

18th March 2020**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 (2019/20) 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 3 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:-

Ward	People Board Membership
Chair	Cllr Susan Watson
Barnes	Cllr Helen Greener
Pallion	Cllr George Smith
Sandhill	Cllr Margaret Crosby
Silksworth	Cllr Pat Smith
St. Anne's	Cllr Pam Mann
St Chad's	Cllr William Blackett

4. Key Areas of Influence/Achievements

- 4.1 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of influence / achievements of the West People Board up to 1st March 2020.

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

Community Library provision to ensure those Libraries no longer delivered by the Council but via the local VCS are supported where practicable

Kayll Road Library continues to deliver from strength to strength with many activities held and/or planned. The library continues to support the Pallion Traders as well as working alongside communities to improve their reading and ICT skills and to reduce social isolation.

Area Priority: Maintain partnership with Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group (SCCG)

Working with Locality Commissioning Manager and clinical lead for the West locality to share information relating to West Social Isolation projects and youth activities to maximise usage from our most vulnerable communities.

The People Board reviewed the initial feedback of the Youth consultation, as well as, the data on Children's Health and considered sexual health and understanding healthy relationships and influence campaigns.

The People Board considered the data and information provided on health in Sunderland West. The Area Committee approved the Healthy Weight project which will focus on support for improving cycle/walking routes, improving how walks, including heritage, are displayed/promoted (digitally), adding seats where required, green gyms and how to use the equipment, supporting residents to utilise the facilities within Everyone Active centres and utilising assets within the West. Improvements have been made to the Cycle routes across the West. The People Board are researching outdoor gym equipment and considering locations in the West.

Area Priority: Activities for Young People including Holiday Hunger

Funding and projects approved for Holiday Hunger. Projects delivered sessions across the summer and half term break and are distributing hampers at Christmas to those in need. Further activities are planned for all school holidays up to and including Summer 2020, across the six wards within the West of Sunderland.

Area Committee approved funding to commission a youth consultation exercise over the summer to assess need across the six wards. Following the consultation, the Area Committee approved funding for the Sunderland All Together consortium to deliver youth sessions across the West. Updates will be shared mid-March and leaflets and social media messages will follow.

Area Priority: Supporting the VCS to support their sustainability

The West VCS meet regularly and share best practice, the VCS recently attended training on social media, ICT protocols and first aid whilst continuing to support the delivery of the Area Committee's priorities. The VCS in the West have managed to secure over £50,000 in external funding from various sources using the information from GRANT finder and the support provided from the Area team.

Area Priority: Working with Vulnerable Communities – particularly those who are socially isolated and lonely or who have long-term care responsibilities

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. The successful projects were invited to a VCS network meeting to share best practice, it was a successful meeting and Members have received the summary of discussion. Further projects have been supported and links made with local care homes.

Area Priority: West NEET Project

Delivery partners continue to work to support the young people across the West into employment, volunteering, training or education. The projects continue to link into the Apprenticeship programme for the West.

The projects involved are also working with Together for Children to access up to date lists of young people who are NEET. To share lessons learnt from the project experience, as well as, being a resource for partners who are working with vulnerable young people who would benefit from the West NEET project support. The project has

supported 50 young people to date.

Area Priority: Community Led Local Development (CLLD) Programme

The five projects which were approved at the June 2018 Area Committee continue to deliver and support local residents.

Projects continue to be monitored with joint visits between the Area Arrangements and the CLLD team.

The five projects which are now being delivered include: Care to Achieve, Community Helper Plus, West REACT, Community Champions and Prospecting for Enterprise.

The successful allocation of CLLD Grant funding for all five West projects has meant that the West Neighbourhood Fund allocation has been doubled in value for the residents within the West of Sunderland.

The People Board received a presentation on the progress of the West projects and CLLD wide initiatives. Following this presentation, the People Board invited Pennywell Youth Project – Community Champions to submit an expression of interest for the £12,957 CLLD funding currently aligned in order to extend the lifetime of the project. The People board are recommending that the funding be approved subject to full application, consultation and CLLD/Local Action Group approval.

The People Board are also making a recommendation to Area Committee to align £24,975 as a further pot of match funding to the CLLD Support Programme and to release a call for projects for this opportunity. Further details included in **Item 6**.

Area Priority: Tackling worklessness and raising aspirations - West Apprenticeships Programme and West Training Support – Find a better job Programme

The West Apprenticeship Programme continues to be delivered for those living in the West of Sunderland, linking in with local businesses / organisations.

The People Board welcomed the presentation from welfare rights at the September meeting.

The 'Get a better job' training offer has been promoted and delivered across the area and links are being made with the CLLD projects and local centres to ensure it supports those residents most in need of this additional training to move into more secure employment. In order to maximise the use of the budget remaining the People Board agreed to issue a call for projects in order to seek an organisation to promote and manage the remaining term of the project. A call for projects brief was released and one application has been received and appraised. The People Board are recommending Area Committee approve that the £8,967 remaining balance from this project be awarded to Pallion Action Group. Full details provided in **Item 6 Annex 1**.

5. Recommendations

- 5.1 Note the content of the report.
- 5.2 Approve the alignment of £24,975 for the West CLLD Support Programme and release a call for projects for this opportunity.
- 5.3 Approve the alignment of £12,957 to Pennywell Youth Project subject to full application, consultation and CLLD approval.
- 5.3 Approve the £8,967 balance of Neighbourhood Fund from the 'Get a better job' project to Pallion Action Group to deliver the remainder of the project.
- 5.4 Members are requested to consider the progress and performance update with regard to the West People Board Work Plan for 2019/2020 **Item 3 Annex 1**.

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