

21st January 2013**REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE PLACE BOARD****Place Board Progress Report****1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 The report provides an update of progress against the Place Board's Work Plan for 2012/13.

2. Background

- 2.1 Earlier this year the Local Area Plan's priorities associated with Place were referred to the East Sunderland Area Place Board to action on behalf of the Area Committee. The Place Board has started to initiate action on those priorities and **Annex 1** outlines progress to date.

3. Key Areas of Influence/Achievements up to 31 December 2012

- 3.1 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of influence / achievements of the East Sunderland Area Place Board up to 31 December 2012.

Action Taken	Outcome
Responsive Local Services Streetscene	
Litter and debris caught up in shrubbery along railway line in Millfield	
The Place Board requested that contact was made with the land owners.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The land owners, Network Rail agreed to cut back shrubbery and remove litter, costing £15,000. Network Rail agreed to include the land as part of the quarterly maintenance programme to ensure the area is cleaned and shrubs are kept in order.
Nuisance car parking caused by car dealers	
Meeting to be held with key Officers and local Councillors to discuss further, following an increase in complaints from local residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Referred to Portfolio Holder and the Leader of the Council. A city wide procedure has been written by Legal Services which outlines educational and enforcement powers the Council can deliver against car dealers who nuisance park. The procedure will be rolled out across the City from January 2013.
Unattractive plantation at a Durham Road roundabout	
To improve the site, as it is a key entrance point into the City Centre, after Members raised concerns about the appearance of it.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plants and flowers will be removed from Mowbray Park and used on the Durham Road site to add colour, structure and enhance the 'cared for' feeling within the City Centre.

Local Businesses - Voluntary Code of Practice	
Encourage businesses to keep the front of their property clean and tidy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 'Voluntary Code of Practice' will be written, adopting the branding of the City Centre campaign 'Love Sunderland'. • Businesses will be made aware of the voluntary code and supported to sign up to the campaign to assist in keeping the neighbourhood clean and tidy.
Area Priority: Walk and Talk Programme	
To delivery the Walk and Talk Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Place Board representatives and fellow ward colleagues have delivered 11 of the 17 agreed walk and talk sessions throughout September and November 2012. • Over 100 people have participated. • The sessions have succeeded in bringing together a multitude of local residents and officials from Gentoo, Northumbria Police, Hudson Road Primary School, Ryhope Infants School and East Sunderland VCS Area representatives. • In total, over 130 issues have been identified to improve the appearance of the neighbourhoods and referred to the relevant departments or partners to action. • Several projects have been delivered by using the SIB budget. • East Sunderland VCS Area Network are leading and delivering various projects on behalf of the Area Committee.
Area Priority: Gateway Programme	
To improve the visual appearance and reputation of the main roads leading into the City Centre.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillors conducted site visits to identify the main roads leading into the City Centre, within their wards, and put forward suggestions to improve the appearance. • Based on information received from Councillors, Groundworks North East produced a discussion paper. • The discussion paper was consulted upon with Place Board Councillors, the Head of Streetscene and Land and Property and specialist staff. • The Place Board are proposing to Area Committee that SIB is aligned to deliver the project proposal, outlined in Item 4, Annex 1.

5. Recommendation

Committee are requested to:-

- (a) Note the report, and the Place Board's timetable for activity for the year ahead (Annex 1).

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Annex 1

East Sunderland Area Place Board Work Plan 2012/13