

14<sup>th</sup> November 2018**REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE PEOPLE BOARD****People Board Progress Report****1 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To provide an update of progress against the current year's (2018/19) People Board Work Plan.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 Earlier this year the Local Area Plan's priorities associated with People were referred to the West People Board to action on behalf of the Area Committee. The People Board continue to initiate action on those priorities and **Item 5 Annex 1** outlines progress to date.

**3 Area 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 local level; and
  - b. 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 established to support the Area Committee in identifying areas of priority and ensure action taken 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 People Board for this Area Committee is as follows:-

<b>Ward</b>	<b>People Board Membership</b>
Chair	Cllr Susan Watson
Barnes	Cllr Rebecca Atkinson
Pallion	Cllr George Smith
Sandhill	Cllr Debra Waller
Silksworth	Cllr Pat Smith
St. Anne's	Cllr Karen Waters
St Chad's	Cllr Stuart Porthouse

**4. Key Areas of Influence/Achievements up to 5 November 2018**

- 4.1 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of influence / achievements of the West People Board up to 5 November 2018.

<b>Influence: Core service delivery for council People services</b>
<b>Monitor performance and delivery of Children's Centres within the West of Sunderland</b>
Area Committee Chair and People Board Chair attend West Children Centre Advisory Board meetings and will feedback to People Board as and when updates are available.

<b>Community Library provision to ensure those Libraries no longer delivered by the Council but via the local VCS are supported where practicable</b>
Kayll Road Library continues to deliver from strength to strength with many activities held and or planned. Large-scale Poppy event delivered in October alongside Parker Trust and Pallion Action Group to recognise the centenary of the end of the first world war and encourage communities – young and old to join together to remember. The library is also supporting the Pallion Traders with their Christmas celebrations as well as working alongside communities to improve their reading and ICT skills.
<b>Area Priority: Maintain partnership with Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group (SCCG)</b>
Working with Locality Commissioning Manager and new clinical lead for the West locality to establish GP service directory as well as continue to share information relating to West Social Isolation projects and youth activities to maximise usage from our most vulnerable communities.
<b>Area Priority: Activities for Young People including Holiday Hunger</b>
<p>Funding and projects approved at June Area Committee commenced their delivery from summer 2018. October half-term activities focused on Halloween and also Remembrance. Progress updates will be presented to future People Boards as well as ward updates from each provider to the relevant ward councillors.</p> <p>Banners to promote activities were produced and each organisation which was delivering, installed a banner at each venue during delivery days to ensure those benefiting from the activities knew how they had been funded.</p> <p>Planning for Christmas hampers and Christmas deliver are well underway and signposting to West CLLD projects and Social Isolation projects is also coordinated to ensure a 'golden thread' throughout all projects to maximise communication and sharing messages – ensuring the messages reach our hard to reach communities.</p>
<b>Area Priority: Supporting the VCS to support their sustainability</b>
<p>Workshop held with VCS (See Item 6) to discuss and develop proposals which enable the VCS to continue to support our most vulnerable communities who may be affected by the roll out of Universal Credit – particularly those who have limited ICT skills and lack of ICT equipment.</p> <p>The VCS continue to discuss and develop ways to support their sustainability and will present ideas to a future People Board.</p> <p>CLLD application support to finalise outputs and timescales as well as coordinate evaluation mechanisms to ensure organisations who are completing CLLD funding returns can also share the information from an SIB perspective.</p>
<b>Area Priority: West School Transition Project</b>
Key teaching staff trained in all West Primary and Secondary schools which now enables an annual school transition week to be held in July each year (first week held w/c 2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2018). The school transition week allows those children in year 6, to spend a week in their new senior school, ahead of commencing year 7, engaging throughout the week in creating enterprise, health and wellbeing and looking after your mental health, activities. School transition is now an annual occurrence with all senior and feeder primary schools working together across the West.
<b>Area Priority: Working with Vulnerable Communities – particularly those who are socially isolated and lonely or who have long-term care responsibilities</b>
Projects continue to be approved at a ward-level to support socially isolated people to take part in community activities to improve their overall health and wellbeing. Third round applications were promoted via the West VCS network and updates from current projects continue to be shared with the VCS network to ensure joint working where

possible and sharing best practice. Important to sign-post all residents who come into contact with West projects (CLLD; Community Clean-up, Digital Inclusion, Youth etc.) to ensure everyone is aware of the activities available, to bring communities together.

#### **Area Priority: West NEET Project**

Delivery partners are working collaboratively to implement the project working with young people from across the West to support them into employment, volunteering and further education. Full project update will be shared at the December People Board.

Linked to developing apprenticeship programme for the West – full detail further within the report.

Key outputs to-date include:

Working collaboratively with LSYC, PYP, and A690 to assist and support young people aged 16 – 18 years from the West Area who are NEET.

Working with Together for Children to access up to date NEET lists of young people.

15 young people aged 16 – 18 years from the West Area have been recruited and engaged onto the programme.

Bespoke packaged has been developed for each young person to address their individual needs and put them on the right path for a successful future.

7 of the young people have completed non-accredited or accredited learning.

7 of the young people have progressed into EET. 3 have moved into employment, 4 have moved into education or training.

#### **Area Priority: School Attendance**

Discussed the need at July and September People Board to maximise school attendance to ensure all young people obtain a full education.

