

**At a meeting of the NORTH SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE held in THE BUNNY HILL CENTRE, HYLTON LANE, SUNDERLAND on THURSDAY, 20<sup>th</sup> JUNE, 2019 at 5.30p.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor D. Wilson in the Chair

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

**Also in Attendance:-**

Ms. Catherine Auld	-	Assistant Director of Economic Regeneration, Sunderland City Council
Mr. Chris Binding	-	Local Democracy Reporter
Ms. Judith Britton	-	Sunderland Community Action Group
Ms. Wendy Cook	-	SNCBC
Mr. Peter Curtis	-	
Mr. Richy Duggan	-	Sunderland Community Action Group
Ms. Ruth Oxley	-	VCS Network, SNYP
Ms. Allison Patterson	-	Area Co-ordinator (North), Sunderland City Council
Inspector Stephen Prested	-	Northumbria Police
Ms. Joanne Stewart	-	Principal Governance Services Officer, Sunderland City Council

**Chairman's Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting, inviting introductions from those in attendance and advising of the right to record proceedings.

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors Howe, McKeith and Samuels and from Ms. Metcalfe.

## **Declarations of Interest**

### **Item 5 – Strategic Initiative Budget and Community Chest**

Councillor Wilson made a DPI in the application for SUB funding from the Castletown Scout Group and left the meeting during consideration of the application.

## **Minutes of the last meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2019**

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2019 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

## **Place Board Progress Report**

The Chairman of the North Sunderland Area Place Board submitted a report (copy circulated) in respect of the above matter.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Councillor Foster presented the report which provided an annual update of the 2018/19 work plan, including SIB funded projects, sought Area Committee approval for the priorities to be taken forward as part of this year's work programme and provided an update on the governance arrangements for 2019/2020.

The report advised that each ward had one elected member representative on the Place Board who would liaise with ward colleagues and feedback collective views into the Board meetings. The Member representation on the Place Board for the year ahead was proposed as:- Chairman, Councillor Foster; Castle Ward, Councillor D. MacKnight; Fulwell Ward, Councillor Howe; Redhill Ward, Councillor Davison; St Peter's Councillor McKeith and Southwick, Councillor Samuels.

Members having fully considered the report, it was:-

2. RESOLVED that:-

- i) the annual performance update in relation to the Work Plan for 2018/19 be received and noted;
- ii) the Work Plan priorities for 2019/2020 be agreed; and
- iii) the Area Governance arrangements and Place Board Membership for 2019/20 be agreed.

## **People Board Progress Report**

The Chairman of the North Sunderland Area People Board submitted a report (copy circulated) in respect of the above matter.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Councillor Davison presented the report which provided an annual update of the 2018/19 work plan, including SIB funded projects, sought Area Committee approval for the priorities to be taken forward as part of this year's work programme and provided an update on the governance arrangements for 2019/2020.

The report advised that each ward had one elected member representative on the People Board who would liaise with ward colleagues and feedback collective views into the Board meetings. The Member representation on the People Board for the year ahead was proposed as:- Chairman, Councillor Davison; Castle Ward, Councillor Foster; Fulwell Ward, Councillor Francis; Redhill Ward, Councillor Stewart; St Peter's, Councillor Leadbitter and Southwick, Councillor Butler.

Members having fully considered the report, it was:-

### **3. RESOLVED that:-**

- i) the annual performance update in relation to the Work Plan for 2018/19 be received and noted;
- ii) the Work Plan priorities for 2019/2020 be agreed; and
- iii) the Area Governance arrangements and People Board Membership for 2019/20 be agreed.

## **Partner Agency Reports – North Sunderland Area Voluntary and Community Sector Network**

The Voluntary and Community Sector Network submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided an update with regard to the Network.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Ms. Ruth Oxley, SNYP, took the Committee through the report providing an update on the work being undertaken by the North Sunderland Area VCS Network and advising that they had met twice since the last meeting of the Area Committee.

Ms. Oxley advised the Committee of presentations and information which had been received by the voluntary and community sector network during 2018/19 and invited questions or comments.

Members were advised that the Network had discussed concerns around the affordability and accessibility of green spaces across the North Sunderland area which were managed by schools. Following discussions around the issues some voluntary and community groups had in accessing school facilities it was proposed by the Chairman that the issue be referred to the North Sunderland Area People Board for further consideration and to look to find a solution to the problem.

Inspector Prested advised that through the safer school initiative, which was starting in July, 2019, they may be able to have similar discussions with schools as to what facilities they could offer and allow groups to tap into. The initiative would include all of the Headteachers in the North Sunderland Area so he would hope there would be some useful discussions to be held.

Members having fully considered the report, it was:-

4. RESOLVED that:-

- i) the content of the report and the opportunities and issues raised by the North Sunderland Area Voluntary and Community Sector Network be received and noted;
- ii) the issue around access to school fields and facilities in the North Sunderland Area be referred to the People Board for further consideration.

