

8 March 2017

REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE PLACE BOARD**Place Board Progress Report****1 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To provide an update of progress against the current year's (2016/17) Place Board Work Plan, and provide an update on performance.

2. Background

- 2.1 Earlier this year the Local Area Plan priorities associated with Place were referred to the Coalfield Place Board to action on behalf of the Area Committee. The Place Board continue to initiate action on those priorities. Progress to date is outlined below, and in the Work Plan at **Annex 1**.

3. Area Governance Arrangements

- 3.1 The Area Committees are part of the Council's Executive Function and have two key roles:-
- Influencing decisions on services delivered at a local level; and
 - Identification of key priorities for their areas, in the context of supporting the delivery of the Council's Corporate Outcomes Framework at a local level and ensures maximum impact where necessary through utilising its own resources.
- 3.2 Area Place and People Boards were set up to support the Area Committee in identifying areas of priority and ensure action in line with those priorities.
- 3.3 Each ward has one elected member representative, whose role it is to liaise with their ward colleagues in between meetings and feedback collective views into the Board meetings. 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. Elected member representation on the Place Board for this Area Committee is as follows:-

Ward	Place Board Membership
Chair/Hetton	Cllr John Cummings
Copt Hill	Cllr Anthony Allen Cllr Mary Turton
Houghton	Cllr Juliana Heron Cllr Alex Scullion
Shiney Row	Cllr Mel Speding

4. Key Areas of Influence/Achievements to February 2017

- 4.1 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of influence / achievements of the Coalfield Place Board to date.

Action Taken	Outcome
Influence: Highways Capital Maintenance	
Influence the highways capital maintenance budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The board received information on the process for members to influence and prioritise the areas of Highway capital maintenance works for 2017/2018, with 25% of the capital maintenance budget identified for influence. Further information was presented to the Place Board in February, identifying locations for consideration by members, for inclusion in the 2017/2018 Highway capital maintenance programme. These areas have been identified from a number of sources including members, residents and Highways staff. After consultation with all members of Area Committee, the Board agreed recommendations for the completion of the capital maintenance programme in the Coalfield wards as described at Annex 2

Influence: Place Management	
Develop service schedule for 2017/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following a presentation of the Local Services Area Delivery Plan to the extraordinary Area Committee in May 2016, as agreed, Place Board continue to oversee the development and delivery of the 2016/2017 Delivery Plan. • Members have reviewed the performance data presented by the Place Management Service at Place Boards in September 2016 and January 2017, and discussed opportunities to engage further with communities. • At the February Place Board members discussed delivery of Place Management Service Schedule 2016/2017 and discussed key priorities for 2017/2018. Ward members were tasked with discussing key priorities and feedback to Debbie Hall in order to develop the Schedule for 2017/2018.
Area Priority: Support for Local Shopping Centres	
Retail and Business Support for Independent Traders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following the approval of £50,000 SIB Retail Support programme, to be delivered by the Business & Innovation Centre (BIC), the Place Board is keen to see progress on a number of actions to support shopping areas across the Coalfield. • Parking and traffic issues at Avondale Avenue, Penshaw and Newbottle Street, Houghton le Spring will be addressed in the coming months. Further information and a request for funding is contained in Item 5, Area Budget Report. • More diverse use of shopping centres including temporary events and markets will be developed. • A review of signage at Market Street, Hetton will be carried out to establish whether this can be improved. • 'Collectives' or 'Associations' of traders and other occupants of key retail locations will be strengthened and developed to support shopping areas. • Environmental awareness/education will be carried out with traders and shoppers as part of a wider environmental project. • VCS Network members will be kept updated on local events and activities and be offered the opportunity to support shopping centres.
Area Priority: Environmental Improvement and Education	
Encourage local residents to participate in maintaining the local natural environment and continue to deliver 'Love Where You Live' activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following approval of £85,000 SIB at the December 2016 Area Committee meeting, a Call for Projects was made via the VCS Network. Following assessment and consultation, one large project (£50,000) and a number of smaller projects (up to £5,000 each) are recommended for approval in Item 5, Area Budget Report. • A number of community/resident groups, supported by local Councillors, are carrying out litter picks/clean ups across the area. Litter pickers, gloves, bags etc... are being provided and shared amongst VCS groups to maximise resources. Place Management colleagues are supporting the groups by co-ordinating and carrying out collection of waste, at prior agreed pick up points.

Area Priority: Celebrate Local Events and Heritage

Support long standing historical events and celebrations

- The Place Board has discussed the development of a community art project to celebrate heritage of the area. Suggestions for a theme were presented to the Board and to the VCS Network for their views. The project will focus on industry and railways, including learning on George Stephenson who designed the Hetton colliery railway. Further information, and a request for SIB funding, is contained in Item 5, Area Budget Report.
- The historic Houghton Feast takes place 6-15 October 2017. This year's theme is 'Time Travel', with a focus on 500 years since the birth of Bernard Gilpin. The community events and displays will be focused around this theme, incorporating key information and activities from Tudor times up to present day. A request for SIB funding to deliver the community element of the Feast is contained within Item 5, Area Budget Report.

5. Recommendations

Members are requested to:

- Consider the progress and performance update with regard to Coalfield Place Board's Work Plan for 2016/17 and agree proposals for future delivery
- Consider and agree the recommendation of the Place Board regarding the Coalfield Highway Capital Maintenance programme for 2017/2018, attached at **Item 2 Annex 2**.

Annex 1 2016/17 Work plan

Annex 2 Highways Maintenance update 2016/17

Contact Officer: Pauline Hopper, Area Community Development Lead Tel: 0191 561 7912
Email: pauline.hopper@sunderland.gov.uk