

18<sup>th</sup> March 2020**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 (2019/20) Place Board Work Plan.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 Earlier this year the Local Area Plan's priorities associated with Place were referred to the West Place Board to action on behalf of the Area Committee. The Place Board continue to initiate action on those priorities and **Item 2 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 utilizing 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 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:-

<b>Ward</b>	<b>Place Board Membership</b>
Chair	Cllr Karen Wood
Barnes	Cllr Antony Mullen
Pallion	Cllr Martin Haswell
Sandhill	Cllr Stephen O'Brien
Silksworth	Cllr Philip Tye
St Anne's	Cllr Susan Watson
St Chad's	Cllr Dominic McDonough

**4. Key Areas of Influence/Achievements up to 1 March 2020**

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

<b>Influence: Core service delivery for Council Place Services</b>
<b>Performance management of Local Service standards 2019/2020</b>
The performance of Local Service's standards is monitored at Place Board. A presentation was received at July Place Board. Place Board members were keen to understand when the bins that are in a poor stage of repair would be replaced, as well as, being kept informed about any shrub maintenance plans in their wards, to ensure they are able to keep residents up to date. Members continue to utilise their walk and talk budgets to support improvements within their ward which include deep cleans, bin

replacement and installation of new bins, as well as, support with planter installations and flower beds to improve the look and feel of neighbourhoods.

Members are considering additional bins in each ward and working with local services to be involved In the Great British Spring Clean - Keep Britain Tidy.

#### **Highways Maintenance Capital Programme 2020/2021**

An update on the current Highway Maintenance programme was presented to the November 2019 Place Board, members were reminded of the agreed process to establish recommendations for the West Highways programme for 2020/2021, the report was considered at the January 2020 Place Board and the recommendations for approval of locations to be included in the capital programme for 2020-2021 are attached as **Annex 2**.

#### **Area Priority: Supporting Local Shopping Centres**

Pallion Traders working with the local VCS delivered a successful fifth Christmas switch-on at St Luke's Terrace.

Councillors across the West also continue to work alongside traders in each ward to support with issues such as cleanliness, planters and anti-social behaviour.

#### **Area Priority: Develop a Volunteer-led West Clean and Green Programme**

Project now up and running, each ward has been visited and key areas either addressed or works planned. The characters from the Barnes Event can be seen on leaflets, social media campaigns as well as being included on the banner which is put in place on site, during works. This is to ensure local residents can see that work is being undertaken by volunteers and supported through the West Area Committee.

The volunteer co-ordinator for the project continues to keep ward councillors up to date, whilst also regularly attending residents' meetings and local events. Volunteers have been recruited and are now fully equipped with PPE and undertaking works as well as receiving training. The Steering Group has met, and key areas have been discussed, ward Councillors are updated as and when action is taking place in their ward.

The Clean and Green Team will be involved in the Great British Spring Clean and engage with local residents to be involved in key locations across the West.

#### **Area Priority: West Walk and Talk Programme**

The Walk and Talk programme continues to be successful and offers the opportunity for ward Councillors to be dynamic, flexible and implement small-scale neighbourhood improvement projects, which have a positive impact on their local communities.

Area Committee agreed in July 2019 to extend the funding to the Walk and Talk programme to enable further neighbourhood improvements to be undertaken, in consultation with residents and partners.

Members are considering additional bins in each ward in the West area.

Members continue to talk to residents and walk the ward identifying improvements in line with local resident engagement and feedback.

#### **Area Priority: Housing – working with partners to achieve safer, tidier and healthier neighbourhoods**

Housing and issues relating to private landlords continue to be discussed at ward catch-ups. Hot spots within wards are shared with partners (Police, Gwent, Fire, Local Services, ASB Service, Planning and Enforcement) as well as linked directly with LMAPs where appropriate.

At the September Place Board members discussed the Housing priority in more detail and recognised the need for further local intelligence in relation to housing hotspots, particularly where residents are suffering as a result of lack of landlord support,

<p>transient tenants, anti-social behaviour and poor standards of cleanliness. The Place Board in November discussed the range of enforcement powers available and the methods of reporting to support residents and improve neighbourhoods.</p> <p>Members were also keen to support residents to understand how to create healthier and warmer homes as well as continuing to support the VCS to enable them to provide their users with information in relation to their rights as a housing tenant should their landlord not be ensuring a healthy and safe housing condition.</p> <p>The Place Board will continue to review and take action for the benefit of West residents.</p>
<p><b>Area Priority: Improving play areas and green spaces</b></p>
<p>In September the Place Board discussed the play areas across the West and their various states of disrepair. It was clear from the Board discussion that the play areas across the West require investment to ensure they continue to be viable, as well as, encourage residents to use the facilities to enjoy being outside with family and friends. As a result of discussions, the Area Committee agreed to fund the West Play Area and Green Space Improvement Programme.</p> <p>Each ward has now submitted potential improvements and a plan will be considered at the next Board meeting with improvements planned for later in 2020.</p>
<p><b>Delivery of the Clean and Green themed Event in Barnes Park – 2019 and 2020</b></p>
<p>The Clean and Green themed West Event was a huge success. Over the 3 days 20 hours of activities were delivered. 18 schools and 779 children attended the event over the Thursday and Friday, enjoying a range of activities. It is estimated in between 15,000 and 20,000 visitors thoroughly enjoyed the large-scale family fun day on the Saturday. Thanks to all VCS organisations and partners who supported the event – which was delivered safely and efficiently.</p> <p>The Place Board recommended to the September Area Committee to approve funding for an event in Barnes Park in 2020. The Place Board considered and agreed the call for project brief at the November Board. The successful lead applicant Youth Almighty is in the early stages of planning the 2020 event.</p>
<p><b>SafetyWorks!</b></p>
<p>The Area Committee continues to support all West Primary and Secondary schools to be able to access SafetyWorks! A report on the engagement during 2018-2019 was presented by SafetyWorks! to the Place Board in November. The report was welcomed and SafetyWorks! were invited to apply for transport costs for the academic year 2019-2020. Following the approval of transport costs, schools from across the West are attending Safety Works! and updates will continue to be provided to future Place Boards, with invitations being sent to Members when local schools attend.</p>

## 5. Recommendations

Members are requested to:-

- 5.1 Note the content of the report.
- 5.2 Consider the progress and performance update with regard to the West Place Board Work Plan for 2019/2020 **Annex 1**.
- 5.3 Consider and agree the recommendations of the Place Board regarding the Highways Maintenance Capital Programme for the West for 2020 / 2021, as set out in **Annex 2**.

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