### **Partner Agency Reports – Northumbria Police**

Inspector Stephen Prested of Northumbria Police gave an update to the Committee on the current position with regards to crime and anti-social behaviour data and of any on-going issues in the North Sunderland area.

Members were provided with a verbal summary of crime figures within the area by Inspector Prested and advised of successful and forthcoming operations in relation to the North Sunderland area of the city. Councillor Foster commented on the figures provided and asked if, in future, the Inspector could provide actual figures as well as the percentages so they could see the real differences in the numbers of crimes being committed. Members also requested that the figures be broken down into ward area, if available, so they could see the positive changes in their own areas. Inspector Prested advised that this could be provided in future updates.

Councillor Chequer referred to the recent twelve streets project which had been running in the Southwick Ward and commented that for the first time the area had seen some really focussed work which had been extremely effective in bringing pride back into the community. Councillor Chequer also raised concerns that the project was time limited and that although it was seen as a successful pilot they did not want the area to return to its previous position and more so wanted to use this as the foundation to move forward with a plan to continue the successful work. Inspector Prested advised that the initial

project was to run for three months but that the CSO and Officers would be in the area for a further three months. He also advised that they were holding an event which the community would be invited to and could discuss issues and they were hopeful that these people would help in the community taking responsibility for the area and take successful initiatives forward.

Councillor Chequer commented that the project was due to finish prior to Bonfire Night, where the area had suffered in the past from anti-social behaviour. Inspector Prested advised that they had the Darker Nights Campaign and that they were already aware of issues that Southwick had previously, in relation to disorder, and they would be looking at ways to reduce the opportunity for similar incidents. Councillor Chequer asked if residents could be advised of any schemes to be undertaken in the area to give them reassurances.

In relation to information provided that the number of burglaries in the area having decreased, Councillor Chequer asked if this information could be provided broken down by ward in future, which Inspector Prested advised he could provide.

Members referred to issues that had occurred in the past around the time of School Leaver Prom Nights and Inspector Prested advised that the service looked to contact schools and academies, providing guidance and advice and commented that they also contacted local off licences to make them aware of the danger of selling alcohol to under age persons. Officers had links to and monitor social media sites so that they would be aware of any planned meet ups, etc should young people look to be organising any.

With regards to CCTV in and around the area, Ms. Patterson advised that she had emailed all Members asking them to identify hotspots in their wards where they may wish to see CCTV installed so that Officers could carry out risk assessments on those areas to look at the most appropriate solutions.

The Committee held discussions around education rather than punishment to prevent crime and anti-social behaviour and Inspector Prested advised of a number of projects which were being undertaken, in conjunction with partners, such as the boxing club which was being set up with Tyne and Wear Fire Service and the South Tyne Youth Bus they were hoping to engage with. Inspector Prested commented that they tried to detract young people away from causing anti-social behaviour by getting into schools and making themselves known to young people so that Officers would be recognised and young people would want to get involved in activities and that this was something they would continue to work towards.

Members thanked Inspector Prested for his informative report and thanked him for his attendance, it was:-

5. RESOLVED that the update from the Northumbria Police be received and noted.

## **Partner Agency Reports – Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Services**

There being no representative from the Tyne and Wear Fire Services available the item was withdrawn.

## **Financial Statement and Proposals for Further Allocation of Resources**

The Head of Member Support and Community Partnerships submitted a report (copy circulated) which requested Members to give consideration to a financial statement as an up to date position in relation to the allocation of Strategic Initiatives Budget and Community Chest and presented proposals for further funding requests.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Ms. Patterson, Area Co-ordinator, presented the report drawing attention to the recommendations detailed within the report.

Having fully discussed the applications and Members having had any questions answered, it was:-

### **6. RESOLVED that:-**

- (i) the financial statements as set out in paragraphs 2.1 and 3.1 of the report be received and noted;
- (ii) approval be given to the allocation of £5,632 SIB funding from the budget towards the Castletown Scouts Project as set out in the report;
- (iii) approval be given to the allocation of £200,000 SIB funding from the budget towards the Ward Based Raising Aspirations Projects as set out in the report;
- (iv) approval be given to the alignment of SIB funding of £30,000 to deliver a communication project on behalf of the Area Committee, Place and People Boards as set out in the report;
- (v) the £25,000 funding from Public Health to support delivery of future North Health priorities be accepted and approval be given to the allocation of £25,000 of SIB match funding from the budget as set out in the report;
- (vi) the £40,000 funding from the Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to meet local health outcomes be accepted and that responsibility to oversee the development of a call for projects via the small grants process of up to £5,000 (and that larger scale grants which would provide the best outcomes for the community can also be considered within the budget available) be delegated to the North Sunderland Area People Board as set out in the report;
- (vii) the nine approvals for Community Chest supported from the 2018/19 budget as set out in Annex 2 to the report be noted; and

(viii) the three approvals for Community Chest support from the 2019/2020 budget as set out in Annex 2 to the report be noted.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.

(Signed) D. WILSON,  
Chairman.