

20 September 2022

REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF EAST SUNDERLAND NEIGHBOURHOOD AND COMMUNITY BOARD

East Sunderland Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020-2023

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 This report: -

- a. Provides an update of progress against the Area Priorities associated with the Delivery Plan, which will be the focus for the East Sunderland Area Committee during 2022-2023.
- b. Provides an update on Neighbourhood and Community Board Governance Arrangements for 2022 -2023.

2. Background

- 2.1 Following the approval of the Neighbourhood Investment Plans in March 2020, the East Sunderland Area Committee has worked together to finalise their Delivery Plans. All priorities have been determined following significant resident consultation via Let's Talk Sunderland.

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 The Article 10 Neighbourhood Investment Plans were approved at Cabinet in March 2020.

- 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.

- 3.4 The Neighbourhood and Community Board will be Chaired by the Vice-Chair of the Area Committee. Neighbourhood and Community Board meetings will be held in July, November, February and April and dates are included in the council diary. If required, the Board may convene a further meeting(s) should there be a business need to do so and essential to ensuring delivery of the Area Neighbourhood Investment Plan Delivery Plan. All Committee members are invited to attend all board meetings.

- 3.5 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 Committee for final endorsement. The Area Committee Chair and Vice-Chair were agreed at Annual Council in May 2022.

4. Neighbourhood Investment Delivery Plan 2020-2023- Areas of Key Action/Progress

- 4.1 The Plan, which includes an introduction from the Chair of the Area Committee, commits to a significant number of priorities, which are being delivered within the East Area of

Sunderland, to address the key issues raised by residents. The Plan is monitored by the Area Committee and actions will continue to be addressed up to 2023, via the East Sunderland Neighbourhood and Community Board.

4.2 Residents will be able to review the Area Committee Delivery Plan and monitor delivery of the plan via the Council's website which is available to access at www.sunderland.gov.uk, as well as through quarterly Area Committee update reports. Funding to support delivery of the plan has been allocated and further information can be found at **Item 4 Area Budget Report**

4.3 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of action/progress of the Board between June to August 2022.

Priority/Issue	Update
Tackle Empty Properties (Priority 1) and Private Landlords (Priority 3)	<p>Following on from the Ward 1-2-1 discussions held in June 2022. Representatives from Regulatory Services and the Private Sector Housing Team attended the July Area Board to discuss and answer questions from members around long term (6 months+) empty properties, the linkages between empty properties and private landlords, next steps for a further engagement event on the Accreditation Scheme, and how the public can support the Council to identify 'rogue' landlords and encourage them to become accredited, to improve housing standards in the private rented sector.</p> <p>Information and guidance was provided to Councillors by Officers, with additional information outside their scope to follow.</p>
Walk and Talk (Priority 5)	<p>In July 2022, Members discussed the feasibility of re-introducing a Walk and Talk Programme for the East area and proposed a budget of £75,000 split evenly across the five wards. Further information is outlined in the Area Budget Report.</p>
Environmental Enforcement (Priority 6)	<p>In July 2022, the Environmental Enforcement Team provided an update on the Area funded project. Three staffing appointments have been made. The additional resource is dedicated to adding value to the existing staffing structure by targeting areas identified by locality hotspot mapping. So far, hi-visibility proactive patrols are taking place, with regular posts being made on East's Facebook page. A fly tipping and litter campaign has been rolled out.</p> <p>The top five issues, per ward, are the focus of the Team's daily workload, such as, overflowing bins, fly tipping, littering, dog fouling, bin fires, dog control orders, etc.</p> <p>Results in the first quarter are: 85 x investigation; 722 x written warnings; 62 x Section Notices served and 5 streetscene cameras deployed.</p> <p>Members supported the proposal to fund a broken streetscene camera. Further information is outlined in the Area Budget Report.</p>
In Bloom (Priority 7)	<p>It has been confirmed that Local Services have approved the 'adopt a planter scheme procedure' which has been rolled out across the City for all Areas to utilise.</p>

	<p>In August 2022, the judging of the In Bloom entries was held. Visits took place across six categories (Best Garden, Yard, Commercial Premises, School, Community Effort and Container Display). Councillors selected the overall Winners, Highly Commended and Commended entries.</p> <p>Winners were invited into City Hall to meet each other, take part in a media call and receive their certificates and prizes.</p> <p>During Spring and over the Summer discussions have been held with all East Councillors to identify and agree a list of potential sites which could host a WoW feature. Based on feedback a funding proposal has been submitted, which is outlined in the Area Budget Report.</p> <p>The final Task Group meeting was held in early September. The Group reviewed the remit of the Group, which has successfully delivered against all the actions put forward by Area Committee. Based on the good practice identified and the relationships built between Environmental Service Managers and representatives from each of the five wards a proposal was submitted to create a new Joint Officer and Councillor working group. It was agreed to discuss the idea at Area Committee to see if there is wider interest. If it proved positive, a further discussion could be held at a future Board meeting to finalise the details and practicalities.</p>
Go! Get Online (Priority 11)	<p>In June 2022, Members received an update on the performance of the area funded Go! Programme which focuses on improving digital inclusion. Based on the success of the model Members held a further discussion at the July Board and agreed to continue the Go! Programme for another year. Further information is outlined in the Area Budget Report.</p>
Support the Voluntary Sector (Priority 17)	<p>In July 2022, Members requested that a site visit was carried out by the Chair/Vice Chair at Ryhope Community Association to discuss how the Committee could support the Centre moving forward.</p> <p>An open and honest discussion was held about the struggles in managing an old building by keeping it modern and safe for people of all ages to use, and how it was a tricky balancing act between investing in the bricks and mortar or providing sessions and support to people in need. It is proposed to provide support to the Centre by investing in a family and older peoples programme, and by developing a funding and volunteers strategy. Further information is contained in the Area Budget Report.</p>
Maximise Community Assets (Priority 20)	<p>In July 2022, Members received information on the performance of the Maximising Community Asset's scheme. Members proposed to continue to fund the projects for a further year. Further information is outlined in the Area Budget Report.</p>
Preserve Heritage (Priority 27)	<p>Over the Summer, three voluntary groups have agreed to support environmental improvements along the Stephenson Trail in partnership with Local Services to improve the</p>

	appearance, this includes the redesign of the subway near The Toby. A celebration event is being planned for City Hall on the 4 November. All Groups, schools and volunteers involved too date will be invited, along with East Councillors.
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5. Recommendations - Members are requested to: -

- 5.1 Consider the progress and performance update regarding East Sunderland Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020/23 and agree proposals for future delivery as contained within Annex 1.

Annex 1 East Sunderland Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020/2023

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