role of the Committee

- 2.1 The Audit and Governance Committee is a key component in the Council's Corporate Governance Arrangements. Its role is to:
- approve the Authority's Statement of Accounts, income and expenditure, and balance sheet or record of receipts and payments (as the case may be);
 - consider the effectiveness of the authority's corporate governance arrangements, risk management arrangements, the control environment and associated anti-fraud and anti-corruption arrangements and seek assurance that action is being taken on risk-related issues identified by auditors and inspectors;
 - be satisfied that the authority's assurance statements, including the Annual Governance Statement, properly reflect the risk environment and any actions required to improve it;
 - receive, consider and monitor reports on treasury management policy, strategy and practices.
- 2.2 To enable the Committee to fulfil its role effectively awareness / update sessions have been held to provide members of the Committee with information on relevant issues. Sessions provided include the following:
- Statement of Accounts and International Financial Reporting Standards.
 - Update on changes resulting from the Council's improvement programmes.

3. Matters Considered

- 3.1 The Committee has met five times during the course of the year to consider a range of issues. Appropriate officers of the Council have been in attendance at the meetings to present reports and provide additional information in order to clarify issues and respond to questions from members of the Committee. Regular attendees at the meetings are the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services, Head of Corporate Assurance and Procurement, Head of Law and Governance and the Council's External Auditors.
- 3.2 To enable the Committee to fulfil its role as set out in paragraph 2.1, a range of reports were considered, as follows:
- a) The Committee endorsed the Corporate Assurance Map for 2012/13 which set out what areas assurance will be gathered on and where the assurance will be sought from. The report included the plans of work for the year for the Internal Audit and Risk and Assurance teams, and the performance indicators for Internal Audit. The Committee was also given the opportunity to identify any areas of work to be considered for 2012/13.
 - b) A progress report in relation to the Corporate Assurance map was presented on a quarterly basis. These provided details of the level of assurance for the strategic and corporate risks areas from management, specialist assurance functions, Internal Audit, Risk and Assurance, the external auditor and other external agencies. Specific key issues were highlighted within the reports for members to consider further, specifically in relation to the rate of implementation of internal audit recommendations by directorates, which improved during the course of the year. It is pleasing to note that the Internal Audit Plan was delivered with all of the Key Performance Indicators being met. The head of internal audit's opinion on the Council's internal control environment was positive.
 - c) The committee reviewed its remit and effectiveness during the year. The review confirmed that the Council's arrangements continue to comply with the CIPFA guidance.
 - d) An annual review of the effectiveness of Internal Audit is carried out and the results of this review were reported to members to provide assurance that the arrangements in place are sound. The review, undertaken by the external auditor (Mazars) is very positive, and concluded that the internal audit function continues to meet all relevant professional standards.

- e) External Auditors provided reports detailing their Interim Opinion report, their fees, the Annual Audit Letter, Annual Governance Report, and the Annual Grants report. In addition progress reports were provided to the latter meetings in the year. These reports provided a very positive opinion regarding the Council's performance, governance, financial management and value for money arrangements. The External Auditor was also able to confirm that the objection to the accounts which had prevented previous years statement of accounts being signed off, had been resolved.
- f) The updated Risk Management Strategy and Policy for the Council was presented to Members for their comments. Progress was reported in relation to the actions taken to mitigate risks on the Corporate Risk Profile.
- g) The results of the Annual Governance Review for 2011/12 were presented, which summarises the overall governance arrangements in place within the Council, and makes recommendations for further improvement. The resultant draft Annual Governance Statement highlighted the good corporate governance arrangements in place and was approved by the Committee and included within the Council's Statement of Accounts.
- h) The annual Statement of Accounts 2011/12 (subject to audit) was presented for members to challenge and approve before they were made available for public inspection and to the external auditors. Once the external auditor had completed the audit, any amendments were submitted back to the Committee for approval. The Committee also received information regarding the International Financial Reporting Standards. The External Auditor commented positively on the arrangements the Council has in place with regard to the production of the Accounts.
- i) The Committee received reports in relation to the Council's Treasury Management arrangements to receive assurance that they are appropriate and approved the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy. The Committee noted the good performance in this area, specifically with regard to security and level of return.
- j) A report was presented to Committee setting out the Councils Counter Fraud Strategy. This explained the Council's arrangements to combat fraud and included an improvement plan to strengthen the arrangements further.
- k) Members received a report setting out the proposal to form a Single Fraud Investigation Service covering the work of the Department of Work and Pensions, Local Authority Benefit Fraud Investigators, and HRMC in relation to tax credits. The single service aims to rationalise the investigation and prosecution policies into a single way of working.

