

At an extraordinary meeting of the NORTH SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE held in COMMITTEE ROOM 2, CIVIC CENTRE, SUNDERLAND on MONDAY, 23rd MAY, 2016 at 4.00p.m.

Present:-

Councillor D. Wilson in the Chair

Councillors Beck, Bell, Chequer, Curran, Davison, Elliott, Foster and Leadbitter

Also in Attendance:-

Ms. Vivienne Metcalfe	-	Area Community Officer, Sunderland City Council
Ms. Allison Patterson	-	Area Coordinator, Sunderland City Council
Mr. Mark Speed	-	Head of Place Management, Sunderland City Council
Ms. Joanne Stewart	-	Principal Governance Services Officer, Sunderland City Council
Mr. Kevin Sutton	-	Gentoo
Mr. Steven Taylor	-	Gentoo

Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting, inviting introductions from those in attendance and advising of the process for recording meetings.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors Francis, Howe, Jackson, MacKnight, Stewart and N. Wright and on behalf of Mr. M. Donachie, Mr. P. Gowans, Mr. A. Scott, Ms. S. Stanhope and Mr. G. Wharton

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

Responsive Local Services Report

The Head of Place Management submitted a report (copy circulated) which sought approval for the Responsive Local Services (RLS) Area Delivery Plan for the North of Sunderland Area for 2016/2017 as recommended by the North Sunderland Area Place Board.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

The Chairman welcomed and introduced Mark Speed, Head of Place Management and invited him to present his report.

The meeting was informed that since 2010 the government had severely cut the funding it gives local authorities, and was continuing to do so. There was also an increasing demand for services, particularly in relation to adults and children's social care. The council had already saved £207million since 2010 whilst protecting and improving front-line services. To-date those savings had been delivered in a planned way in order to protect the city from the worst impact of this financial challenge. The council now needed to make further savings of £110million by 2020 of which at least £40million had to be made in 2016/17.

To enable the efficiencies to be achieved from the Place Management Service, a new operating model for RLS in the North Sunderland Area had been developed by the North Sunderland Area Place Board Members.

For benefit of the Committee members unable to attend the Place Board held earlier that afternoon and the members of the public present, Mr Speed outlined the following scheduled of proposed RLS service standards which were being submitted for the Committee's consideration :-

Activity	Proposed Services Standard
Cleansing (Incl. Compact sweeper operations, litter and dog bin servicing, fly-tip clearance, litter picking, leaf removal)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open Plan Estates• High Density Areas• Town Centres• City Centre• Resorts• Main Arterial Routes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fortnightly• Weekly• Daily – 1 visit• No Change• No Change• Weekly
Grass Cutting	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Play Areas• Open Spaces• Residential Verge• Main Routes Verge• Priority Route Verge	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 Weekly• 3 Weekly• 4 Weekly• 3 Weekly• Fortnightly

<u>Parks</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key Park • Non-Key Parks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roker • 3 Weekly Grass-Cutting
<u>Sports Pitches</u>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial meeting held with Football League Secretaries to identify potential rationalisations of number of pitches provided for next season. To seek to confirm after league AGM's in June when number of teams for season 16/17 is known. • Meeting with bowls clubs in April, all were made aware of reduction in revenue budget and implication on future provision. Agreed to produce questionnaire and capture baseline information from clubs. Further meeting held with Bowls Alliance on 13 May with potential options now to collaboratively produced on future provision.
<u>Fixed Play</u>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost to decommission identified sites to be determined summer 2016 • Play Delivery Plan currently being compiled for presentation at future Place Board
<u>Shrub Beds</u>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% rationalisation – specific locations to be identified for removal winter 16/17 • 3 year maintenance programme to all remaining shrub beds
<u>Graffiti Removal</u> (non-offensive)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 working days

Mr. Speed advised that they would be intelligence collecting throughout the process as this was very much a learning curve and there was no data analysis to indicate how the proposed service standard would turn out. He explained that it was expected a quarterly report would be submitted to future meetings of the North Sunderland Area Place Board to monitor progress and look to address any issues.

The representatives from Gentoo advised that they were also looking at the way in which they provided services in and around the North Sunderland Area and through discussions with Responsive Local Services they could look to work together to support each other where possible.

There being no further comments or questions on the report, it was:-

1. RESOLVED that:-

- a) approval be given to the North Sunderland Area Place Board's Responsive Local Services Area Delivery Plan for 2016/2017 and
- b) the responsibility to oversee the development and delivery of the 2016/2017 Responsive Local Services Area Delivery Plan be delegated to the North Sunderland Area Place Board.

The Chairman then closed the meeting having thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions.

(Signed) D. WILSON,
Chairman.