

**At a meeting of the NORTH SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE held remotely on MONDAY, 29<sup>th</sup> JUNE, 2020 at 5.30 p.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor D. Wilson in the Chair

Councillors Butler, Chequer, Davison, Doyle, Foster, Francis, Jackson, Jenkins, D. MacKnight, McKeith, Samuels and Stewart

**Also in Attendance:-**

Ms. Vivienne Metcalfe	-	Area Community Development Lead, Sunderland City Council
Mr. Peter McIntyre	-	Executive Director Economy and Place, Sunderland City Council
Ms. Allison Patterson	-	Area Co-ordinator (North), Sunderland City Council
Ms. Helen Peverley	-	Area Co-ordinator (East & West) Sunderland City Council
Ms. Joanne Stewart	-	Principal Governance Services Officer, Sunderland City Council

**Chairman's Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

Prior to the start of the formal business the Chairman paid tribute to the North Area Network for its efforts in supporting the community throughout the CoVid19 pandemic. The key workers, local traders, schools, the Council and its partners and the voluntary sector groups; SNYP, SCAG and SNCBC; ordinary people doing extraordinary things to help each other out.

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Howe and Leadbitter.

**Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest made.

**Minutes of the Last Meeting**

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2019 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

## **Supporting our Communities and Finalising Neighbourhood Investment Plans**

The Executive Director of Neighbourhoods and Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture submitted a joint report (copy circulated) which advised the North Sunderland Area Committee of the next steps, following Cabinet approval in March 2020, of the Article 10 Neighbourhood Investment Plans, which took into consideration the additional priorities required to support Sunderland through to recovery post Covid-19.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Ms. Peverley presented the report and drew Members attention to the background to the development of the Neighbourhood Investment Plans. On 24th March 2020, the Cabinet had approved the Neighbourhood Investment Plans and they would now be aligned with the Area Committee priorities and delivery plans as well as the City Plan.

Members had received the papers in respect of the priorities as part of the agenda for its Committee meeting scheduled in March 2020. Unfortunately, that meeting had to been cancelled in accordance with Government advice in respect of the coronavirus pandemic. Following the introduction of the lockdown there had been further consultation with residents to ensure that the priorities were still fit for purpose given the changes which were being faced due to the pandemic.

Ms Peverley then briefed the Committee on the mobilisation of the North Sunderland Area community following the lockdown via the establishment of the Community hubs and the actions taken to support residents and the wider community throughout the pandemic to date.

The Chairman thanked Ms. Peverley for her report and invite questions and comments from the Committee.

Councillor Jackson asked how Officers would look to include people who did not have access to the internet and was informed by Ms. Peverley that Officers were very aware that not all residents had the use of online resources and that they needed to continue to make contact with those residents they had helped over the last few months. They were looking at how best to get messages to those residents and were asking for feedback from them through a phone call and they were considering circulating a letter to residents which set out and shared contact details for voluntary, community and key services. Residents and volunteers who had helped during the pandemic had proven to be a great opportunity to engage with the community and keep lines of communication open with residents that they may not have had access to in normal circumstances and they were keen to see this continue.

In response to queries from Councillor Stewart in relation to the sharing of information from resident forms and the activity tracker, Ms. Peverley advised that a detailed presentation was being prepared to be shared at the workshop for the Area Committee and Members would be provided with a copy of this in due course. At present they were restricted by the capability of the web platform and they were working with the communications team to improve this. Ms. Peverley advised that in an ideal scenario they would be able to link the priorities that were being delivered by the Area Committee with projects that were being delivered by the Council. She advised

Members that all of the information was currently available and that it was about making that information easier to navigate for residents and groups.

Members having no further questions or comments, it was:-

2. RESOLVED that:-

- i) the contents of the report be noted and that the work undertaken through the Area Community Hubs to support residents during the COVID-19 pandemic be acknowledged
- ii) further resident consultation to finalise the detailed priorities for the North Neighbourhood Investment Delivery Plan, to be presented to the July 2020 Area Committee, be approved.

(Signed) D. WILSON,  
Chairman.k