- l) The Committee was updated on the results of the work undertaken to investigate the matches provided through the National Fraud Initiative administered by the Audit commission. This compares data for a number of services across a number of organisations to identify potential frauds. No particular concerns were highlighted but Members commented that they were pleased the Council was continuing with this initiative, especially given Welfare Reform.

3.3 From the reports presented the Committee has been proactively monitoring activity in a number of important areas, as follows:

- *Implementation of Agreed Internal Audit Recommendations* – The implementation of actions agreed with Directorates as a result of Internal Audit work are monitored and reported to Members on a quarterly basis. The Committee take particular interest in the performance of individual directorates. In particular the performance of Children's Services and Health, Housing and Adults Services were discussed and improvements sought.
- *Integrated Assurance Framework* – The Committee received quarterly update reports in relation to the assurance provided through the Corporate Assurance Map. This co-ordinates assurance from different sources to provide an overall view of the governance arrangements within the Council and its arrangements to manage risks.
- *Corporate Risk Profile* – The Committee have received updates regarding the Council's Corporate Risk Profile through the corporate Assurance Map.

3.4 It can be seen that the work of the committee is wide ranging with members monitoring performance more closely in those areas where it was deemed appropriate.

4. Recommendation

4.1 The Committee is asked to consider the report and provide any comments for inclusion prior to the report being presented to Council.

Action on Petitions

ACTION TAKEN ON PETITIONS

Council Members are asked to note the action taken in relation to the under mentioned petitions which were presented to Council.

- (i) Petition from residents of and visitors to the Dairy Lane Estate, Houghton le Spring, particularly Longacre and Dunelm Drive calling for action for Sunderland City Council to take all necessary action to prevent a recurrence of flooding – Presented by Councillor Ellis on 28 November, 2012**

The petitioners requested the Council to take all necessary action to prevent a recurrence of flooding in their homes which appeared to be being caused by flooding in Gilpin Wood and the culverting of run-off water from the Rainton Meadow Industrial Estate to discharge adjacent to homes.

The Council notes the petitioners' requests to take all necessary action to prevent future flooding to their homes. The Council has worked and will continue to work with the Environment Agency and NWL in funding and implementing cost effective solutions to mitigate the flooding problems on the estate. The effects of the works undertaken will continue to be monitored during future rainfall events.

The lead petitioner will be informed of the decision after the Council meeting.

- (ii) Petition to Protect The Green at Redburn Row, Houghton-le-Spring and the field lying to the rear of Redburn Row – Presented by Councillor Ellis on 19 June 2013**

The petitioners requested the Council to protect The Green at Redburn Row, Houghton-le-Spring and the field lying to the rear of Redburn Row.

The site, locally known as 'The Green, Redburn Row and the land immediately to the south, is identified as 'white land' on the proposals map of the City Council's adopted Unitary Development Plan (UDP) (1998) and, as such, any proposals for development would be subject to the provisions of policy EN10. This policy dictates that where the UDP does not indicate any proposals for change, the existing pattern of land use is intended to remain and development in such areas must be compatible with the principal use of the neighbourhood.

In addition, the area in question is also situated within a settlebreak and nature conservation area and, as such, regard should also be given to policies CH6 and B3 of the UDP. Policy CN6 states that important open breaks and wedges within and between settlements will be retained and enhanced, although the supporting text to the policy does state that incursions into the settlement break comprising minor extensions to existing land uses may be acceptable. Policy B3 seeks to protect public and private open space from development which would have a serious adverse effect on its amenity, recreational or nature conservation value; proposals will be considered in light of their contribution to urban regeneration and to the importance of such space to the established character of the area.

It is understood that the area known as 'The Green' has been, and is currently used on occasions by local residents for recreational activities. However in terms of its planning status, the area in question is not afforded any land use policy protection in this regard. Therefore the Council could not, through current planning legislation, ensure that this area of land and the land immediately to the south remained for such informal uses in the future.

In respect of land ownership it is understood that the Council do own a small section of the land known as 'The Green' and the larger area of land to the south. However, as became evident in a recent planning application, for the change of use of open space to private garden to the side/rear of Thornton Cottage, the majority of the area in question does not appear to be in the ownership of any particular individual or company.

