

Item 3

EAST SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE

14 MARCH 2022

REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF EAST SUNDERLAND NEIGHBOURHOOD AND COMMUNITY BOARD



East Sunderland Area Neighbourhood Delivery Plan 2020-2023

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 This report:

- a. Presents the East Sunderland Neighbourhood Delivery Plan 2020-2023; and
- 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 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. 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 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 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.
- 3.5 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 and 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 June 2021.

4. Areas of Key Action and Progress

- 4.1 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of action and/or progress of the Board, up to February 2022, with greater detail set out in **Annex 1 and highlighted in blue**, which informs the Area Activity Tracker to allow residents to monitor Area Committee's progress throughout the year.

Issue / Area Priority	Action / Update
Private Landlords (Priority 3)	The first Roadshow is scheduled for the 10 March 2022 at City Hall. The event is targeting private landlords and estate agents who manage portfolios to attend and raise awareness on the Council's accreditation scheme. The target is to recruit 20 Landlords into the scheme.
Love Where You Live (Priority 5)	Members received an evaluation on the East Park Rangers programme. The Programme ends in March 2022. Based on a discussion Members are recommending approval of £95,560. Further information is set out in the budget report.
Enforcement: Environmental Crime (Priority 6)	<p>Ryhope Task Group reviewed the scope of the Group, and agreed to remove environmental crime, and continue to support key enforcement messages and make referrals to the Team via the Council's Report It system. Allowing time for the Task Group to focus on other ward priorities.</p> <p>The recruitment process for an additional three posts to join the East's Environmental Enforcement Team from April 2022 has commenced.</p> <p>The City Council is contributing towards a fence to install around a playing pitch on Ryhope Recreational Playing field to protect the land from nuisance vehicles, works are expected to be completed in Spring 2022.</p> <p>Groundworks North East have commenced community consultation and a naming competition for Lime Street Pocket Park. Update pending.</p>
In Bloom Task Group (Priority 7)	<p>Members received confirmation that the East In Bloom Competition has now been launched, and is live. Entries can be submitted via East in Bloom 2022 competition - Sunderland City Council. The deadline for nominees is the end of May. With judging and winners to be announced in the Summer 2022.</p> <p>All East Councillors and Partners are requested to encouraged submissions from businesses, local VCS Groups, Schools, Organisations and households across the five wards.</p>
Invest in Highways (Priority 9)	The City Council's Infrastructure and Construction Service has provided an update against identified sites which have

	<p>received capital funding to carry out a series of works to reduce speeding and dangerous driving.</p> <p>See annex 1 for further information.</p>
Highways Maintenance Programme 2022 – 2023 (Priority 9)	<p>All East Councillors received notification to submit damaged or uneven highways in the wards and forward the information onto the Highways Department by the end of November 2021. A report on proposed highways to include in the 2022 / 2023 Programme, based on the intelligence shared by Members, was submitted to the February 2022 Board. Members endorsed the recommendation to seek approval from Area Committee to include the highways works, as set out in Annex Two.</p>
Invest in Parks (Priority 10)	<p>Members received an interim update on the Parks Improvement Programme, which covers over 70 actions ranging from clearing shrubs to carrying out deep cleans. Due to ongoing storm damage over the Winter this has delayed some projects. An update will be presented in Spring 2022.</p> <p>Members received an update on the Fixed Play condition survey of the Parks across the Area.</p>
Increase 5G (Priority 11)	<p>The City Council's Project Transformation Team have started a desk top research exercise to understand what the Council is currently delivering to support digital poverty across the City. Information from the research may inform the report being produced in the East on the digital divide.</p>
Existing and Vacant Properties (Priority 12)	<p>62 organisation who operate a building within the East area have been requested to complete a Taking Stock Survey. The survey asked for information relating to governance, schedule of activities, building repairs that need completing and any additional support required.</p> <p>Results will be shared in April 2022.</p>
Enhance local greenspace (Priority 16)	<p>Member agreed to support a new joint working group being established across the City, to improve the appearance and design of cemeteries. Cllr Scanlan, Cllr Reed and Cllr Bewick were proposed as the East representatives. Update pending.</p>
Support VCS (Priority 17)	<p>The ACDL worked with the City Council's Energy Efficiency Team to improve Ryhope Community Centre's heating system. Site visits have been conducted and future options are being considered on how to upgraded the heating system.</p>
Local Events (Priority 19)	<p>To mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee year Members are seeking approval from Area Committee for a budget of</p>

	<p>£10,000, to allow a call for projects to be carried out.</p> <p>Further information is outlined in the budget report.</p> <p>Future requests to support Events should initially be referred to Community Chest for consideration via the Ward Councillor.</p>
Reduce fear of crime (Priority 22)	<p>East LMAPs representatives raised awareness about the purpose of LMAPs and what sort of issues warrant referrals to the Group. Examples of issues that meet and do not meet the criteria were shared and discussed with Members.</p>
Fuel Poverty (Priority 24)	<p>Members received an update on how the City Council is supporting fuel poor households across the City, under the Energy Company Obligation Regulations which allows local authorities to set their own criteria for eligibility to fund domestic energy efficiency measures.</p> <p>Additional support for people struggling with fuel costs is available from the Welfare Reform team and the Enhanced Winter offer. More information can be found via www.sunderland.gov.uk/get-support</p>
Affordable Credit Solutions (Priority 25)	<p>Members received an update on the City Council's partnership with Moneywise Credit Union and the city-wide approach being developed to improve financial wellbeing and financial resilience across the City. It's a three-year programme called 'Being in Control'. Additional information was provided on a national scheme that the Money Advice and Pension Service (MAPS) are delivering around financial education, saving skills, reducing credit, accessing advice and planning for retirement.</p> <p>Members are proposing that the Area Committee agree to consider developing a project which looks at Bed poverty, similar to a Leeds model called Zarach in year three on the Delivery Plan.</p>
More Than Food (Priority 26)	<p>Members received an update on the concept around 'more than food'. Its ethos is to offer help beyond a food parcel by finding out more about the individual's or family circumstances to see what additional services and support can be provided to help people address the underlying issues behind their crisis. Financial resilience checks are offered to anyone accessing food support via the Community Food Network / Sunderland Foodbank.</p> <p>In addition, the Council have collated information from across the city and uploaded it onto www.sunderland.gov.uk/get-support. It provides a focal point to find out how to access the right support tailored to their needs, allowing the public to help themselves and find</p>

	<p>out useful information to share with their friends and family.</p> <p>Feedback was provided by the East VCS Area Network, who held a workshop in December 2021 which considered the definition, the causes and consequences of poverty.</p> <p>A short term Financial Resilience Directory was produced and it was agreed that when the Network feel it is appropriate the monthly scheduled meetings could be used to act as an informal 'Poverty Network' to host workshops or discussions on future emerging issues.</p>
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5. Recommendation(s)

5.1 Members are requested to:

- i. Consider the progress and performance updates with regard to East Sunderland Neighbourhood and Community Board Delivery Plan 2020-2023 and agree proposals outlined for future delivery as contained within Annex 1.
- ii. Agree the Highways Maintenance Schedule Programme 2022-2023, as contained within Annex 2.
- iii. Note the Area Committee video update.

Annex 1 East Sunderland Neighbourhood Delivery Plan 2020-2023
Annex 2 Highways Maintenance Capital Programme 2022-2023

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