

29 September 2020

REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF COALFIELD NEIGHBOURHOODS AND COMMUNITY BOARD

Coalfield Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020-2023

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 This report:-

- a. Presents the Coalfield Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020-2023
- b. Provides an update of progress against the Area Priorities associated with the Delivery Plan

2. Background

- 2.1 Following the approval of the Neighbourhood Investment Plans in March 2020, the Coalfield Area Committee has worked together to finalise their Delivery Plan. All priorities have been determined following significant resident consultation via Let's Talk Sunderland. The Council also undertook further consultation with residents, during June 2020, to ensure the priorities were still relevant post COVID-19.

3. Area Committee and Neighbourhood Investment Plan Governance Arrangements

- 3.1 The Area Committees are part of the Council's Executive Function and have two key roles:-

- a. Influencing decisions on services delivered at a neighbourhood level; and
- b. Identification of key priorities for their areas, in the context of supporting the delivery of the Council's City Plan at a neighbourhood level and ensuring maximum impact where necessary, through utilising its own resources.

- 3.2 Following the approval of the Article 10 Neighbourhood Investment Plans at Cabinet in March 2020, the Neighbourhood Investment Plans replaced the former Article 10 Local Area Plans.

- 3.3 It is now the responsibility of each Area Committee to deliver their agreed priorities to support the delivery of the Neighbourhood Investment Plan. Area Committee Delivery Plans have been developed to enable this to happen (attached at Annex 1).

- 3.5 The Neighbourhoods and Community Board will be the working group for the Area Committee and the board will be Chaired by the Vice-Chair of the Area Committee. All Committee members are invited to attend all board meetings.

- 3.6 Members will work alongside key officers in what will be practical action orientated groups. It should be noted that the Board is not a decision-making body and the work / recommendations of the Board will be presented to the Area Committees for final endorsement. The Area Committee Chair and Vice-Chair were agreed at Annual Council in June 2020.

4. Areas of Key Action/Progress

- 4.1 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of action/progress of the Board up to September 2020.

Priority/Issue	Update
Progress the Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) programme planned for the Coalfield area	All proposed sites have now been assessed for suitability and presented to the Board. The Board has agreed a programme consisting of 8 signs deployed across 31 sites on a 3 month rolling programme. Highways Officers have commenced the procurement exercise and a further update will be given to the Board at their next meeting
Support the development of the Lakes Café in Hetton Lyons Country Park	All wards in the Coalfield area agreed to provide Community Chest funding totalling £950 to enable the project to reach its target within the required timescale
Provide befriending and welfare support and continue to support community transport to reduce social isolation	As a continuation of the Coalfield Community Hub, set up in response to the Covid 19 pandemic, delivered by a number of local partners, a proposal to fund 'The Lifeline Project' is presented at Item 4 Area Budget Report
Implement the next phase of the Digital Inclusion (DI) programme to enable support to residents within the community	A project proposal (from the previously approved DI budget) is presented at Item 4 Area Budget Report
Continue the Neighbourhood Funded RU Ready for UC project to support people claiming Universal Credit to move further towards the employment market	A project proposal (from the previously approved DI budget) is presented at Item 4 Area Budget Report
Explore opportunities for Elemore Golf Course. Area Committee to consider funding a feasibility study/business plan	An initial consultation meeting has taken place with ward Councillors, relevant officers and organisations to discuss various ideas and suggestions for the site. The next step is wider consultation and the development of a brief to carry out a feasibility study.
Support the development of a commemorative mining statue/memorial on the old Houghton Colliery site	Meetings have taken place with artists who have been invited to submit outline proposals/designs for an art installation at the site. The Development Director of Land and Investment will commission the work once a design has been selected and funding is in place.

5. Recommendations

5.1 Members are requested to: -

- Consider the progress and performance update with regard to Coalfield Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020/23 and agree proposals for future delivery as contained within Annex 1

Annex 1 Coalfield Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020/2023

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