Schools are all working hard to maximise attendance – alongside the council Attendance Service.

However it is clear that some families may have additional needs, which in turn impact upon the children within the family attending school. The People Board agreed that collaborative working was important and they asked if the issue could be discussed with the wider VCS network. VCS network agreed to work with local schools to host structured school uniform donation events, as well as share messages regarding the importance of school attendance, through the delivery of other projects such as CLLD, Clean and Green, Social Isolation and Holiday/Youth activities.

#### **Area Priority: Community Led Local Development (CLLD) Programme**

Match funding from West Area Committee was made available for West organisations who required match-funding to enable them to apply for CLLD funding. Five projects were approved at June Area Committee for the West SIB match-funding, subject to securing CLLD at full application stage. The Area Arrangements team supported the VCS organisations with their full CLLD applications and all have been approved by the CLLD Local Action Group. Monitoring of project delivery is critical and robust measurements are in place including monitoring visits to ensure delivery, active learning and continuous improvement.

The five projects which are now being delivered include:

Care to Achieve – Pallion Action Group/Parker Trust

Community Helper Plus – Farringdon Community Centre/Youth Almighty

West REACT – Sunderland North Community Business Centre/Community Opportunities

<p>Community Champions – A690 Prospecting for Enterprise – Business Innovation Centre (BIC)</p> <p>The successful allocation of CLLD Grant funding for all five West projects has meant that the West SIB allocation has been doubled in value for the residents within the West of Sunderland – which is a fantastic outcome.</p>	
<p><b>Area Priority: West Leaving Care Project</b></p>	
<p>Project continues to be delivered supporting young people in care to move into employment, education and training as well as access additional support to improve their overall health and wellbeing. Young people learn new skills including up-cycling furniture for when they move into their own home. A final update on the project will be presented to the December People Board. This project is now transitioning into the CLLD Care to Achieve project, thanks to external funding from CLLD and West SIB match-funding. Lessons learnt from the project continue to be shared with Together for Children.</p>	
<p><b>Area Priority: Tackling worklessness and raising aspirations</b></p>	
<p><b>West Apprenticeships Programme and West Training Support – Find a better job Programme</b></p>	<p>July People Board discussed the success of the West Apprenticeship programme to-date. A further report was presented to the September and October People Board to enable the board to discuss options moving forward. Members were provided within detailed information in relation to the type of apprenticeships supported and the organisations/businesses involved. Members agreed that the programme had been very successful. It was agreed that a recommendation would be made to November Area Committee to fund a further West Apprenticeship Programme from West SIB, ensuring that those apprenticeships supported lived within the West of Sunderland, were linked with businesses / organisations which would support long-term, high quality skilled employment and ensured the young people involved were safeguarded.</p> <p>The October People Board also considered a further report in relation to supporting training for those ineligible to receive free training to find a better job, but unable to financially afford additional training. It was agreed that a recommendation would be made to the November Area Committee to fund a West Training Support programme, which would be managed by the West Area Arrangements team to ensure all other training sources had been pursued/researched prior to allocation from the SIB project. <b>See Item 7.</b></p>
<p><b>Welfare Reform – ensuring communities supported and prepared focusing upon digital inclusion and capacity building</b></p>	<p>Following the approval of the West Area Committee priorities in June and the subsequent discussion at July People Board with regard to improving skills and ensuring digital inclusion, research was undertaken to present the findings and suggest proposals for West People Board for consideration in October.</p> <p>Digital skills are critical as we continue to move into the digital age, for some communities the skills gap is widening. Improving digital awareness and experience, increasing confidence in the use of ICT could offer the opportunity to improve social isolation as well as health and wellbeing and managing a budget. It is also crucial to enable and increase opportunities to access training and learning to enhance life and employability skills.</p> <p>The West has many opportunities to continue to make synergies</p>

	<p>between its local delivery – link to NEET project; CLLD projects if families are signposted; working with local schools; welfare advice providers; Gentoo; youth and holiday activities (linking with families and delivering joint family-orientated digital activities).</p> <p>The People board agreed that any proposal must understand the needs of local communities – what are they telling us on the ground... Young parents / single parents etc. require supported childcare; People lack of confidence; People are unable to obtain reliable advice with regard to expenses and bills; People struggle with communicating on social media; Lack of awareness of to reduce online fraud; Unable to set up an email address; Unable to navigate online banking and managing finances; Unable to undertake online shopping to ensure value for money.</p> <p>The People Board also agreed that communication and publicity of the programme must be aligned to ensure those in need are reached – drop-in sessions; promoted via the schools; social media forums; advertisements within local GP surgeries; promotion at local events and shopping centres; information sharing via the VCS in their venues and part of their outreach activities, by way of an example.</p> <p>The People Board therefore made a recommendation to approve £30,000 SIB funding to support the delivery of a West Digital Inclusion programme via a call for projects to the West VCS. <b>See Item 7.</b></p>
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## 5. Recommendations

- 5.1 Note the content of the report.
- 5.2 Members are requested to consider the progress and performance update with regard to the West People Board Work Plan for 2018/2019 **Item 5 Annex 1**
- 5.3 Approve West Apprenticeship Programme £20,000 SIB, **Item 7**
- 5.4 Approve West Training – Find a better job programme £10,000 SIB, **Item 7**
- 5.5 Approve West Digital Inclusion Programme £30,000 SIB, **Item 7.**

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