

16 March 2020**REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF WEST SUNDERLAND NEIGHBOURHOODS AND COMMUNITY BOARD****West Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020-2023****1. Purpose of Report**

1.1 This report:-

- a. Presents the West Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020-2023
- b. Provides an update of progress against the Area Priorities associated with the Delivery Plan

2. Background

2.1 Following the approval of the Neighbourhood Investment Plans in March 2020, the West Area Committee has worked together to finalise their Delivery Plans. All priorities have been determined following significant resident consultation via Let's Talk Sunderland. The Council also undertook further consultation with residents, during June 2020, to ensure the priorities were still relevant post COVID-19.

3. Area Committee and Neighbourhood Investment Plan 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 neighbourhood level; and
- b. Identification of key priorities for their areas, in the context of supporting the delivery of the Council's City Plan at a neighbourhood level and ensuring maximum impact where necessary, through utilising its own resources.

3.2 Following the approval of the Article 10 Neighbourhood Investment Plans at Cabinet in March 2020, the Neighbourhood Investment Plans replaced the former Article 10 Local Area Plans.

3.3 It is now the responsibility of each Area Committee to deliver their agreed priorities to support the delivery of the Neighbourhood Investment Plan. Area Committee Delivery Plans have been developed to enable this to happen.

3.4 The Neighbourhood and Community Boards will be Chaired by the Vice-Chair of the Area Committee. All Committee members are invited to attend all board meetings.

3.5 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. The Area Committee Chair and Vice-Chair were agreed at Annual Council in June 2020.

4. Areas of Key Action/Progress

4.1 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of action/progress of the Board up to March 2020.

| Priority/Issue | Update |
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| Assistant Director Housing to present full update on Housing to West Neighbourhood and Community Board | The Assistant Director of Housing attended the February Neighbourhood and Community Board and updated on the developments within the service area. |
| Receive an update on bins installations and new locations identified with members including smart bin technology in key locations | Following the November Board meeting a proposal for replacement bins and new benches is being presented to the Area Committee. The Board are making a recommendation to approve £36,529 from the Neighbourhood Capital programme, details in Item 4 Annex 1 |
| Develop a plan for Green gyms – consider locations and equipment across the West | The Area Committee approved the funding for the Outdoor gym equipment. The project is progressing and installation should begin in Summer 2021. |
| Support the voluntary and community sector to grow capacity to provide additional services | The VCS has continued to be supported by the Area Committee, the Community hubs receive daily on-going support and the VCS network continues to be supported to ensure they have access to all funding opportunities. Members receive weekly performance reports detailing the support, over 440 residents have been supported throughout the pandemic and over 250 volunteers have been recruited. |
| Improve walking routes and fitness trails- linked to improved cycle routes- signage, improved surfaces, maps. | The relevant services areas attended the February Board and provided an update on plans for the City. Members supported the plans and are also keen to enhance existing routes, further details to be discussed at a future Board meeting. |
| Update to be provided on amount of investment planned by Highways Services for highways, pavements and street lighting replacement programme | A report on proposed highways to include in the 2021 / 2022 programme is being considered by the Area Committee in March 2021- details in Item 2 Annex 2. |
| West Area Committee approved 120k to improvements to play areas in the West. | Area Committee agreed to fund a Play Improvement project. Following the approval, the project went out to tender, this is expected to be complete by the end of February. Work is expected to start on site in Spring 2021 and be complete by Summer 2021. |
| Consider improvements to the Stephenson Trail – working alongside other areas (Coalfield and East) | A multi area Task and Finish group met and an action plan has been developed to support this project. The Board are making a recommendation to Area Committee to align £50,000 towards this project, with full details to be developed and discussed at a future Board. |
| Consider the installation of the Silksworth Pit wheel | The Board discussed this proposal and following a subsequent meeting with Silksworth Councillors, the budget requested has reduced to £17,500 Neighbourhood Capital Funding, the Area Committee are being asked to consider this project request. |
| Improve access and knowledge of ICT to | The Board meeting discussed the application received and are making a recommendation to Area Committee to approve the |

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| reduce social isolation | £100,000 to Media Savvy to deliver a 3 year project with approval conditions detailed in the Area Budget report. |
| Receive update on Holiday Hunger activities delivered 2019-2020 and consider delivery for 2020-2021. | The Area Committee is being asked to approve £48,000 to further extend the Holiday Hunger activities projects across the West. The 6 project leads will be asked to submit an application for £8000 per ward to deliver sessions across the May, Summer, October, Christmas, February and Easter 2022 holiday periods. The applications will be presented to the Neighbourhood and Community Board. |
| Invite Welfare rights service to submit proposals for West Support- consider a 3-year proposal. | The Board discussed the findings from the Task and Finish Group and are recommending to Area Committee to approve a 3 year proposal for £150,000 Neighbourhood Fund. Full details in the Area Budget report. |

5. Recommendations -Members are requested to: -

- 5.1 Consider the progress and performance update with regard to West Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020/23 and agree proposals for future delivery as contained within Annex 1.
- 5.2 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
- 5.3 Note the Area Committee video update

Annex 1 West Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020/2023

Annex 2 Highways Maintenance Capital Programme

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