

REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF WASHINGTON NEIGHBOURHOODS AND COMMUNITY BOARD

Washington 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 Washington 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 Washington 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 2021.

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 Washington 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 Washington 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 3 Area Budget Report**

- 4.3 Progress against the Delivery Plan has been reported regularly to Neighbourhood and Community Board and Area Committee. Good news stories and promotion of projects and local information have been posted on the Washington Sunderland Community Facebook page.
- 4.4 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of action/progress of the Board up to December 2022.

Priority/Issue	Update
Enforcement & Neighbourhood Management	Request to extend the project to March 2024 and allow the officer to roll out activities to other areas in Washington. NMEP will also manage the Together Clean & Green Partnership Group as a Project Management Steering Group for NMEP and will liaise directly with Cllrs regarding redeployment of the street cams and identifying any new 'hotspots' for the project to target. To be considered under Item 3 Area Budget Report
Invest in Parks: Usworth Park	Following escalating costs to deliver capital improvements, additional funding is now required to continue to deliver aspects of the Usworth Park Development Plan as well as manage the site whilst the building works are completed. A number of actions/activities are still to be completed: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Park Security 2. Fencing 3. Gates 4. Landscaping 5. Support for the Friends This funding will allow ES to continue to work with partners to deliver the approved Usworth Park Development Plan to support a future application for Green Flag Status. To be considered under Item 3 Area Budget Report
Invest in Parks: Princess Anne Park	Work has now commenced on site to deliver priority items as detailed in the Princess Anne Master Plan and this programme is expected to be delivered within the £100,000 budget already awarded. Building on an that investment to deliver mainly repairs to footpaths and surfaces, additional funds are now requested to carry out footpath maintenance to paths that have root damage / trip hazards to footpaths not previously identified This is a request to approve a further £10,312 (Neighbourhood Fund 2022/23) to SCC. To be considered under Item 3 Area Budget Report
Washington Fixed Play	April 2022 Neighbourhood Board received a detailed report outlining progress with the majority of the works proposed in the WFPS completed and the procurement of new equipment still outstanding. In addition, at local Councillor request, SCC has been requested to complete a design options exercise for a new play area in Harraton. The Area Committee is asked to note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Procurement contract for the equipment is now completed – whilst the programme and timescales are still to be confirmed, it is anticipated that all equipment will be installed by 31.03.22 • Officers have been asked to commence with the options exercise for the Harraton site • To be noted North East Community Forest orchard/plantation will also be planted at the Harraton site This proposal is to recommend a further £40,000 (Neighbourhood Fund 2022/23) be added to the budget to deliver the Play Strategy – including new equipment at the Harraton site. to be considered under Item 3 Area Budget Report
Trees and Plantation Management Task Group Report	First Task Group met 19.10.22. Cllr priorities by Ward for 'priority' activity are:

	<p>Washington Central - the area behind Bede / Dene crescent in Washington Village; the area to the top of Village Lane not a big area therefore Burtree/Pendle/Mendip area too</p> <p>Washington East - The plantation behind Sycamore, Chestnut and Laburnum in Harraton</p> <p>Washington North - priority areas are Silverstone Road and Sulgrave Road.</p> <p>Washington South - The plantation between Fieldfare and Lapwing Close in Ayton, the plantation which runs along the back of Fieldfare, and the plantation mentioned in the list at Skaylock in Lambton</p> <p>Washington West - Perimeter road in Donwell. Specifically the trees that overlook Doncrest and Donridge as the road progresses to the roundabout next to the bridge.</p> <p>Lead to survey proposed sites and keep Cllrs updated with regards to ward level programmes of work</p>
Supporting the Voluntary & Community Sector: WISP	<p>The WISP Advice Worker is based in Mickey's Place Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. Telephone support and flexible outreach support is also provided to people in need and referrers. There is a strong partnership working in place which maximises the impact of the project and increases the engagement of clients into other services such as Social Prescribers, Wearside Women in Need, WEAR Recovery, Northumbria Police, Gentoo and Energy Advice. The project works very closely with specialist providers to ensure that those with mental illness, drug or alcohol dependencies receive the support they need. Good links were made with other providers involved in delivery of the Household Support Fund scheme and this proved useful when people were identified as needed additional support or were found to be in crisis. The WISP project is also providing services at the Building Blocks Centre</p> <p>Funding from Area Committee will end March 2023 and as ShARP are committed to delivery of this project we will make applications to other funders so that this vital project can continue. Exit Plan presentation to December AC</p>
Events	<p>The cost of running the annual Washington events package has increased due to supplier costs, with some areas of work seeing a significant rise including the cost of marquees that was driven up by demand during covid19 and such as generators for power provision which rely on diesel to fuel them, costs of running vehicles to deliver staging etc. A number of companies are now only installing and de-rigging around a weekend rather than being available of a weekend day, resulting in new security costs that were not envisaged when the application was submitted. We have also noticed an increase in entertainment costs, the number of suppliers providing a quality offer has decreased as some didn't restart after covid and this again has pushed prices up. Further, the 2022 events packaged included the preparation of the 2023 Carnival but not all of its delivery costs and hence an extension to budget is required to include the additional delivery requirements. This is in addition to anticipated rises in staffing, insurance and cleaning costs. Requests for a further £10,000 to ensure the programme can accommodate the delivery of the 2023 Carnival to be considered under Item 3 Area Budget Report</p>
Supporting young people: Washington Outreach Project	<p>The project engages young people at hotspot areas re ASB and tries to address challenging and 'at risk' behaviours. Good partnerships in place with Police and SCC ASB Team. Outreach and base work as part of the programme plus referrals into services as required. To date over 5000 young people have been engaged with the programme. ODYPP have funding till the end of June 2023 to provide Safe spaces for young people and to access mental health counselling support – Good Vibes. This provision, whilst essential, is not enough to cater for the numbers of young people requiring interventions and youth sessions and doesn't address anti-social behaviour although it</p>

	complements that provision. Sunderland All Together Consortium in partnership with ODYPP requests three months of continuation funding totalling £7,000, enabling the project to continue till the end of June 2023. Continuation funding of the outreach project is matched to the lottery funded mental wellness sessions hosted in Washington by ODYPP. As the sessions have a health focus and mental health counsellors attached directly to them young people engaged via outreach will have a direct route into mental health wellbeing and support provided by the project and 'Good Vibes' counsellors. This project is funded for 3 years until the end of June 2023 and is a successful model of Counsellors delivering alongside youth workers in community venues at accessible times for young people. To be considered under Item 3 Area Budget Report .
Supporting young people: Washington Youth Matters Financial Resilience	Youth Matters (Financial Resilience) Call for Projects closed on the was 30.11.22 with xx application received. Following formal assessment and consultation the Officer Recommendation is included in Item 3 Area Budget Report (Annex 1) for Members' consideration
Local Heritage & Culture: Albany Wheel	A project to relocate the existing pit wheel at Albany to Silksworth is moving forward to completion. A second part of the project to install a refurbished pit wheel in Albany as a replacement is now required. It is proposed that the pit wheel at Albany will be replaced by a wheel currently located at Washington F Pit Museum. This wheel will need to be refurbished prior to installation in Albany village centre as Phase 1 alongside an opportunity to enhance the existing location as a Phase 2 for consideration. Refurbishment of the pit wheel presents an opportunity to explore an enhancement to its existing location. The pit wheel's current interpretation and setting lacks impact and could be improved with a landscape scheme more effectively commemorate Washington's rich mining and industrial heritage. WAC are asked to consider the feasibility of contributing funding to support delivery of the phase two scheme via their Neighbourhood Fund. To be considered under Item 3 Area Budget Report
Local Heritage & Culture: Washington Heritage Partnership	Replacement Heritage Co-ordinator currently being recruited. Interim support being provided by the Washington Heritage Partnership Group and the NE BIC to continue to deliver some of the workstreams.

5. Recommendations - Members are requested to: -

- 5.1 Consider the progress and performance update with regard to Washington Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020/23 and agree proposals for future delivery as contained within **Annex 1**.
- 5.2 Note the presentation of the Washington Individual Support Project (WISP)

Annex 1 Washington Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020/2023

Contact Officer: karon.purvis@sunderland.gov.uk
Karon Purvis, Washington Area Community Development Lead