

26th September 2019**REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE PLACE BOARD****Place Board Progress Report****1 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To provide an update of progress against the current year's (2019/20) Place Board Work Plan.

2. Background

- 2.1 Earlier this year the priorities associated with Place were referred to the Washington Place Board to action on behalf of the Area Committee. The Place Board has initiated action on those priorities and **Annex 1** outlines progress and performance to date

3. Area Governance Arrangements

- 3.1 The Area Committees are part of the Council's Executive Function and have two key roles:
- Influencing decisions on services delivered at a local level; and
 - Identification of key priorities for their areas, in the context of supporting the delivery of the Council's Corporate Outcomes Framework at a local level and ensures maximum impact where necessary through utilising its own resources.
- 3.2 Area Place and People Boards were set up to support the Area Committee in identifying areas of priority and ensure action in line with those priorities.
- 3.3 Each ward has one elected member representative, whose role it is to liaise with their ward colleagues in between meetings and feedback collective views into the Board meetings. It should be noted that the Board is not a decision-making body and the work/recommendations of the Board will be presented to the Area Committees for final endorsement. Elected member representation on the Place Board for this Area Committee is as follows:

Ward	Place Board Membership
Chair	Cllr. F Miller
Central	Cllr Dianne Snowdon
East	Cllr. T Taylor
North	Cllr. J Kelly
South	Cllr. L Farthing
West	Cllr B. Scaplehorn

4. Key Areas of Influence/Achievements up to 9th September 2019

- 4.1 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of influence / achievements of the Washington Place Board up to **9th September 2019**

Action Taken	Outcome
Influencing Service Delivery: Local Services	
Following the presentation of the Local Services Area Delivery Plan, Place Board continue to oversee the delivery of the 2019/20 service schedule.	
Influencing Service Delivery: Highways Maintenance Capital Programme 2019/2020	
The Place Board receives information on the highways requiring capital maintenance works across the Washington area. The 2019/20 Programme is agreed with regular updates to Board.	
Local Priorities	
Environment and Green Space: Clean and Green	<p>July Place Board agreed the detail of a Project Brief for the Clean and Green Local Action Small Grants Scheme. The Project Brief and Call for Projects is presented for approval under Item 6</p> <p>Finance Decisions and Proposals</p> <p>The Washington Clean & Green Project is currently on target to</p>

	<p>deliver the Plantations Management Programme for 2019/20 as agreed and are working with a number of partners to carry out numerous community clean ups. The last Steering Group meeting held 30th July - Members are asked to note the agreed methodology and referral route for all potential community clean ups. Following the resignation of the Volunteer Co-ordinator, the following was agreed at the Steering Group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jenny Hopper will lead the delivery work plan and communications with the Clean and Green Steering Group and Local Cllrs and will supervise and support volunteers • SNCBC will provide 2 additional support roles – providing transport for the volunteers and tools to and from site providing support to Jenny at volunteer sessions on a Tuesday and Thursday • West Clean & Green Volunteer Co-ordinator will provide support on an ad hoc basis, particularly around site surveys • Shirley Gillum the VCS Support Project lead will provide support to engage Clean and Green volunteers <p>This arrangement will remain in place until September/October when a review will take place to understand if the above approach has been successful and what options are most relevant and if a direct recruitment to the original Volunteer Co-ordinator role is required.</p> <p>The PR/Education element of Clean and Green is looking to work with SCC to deliver a fly tipping campaign. The project is still delivering the Reduce Reuse Recycle initiative in Primary Schools and will work with the Road Safety Education Programme recently agreed by Area Committee to fund flyers and a campaign re inconsiderate parking at schools. Report to the Steering Group highlighted 15 Projects completed to date (April – June 2019), 27 active volunteers. More than 900 volunteer hours have been logged across these 15 projects.</p> <p>The Washington Clean and Green ‘Support for Friends Groups’ has reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Spend complete re Cranberry Drive ○ Springwell RA supported re plants, transport and support staff ○ Contributed to costs for Usworth Park security ○ KWT support for equipment, campaign and materials ○ Friends of Princess Anne Park Notice Boards. <p>Given the small balance remaining and the approaching 2year deadline for this initiative, Neighbourhood Services Officers are requesting an extension and change to the project under Item 6 Finance Decisions and Proposals</p>
Environment and Green Space: Washington Ward Improvement Project	<p>Following approval of an additional £10,000 per Ward for the Ward to enhance the environment within the neighbourhoods, elected members (per ward) are continuing to identify a range of projects which address local issues and concerns. Projects are coming forward in each of the Wards and the Community Resilience Service is providing to support to aid implementation. Details of all Ward balances are reported to Place Board and are included in Item 6 Finance Decisions and Proposals</p>
Environment and Green Space: Usworth Park Management Plan	<p>Work is well underway with regards to delivering the first phase of the Usworth Park Development Plan. A detailed report was presented to the last Board and discussions have commenced re community engagement and supporting volunteers. A first ‘Community Meeting’ with a number of volunteers is being organised for October. This will give the local community an</p>