Therefore it is considered that any development proposals for the parcels of land in question, including applications for change of use, would be subject to the requirements of Article 11 and 12 of the Development Management Procedure Order 2010 (notice of applications for planning permission and certificates in relation to notice of applications for planning permission) and the considerations as set out in the aforementioned policies.

Councillor Ellis and the Lead Petitioner have been notified of the action taken.

(iii) Petition Requesting the Reinstatement of Bus Service 13 along Doxford Park Way on Sunday daytime and a revision of its termination point - Presented by Councillor Marshall on 26 September 2012

The following actions took place following submission of the Petition:-

(i) The Petition was forwarded to the Acting Clerk & Treasurer for the Integrated Transport Authority (ITA) on 15 October 2012 for investigation of the issues raised by the Petitioners.

(ii) The issues raised by the Petitioners have been investigated by Nexus, on behalf of the ITA, and the matter has been discussed at meetings of the ITA.

(iii) Following the ITA meeting of 23 May 2013, the Director General of Nexus wrote to the Lead Petitioner, outlining the outcome of their investigations. In addition Nexus sent Councillor Marshall, by e-mail on 3 June 2013, a copy of their letter to the Lead Petitioner. Therefore both Councillor Marshall and the Lead Petitioner have been informed of the outcome of the petition.

(iii) The outcome of Nexus' investigations into the issues raised by the petitioners is as follows, as set out in the letter from Nexus to the Lead Petitioner:-

"Nexus were asked to discuss the issues raised in the petition with the bus operator, Stagecoach. The changes were made as a result of a commercial decision taken by the commercial operator. Stagecoach will keep under review the operation of Services 4 and 13 in the Doxford Park area in an effort to minimise the impacts of the loss of Sunday daytime service on Doxford Park Way and to reduce the current dwell time of Service 13. Nexus is continuing to explore these issues and possible solutions with Stagecoach and progress is being made. I hope we will ultimately be able to find a resolution to the issues outlined in your petition. We will provide you with further updates, once Stagecoach has given these issues further consideration."

(iv) It is recommended that Nexus' statement, made on behalf of the ITA, should be noted.

Notice of Motion

NOTICE OF MOTION

Council Members are asked to consider the under mentioned Motion:-

(i) Notice of Motion – Bus Services

This council welcomes the prospect of better bus services for city residents and hopes they can be achieved in partnership with local bus companies

Councillor P. Wood
Councillor G. Howe
Councillor R. Francis
Councillor J. Wiper
Councillor R. Oliver
Councillor M. Forbes

Reports

Quarterly Report on Special Urgency Decisions

Report of the Leader

The Council's Constitution requires that a quarterly report be submitted to Council on executive decisions which have been taken as a matter of special urgency. This requirement is now contained in Regulation 11 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

This is the special urgency provision under which key decisions may be taken by the executive, although not contained in the 28 day Notice of Key decisions (whether proposed to be taken in public or private), where compliance with Regulation 10 (the general exception) was also impracticable.

There have been no such instances since the last quarterly report.

Recommendation

That the Council notes the content of this report.

COUNCIL

25 September 2013

APPOINTMENT TO THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD NHS PROVIDER FORUM

Report of the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to consider an appointment to the NHS Provider Forum, a new group which has been established by the Sunderland Health and Wellbeing Board.

2.0 NHS Provider Forum

- 2.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board at its meeting on 24 May 2013 considered a report which explored the role and function of the advisory groups to the Board. Two existing partnership groups – the Adults Partnership Board and the Children’s Trust – had taken on the formal function of advisory groups to the Health and Wellbeing Board. The Board has resolved to establish a Provider Forum as a third advisory group to ensure that decisions made by the Health and Wellbeing Board are influenced by a range of stakeholders who provide health and social care services in Sunderland. The Forum will also receive items from the Health and Wellbeing Board to investigate and will recommend action back to the Board.
- 2.2 The initial membership of the Provider Forum would consist of representatives from City Hospitals Sunderland, South Tyneside Foundation Trust, Northumberland Tyne and Wear Mental Health Trust, the Ambulance Trust, the City Council and GPs. In line with the existing advisory groups, the Health and Wellbeing Board have requested that the Council appoint a Member to the Provider Forum and the Council is therefore asked to consider appointing Councillor Mel Speding to the NHS Provider Forum.

3.0 Recommendations

- 3.1 The Council is accordingly recommended to appoint Councillor Speding to the NHS Provider Forum.

