

**At an extraordinary meeting of the EAST SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE, SUNDERLAND on MONDAY, 23<sup>rd</sup> MAY, 2016 at 5.30p.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor Ball in the Chair

Councillors M. Dixon, Emerson, English, E. Gibson, Hunt, Marshall, Mordey, O'Neil, Scanlan and Wood

**Also Present:-**

Alan Brown	- Operations Manager, Gentoo
David Groark	- Area Response Manager, Sunderland City Council
Matthew Jackson	- Governance Services Officer, Sunderland City Council
Jackie Pitt	- Central Community Partnership Coordinator, Gentoo
Sarah Reed	- Assistant Chief Executive & Area Lead Executive, Sunderland City Council
Ian Richardson	- Assistant Head of Streetscene, Sunderland City Council
Gillian Robinson	- Area Co-ordinator, Sunderland City Council
Nicky Rowland	- Area Response Manager, Sunderland City Council
Mark Speed	- Head of Place Management, Sunderland City Council

**Chairman's Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for Absence were received on behalf of Councillors Hodson, Kay, McClennan and Oliver together with Inspector Jamie Southwell and Nicol Trueman.

**Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**Responsive Local Services Report**

The Head of Place Management submitted a report (copy circulated) which requested Members to review and approve the Responsive Local Services

(RLS) Area Delivery Plan for the East Sunderland Area for 2016/17 as recommended by the East Area Place Board.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Mr Mark Speed introduced the report and advised Members that there had been a series of Place Board workshop sessions and there had been a Place Board meeting where the recommendations for the Area Committee had been considered. The new operating model would commence on 1<sup>st</sup> June and it was the result of efficiency savings needing to be made by the department. The work of the department would be more planned than responsive in the future.

There would be reductions in the levels of cleansing and grass cutting however there would still be daily cleansing visits to Town Centres and there would be no change to the service level for the City Centre and Resorts. Mowbray Park had been identified as the key park for the area and it was intended to keep the level of service for Mowbray Park as it had been; due to its city centre location this park would also continue to be locked on a night.

There had been work done with the football league secretaries in order to identify how many pitches would be required so that pitch rationalisation could be looked at. Bowls clubs had also been approached there would be further meetings with them; they had been informed of the reduction in budget and the implications on services.

All of the play areas and the equipment within them would remain until after the summer however within those play areas which were to be closed any equipment which was damaged would not be repaired or replaced. The cost of decommissioning the sites was being investigated and a Play Delivery Plan was being compiled and would be reported to a future meeting of the Place Board.

The number of shrub beds was being reduced and the maintenance would be done on a three yearly basis.

Non-offensive graffiti would now be removed within five working days of being reported.

Councillor Hunt referred to the recommendations from the board and asked what the definition of a Town Centre was. Mr Speed advised that it was the main shopping hub for the local area. For Ryhope the town centre was Ryhope Street South.

Councillor Emerson queried whether sports clubs would be encouraged to do grounds maintenance works themselves. Mr Speed advised that there were a number of options being looked at; the possibility of bowling clubs doing some of the work was being investigated although there were issues around ensuring that health and safety and liability issues were addressed and there was a need to ensure that any proposals were sustainable.

Councillor Hunt expressed concerns over parks not being locked as there had been problems with off road motorbikes being used in the park in Ryhope. Mr Speed advised that there had been discussions with residents and the police around this matter. Ms Rowland added that Ryhope park was locked by staff when they left at the end of the day; it was not certain how long this this would be able to continue for.

1. RESOLVED that:-

- a. The contents of the report be noted
- b. Approval be given to the East Sunderland Area Place Board's Responsive Local Services Area Delivery Plan for 2016/17
- c. Responsibility for overseeing the development and delivery of the 2016/17 Responsive Local Services Area Delivery Plan be delegated to the Place Board.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the Meeting.

(Signed) E. BALL,  
Chairman.