Princess Anne Park	<p>opportunity to find out what's happening in the park, how they can be involved and how they can volunteer.</p> <p>The September Board agreed a proposal to update the original 'Master Plan' (Plan Drawing) for the Park and work with the Friends Group to develop a longer-term approach to developing the park. Area Committee is requested to agree funding under Item 6 Finance Decisions and Proposals</p>
Grounds Maintenance Equipment	<p>Officers have reported on the success of the Gator, purchased via the Neighbourhood Fund last year. It has already had a significant impact. The Board proposes the purchase of a second vehicle plus snow clearance attachments to be considered under Item 6 Finance Decisions and Proposals</p>
Tree Management	<p>Following detailed discussions at the last two Boards, under Item 6 Finance Decisions and Proposals Area Committee is requested to approve a Tree Management Pilot which will focus activity on 3 or 4 pilot areas that fit the remit of SCC 'Plantation Management' and are subject to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Services Officers submitting a specification for what can be carried out throughout this pilot • All proposals to recognise requirements of SCC Carbon Neutrality approach • To note the Capacity of both Arbor teams/Environmental Services -additional resources may need to be procured (in line with SCC Policy for procuring external contractors) • Where possible some of the areas identified may be able to be dealt with via normal grounds maintenance, tree works and response to health & safety (dead/dangerous single trees) • To note the list of dead/dying already logged and waiting for initial inspections (team capacity/limited resources) – only urgent public safety issues will individual trees be dealt with as an emergency • Clean & Greens current Plantation Programme • On-going discussions with the Woodland Trust • Members are also asked to note the requirement to consult with residents and any stakeholders, relevant to each 'pilot' area or site – before any work can be commissioned/carried out.
Road Safety	<p>A Sub Group will be set up with relevant Officers and Place Board representation to form a longer-term vision and strategy to address trees and plantation management in Washington</p> <p>Network Management have been requested to circulate database info to Members, where cameras are, complaints received, speed surveys over last 3 years, plans Highways have for each ward etc. Members would then be able to make an informed decision with regards to proposing new sites for additional and more up to date VAS. Members have also provided 'priority' hotspot schools (Primary) in order to establish and implement a rolling programme of action, with relevant partners, to address inconsiderate parking. Neighbourhood Services Officers will liaise with partners such as enforcement, police and the school to implement a 'Week of Action' regarding the campaign.</p>
Heritage and Culture: Events Programme 2019	<p>The Events 2019 Programme is well underway with both the 1940's Weekend and the Washington Carnival successfully delivered. The Washington Illuminations is 18th November and the Washington Village Christmas Festival 7th December.</p>
Heritage and Culture: Events Programme	<p>Area Committee will be requested to agree a targeted approach with regards to funding and methodology for the Events 2020</p>

2020	Programme - detailed in Item 6 Finance Decisions and Proposals
Heritage and Culture: Heritage Action Plan	<p>Washington Trust have installed a number of Blue Plaques, the latest being</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bobby Thompson ○ Miners Remembrance ○ Glebe Colliery Welfare Hall <p>This makes a total of 6 plaques. Washington Trust are in discussions with HLF regarding future longer-term funding.</p>
Heritage and Culture: Health and Heritage	<p>The project has successfully delivered</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Professional arts carousel in Columbia Grange Primary School where aerial artists Bare Toed Dance came in to the school to deliver inclusive physical, circus carousel and workshops. Each child in the school had the opportunity to take part, along with sensory story-telling and a silent disco, which was a massive success. 2. CPD from Tim Webb, previously the Director of award winning inclusive theatre company Oily Cart. 25 teachers and artists took part in this bespoke training which concentrated on sensory theatre in teaching practise. 3. National Theatre company, Bamboozle, worked with a class of pupils from Columbia Grange Primary School. They steered their own theatre performance and the Arts Centre Washington was transformed in to another world to be explored by the pupils. They saw puppets, made and wore theatrical costumes, experienced multi sensory experiences and worked alongside professional artists and actors to compile a new theatre piece. This was a once in a lifetime experience. Bamboozle theatre also shared their skill and knowledge with staff from Columbia Grange in a CPD session following the residency. 4. Arts Centre Washington - Dementia Creative Age Programme The group have worked on large scale self-portraits inspired by the theme of 'identity' and with muse from Andrew Tift Project. The second Creative Age group have been exploring different arts medium and have used projections to make large textile wall hangings. 5. One Day You'll Be Older Too - Successful exhibition, praised by public press and public alike. Some 40,000 visitors got to see the exhibition and Washington Health and Heritage was praised publicly for its innovative ways of supporting arts, health and heritage in the area.

5. Recommendations

- 5.1 Members are requested to consider the progress and performance update with regards to the Washington Place Board Work Plan for 2018/2019 included in **Annex 1** and recommendations to Item 6

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