

REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF WASHINGTON NEIGHBOURHOODS AND COMMUNITY BOARD

Washington Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020-2023

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 This report:

- a. Provides an update of progress against the Area Priorities associated with the Delivery Plan, which will be the focus for the Washington Area Committee during 2022-2023.
- b. Provides an update on Neighbourhood and Community Board Governance Arrangements for 2022 -2023.

2. Background

- 2.1 Following the approval of the Neighbourhood Investment Plans in March 2020, the Washington Area Committee has worked together to finalise their Delivery Plans. All priorities have been determined following significant resident consultation via Let's Talk Sunderland.

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 The Article 10 Neighbourhood Investment Plans were approved at Cabinet in March 2020.

- 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 Board will be Chaired by the Vice-Chair of the Area Committee. Neighbourhood and Community Board meetings will be held in July, November, February and April and dates are included in the council diary. If required, the Board may convene a further meeting(s) should there be a business need to do so and essential to ensuring delivery of the Area Neighbourhood Investment Plan Delivery Plan. 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 Committee for final endorsement. The Area Committee Chair and Vice-Chair were agreed at Annual Council in May 2021.

4. Neighbourhood Investment Delivery Plan 2020-2023 Areas of Key Action/Progress

- 4.1 The Plan, which includes an introduction from the Chair of the Area Committee, commits to a significant number of priorities, which are being delivered within the Washington area of Sunderland, to address the key issues raised by residents. The Plan is monitored by the Area Committee and actions will continue to be addressed up to 2023, via the Washington Neighbourhood and Community Board.

- 4.2 Residents will be able to review the Area Committee Delivery Plan and monitor delivery of the plan via the Council's website which is available to access at www.sunderland.gov.uk, as well as through

quarterly Area Committee update reports. Funding to support delivery of the plan has been allocated and further information can be found at **Item 3 Area Budget Report**

- 4.3 Progress against the Delivery Plan has been reported regularly to Neighbourhood and Community Board and Area Committee. Good news stories and promotion of projects and local information have been posted on the Washington Sunderland Community Facebook page.
- 4.4 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of action/progress of the Board up to September 2022.

Priority/Issue	Update
Neighbourhood Safety Measures	Access control measures largely complete with 'snagging issues' managed via D Guy. Awaiting final invoice from contractor to confirm total costs Recently Washington Central Cllrs have requested additional measures to help restrict vehicle access on Glebe Park. Building Property Services are looking at installing bollards and this is to be funded via the Washington Central Ward Improvement Project. Final quote and costs anticipated end of September
Love Where You Live/ Clean and Green	The Steering group met 21 st September. Volunteers have been involved and assisted a number of organisations: The Project co-ordinator keeps Cllrs up to date with progress and the ACDL regularly requests proposal and projects to be considered for future programming.
Enforcement & Neighbourhood Management	The Washington Neighbourhood Enforcement Project is delivering to target. Regular updates re Section 46 letters and notices, FPNs, and warnings are provided in detail at each of the Neighbourhood & Community Boards. Detailed report and review of successes to date to be presented to next Board
Parks and Play	Parks: Tender for refurbishment of pavilion in Usworth Park delayed as requests from planning. The first invite failed to appoint contractor – one proposal submitted which was in excess of available budget. Officers discussing with SCC Building services and looking to go back out to tender September 2022. Predicted costs continue to rise therefore budget increase of £50k (2 nd tender) required to deliver the plans as submitted. Total available for contract now £200k. Play: Procurement exercise is still ongoing. Design options for renewing the play area at Harraton are currently underway with the council's landscaping team. Report to November Board with options to deliver the outstanding proposals included in the FPS and Harraton – anticipate a request for additional funding
Trees and Plantation Management	Neighbourhood Fund approved to SCC to assist with the delivery of community led proposals for the NE Community Forest, and to help facilitate solutions for plantation management. Next Task Group meeting to be scheduled end of September/beginning October to co-ordinate activity and Cllr priorities.
Supporting the Voluntary & Community Sector	1. Area Reps attended the VCS Alliance Strategic Board and the Operational Group to feed sector priorities and issues into the 'anchor' organisations. Washington CSW Denise Gilholme is supporting partners and groups and attends the Network meeting to update the sector on support. 2. Work continues to ensure the Networks are consulted and participate in the future modelling of the Sunderland VC Alliance. A number of workshops and presentations are taking place in each Area. The offer of the Sunderland VC Alliance is promoted widely and the Alliance is leading on delivering Social Value for the sector and co-ordinating volunteering. 3. Various training opportunities and workshops are being delivered in areas by the Alliance, courses and information requested by the sector. This includes Social Intelligence workshops, funding, first aid training.

	<p>4. VCS Area Network continues to meet regularly. Washington VCS Network has now appointed its 3rd VCS Representative –Jemma Hutchinson of Washington MIND.</p> <p>5. The recent review of the Delivery Plan confirmed the following projects will continue until March 2023 and beyond – Washington REACT, WISP, Healthy Lifestyles, Washington Outreach.</p> <p>6. Local VCS organisations are firmly embedded in working with the Council and other public sector partners to deliver identified and much needed community services and support at a local level</p> <p>7. 2 x rounds of Improving Community Assets now approved. 3rd round of ICA/invite to apply released 3rd October 2022</p> <p>8. VCS Support Project has now completed. Successes and achievements and exit strategy presented to this meeting</p>
Events	Report to November Board to consider funding required to ensure delivery of the September 23 Event
Supporting young people	<p>Can Do - Next Round September 2022 with presentations to November Board</p> <p>Creative You - First Taster sessions fully booked over summer periods. 3 or 4 courses to be launched from September at local venues over next 12 months.</p> <p>Youth Matters – Amended Project Brief to be considered under Item 3 Area Budget Report</p>
Local Heritage & Culture	An application to enhance the siting of the replacement 'Albany Wheel' to be considered at November Board

5. Recommendations - Members are requested to: -

- 5.1 Consider the progress and performance update with regard to Washington Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020/23 and agree proposals for future delivery as contained within **Annex 1**.
- 5.2 Note the presentation of the VCS Support Strategy

Annex 1 Washington Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020/2023

Contact Officer: karon.purvis@sunderland.gov.uk
Karon Purvis, Washington Area Community Development Lead