

23RD June 2022

REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF NORTH SUNDERLAND NEIGHBOURHOODS AND COMMUNITY BOARD

North 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 North 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 North 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 2022.

3.6 Other local groups / boards where North Area Committee has Elected Member representation are outlined below for information: -

| Group | Elected Member Representatives |
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| North Sunderland Local Multi Agency Problem Solving (L.M.A.P.S) | Cllr Denny Wilson |
| North VCS Area Network | Cllr Denny Wilson – Co-chair |
| CLLD Local Advisory Group | Cllr Stephen Foster |

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 North 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 North 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 North Sunderland Community facebook page. An overview of some key statistics and achievements from 2021/22 is contained in **Annex 3 – year in numbers**, and **Annex 4 – Communications Plan**
- 4.3 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of action/progress of the Board up to June 2022.

| Priority/Issue | Update |
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| Love Where You Live | ACDL is working with VCS organisation Friends of Fulwell to support them in the delivery of a project that achieves a “Goby the Fish” project at Seaburn. Environmental Services have provided feedback on ideas for the installation and advice and guidance on emptying the recyclables. The project lead is developing the application in consultation with local residents, environmental services and planning |
| Invest in Parks, Play Areas, Cycle and Walking Routes | <p>Thompson Park:</p> <p>Task and Finish Group formed and have worked in partnership with Friends of Thompson Park on a regeneration plan in order to provide an activity and destination park for all ages.</p> <p>December 2020 Area Committee agreed an alignment of £200,000 for the regeneration of Thompson Park and £25,000 of this to be a match to Places to Ride application with full applications to be presented to future Board and Area Committee.</p> |

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| | <p>The Group were successful with a Places to Ride funding application to deliver a cycling skills area in the park and education/ training with match funding to be considered at the June Area Committee. June 2021 Area Committee agreed the match of £25,000 to deliver the Places to Ride Project. The installation of the Places to Ride skills area was completed May 2022.</p> <p>June Board agreed to recommend an alignment of a further £100,000 for the development of Thompson Park. June 2021 Area Committee agreed the alignment of £100,000.</p> <p>Design Services are currently working up design proposals and costs and these are expected late September for the Task and Finish Group to consider. Initial design proposals considered by the Task and Finish Group with amendments requested and a deadline of February 2022 provided.</p> <p>Further design proposals shared with Ward Councillors February 2022, Assistant Director of Community Resilience advised of the potential for further Council capital investment into Thompson Park subject to receiving full and costed proposals, Meeting to be held with Ward Councillors and Design Services and updates to be provided to a future Board meeting.</p> <p>Accessible Play Equipment:</p> <p>Area Committee via the responsive decision making process agreed £16,975 for the installation of an Ability Swing with Flat Seat at Hylton Castle Play Area as part of a project which will also see the installation of an Ability Whirl Self Propelled with Safety Surfacing</p> <p>A contractor has now been appointed for the installation of the Ability Swing. The Wheelchair Accessible swing, Ability Self Propelled Whirl, and additional swings installed May 2022.</p> |
| <p>Social Prescribing</p> | <p>November Board considered the five Raising Aspiration Project applications and recommend approval of the applications for a further 2 years to the December Area Committee which was agreed. Feedback on the Raising Aspiration's Projects will be provided to Area Committee, by Ward, throughout 2022 - 2023</p> <p>February Board considered applications submitted from VCS organisations to provide accessible Defibrillators and recommended approval of all applications to the March Area Committee which were agreed.</p> |
| <p>Support the voluntary and community sector to provide additional services and extend opening times within local community venues as well as host community events,</p> | <p>Downhill Community Hub:</p> <p>Task and Finish Group formed and worked with the voluntary sector leaseholder in order to develop capital proposals to assist in the refurbishment of the Downhill Community Hub. December and March Area Committees approved £100,000 in total for the refurbishment project.</p> |

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| <p>activities and nurture family learning</p> | <p>June Board agreed to recommend an alignment of a further £100,000 for the development of an application that will assist in the delivery of services and activities from the hub and link to the skateboard park in the locality. June Area Committee agreed the alignment of £100,000. The project lead is currently developing a full application to be considered.</p> <p>April Board considered the full application and recommended approval to June Area Committee details of which are included at Item 3 Annex 1</p> |
| <p>Support youth clubs and spaces for young people to be together and feel safe</p> | <p>February Board received a presentation from young people. The board agreed to establish a Task and Finish Group in order to develop a Call for Project brief to be presented to a future board and then recommend to Area Committee for approval along with a request for £50,000 per ward from 2022 – 2023 Neighbourhood Fund.</p> <p>April 2022 Area Committee via Responsive Decision agreed the alignment of £50,000 per ward and the release of the Youth Project Brief subject to full applications to be presented to the Task and Finish Group and future Area Committee. June 2022 the Task and Finish Group met to discuss the applications and agreed to invite all applicants to a meeting with the Group to discuss further development of the applications</p> |
| <p>Communicate heritage assets and deliver heritage activities to improve health and wellbeing and improve community cohesion</p> | <p>Hylton Castle:</p> <p>June 2021 Board agreed to recommend an alignment of £100,000 for the development of a project that will lead towards the restoration of the chapel and cellars. June Area Committee agreed the alignment and the Hylton Castle Trust are working towards developing the full application that will best meet the needs of the Castle Project.</p> <p>April 2022 Board considered the full application and recommended approval to June Area Committee subject to additional information included within the application on what the chapel will be used for when restored details of which are included at Item 3 Annex 1</p> <p>February 2022 Board agreed in principle to recommend to a future Area Committee the alignment of £100,000 from the Neighbourhood Fund allocation for 2022 – 2023 for a project which will develop the Castle as a Winter Events Venue.</p> <p>April 2022 Board considered the full application and recommended approval to June Area Committee subject to additional information included within the application on future sustainability of the project details of which are included at Item 3 Annex 1</p> |

5. Recommendations - Members are requested to: -

- 5.1 Consider the progress and performance update with regard to North Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020/23 and agree proposals for future delivery as contained within **Annex 1**.
- 5.2 Note the Area Committee Governance arrangements for 2022-2023 outlined in **Section 3 and Annex 2**
- 5.3 Note the Year in Numbers outlined in **Section 4 and Annex 3**
- 5.4 Note the Communications Plan outlined in **Section 4 and Annex 4**

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| Annex 1 | North Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020/2023 |
| Annex 2 | Neighbourhood and Community Board Terms of Reference |
| Annex 3 | Year in Numbers |
| Annex 4 | Communications Plan |

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