

3 OCTOBER 2016

REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE AREA PEOPLE BOARD**East Sunderland Area People Board Progress Report****1 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 In June 2016 the Local Area Plan's priorities associated with People were referred to the East Sunderland People Area Board to action on behalf of the Area Committee. This report provides an update on the work plan, as set out in **Annex 1**.

2 Key Areas of Influence / Achievements

- 2.1 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of influence / achievements of the East Sunderland Area People Board up to 30 September 2016.

Area Priority	Progress Update
Understanding the impact of self-harming in the East	<p>In June Area Committee received an update which highlighted that the East area has the highest number of reported self-harming cases due to hospital admissions in the city. Further data indicated that the highest concentration of self-harming reports came from the Hendon ward, almost three times the city average.</p> <p>To understand the issue further the Area Board received a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) focusing specifically on Hendon. Findings indicated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The location of higher instances of self-harm where predominately towards the North end of the Hendon ward. • It is a problem for both males and females, however, more females continue to self-harm whilst 38% of males progress onto commit suicide. • The highest age group is the 15-24 year old bracket, followed closely by 35-54 year olds. • There is a clear indication that the majority of self-harming relates to self-poisoning by using prescribed drugs. • There has been an increase in dual diagnoses of people who do self-harm indicating there are issues relating the mental health and substance misuse. <p>It was noted that the data presented was based on hospital admissions only and acknowledged that the figures could be higher as many episodes may go un-reported.</p> <p>With self-harming having a strong correlation to self-poisoning the Area Board made three observations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) 'Substance misuse' is a current area priority so it would be pertinent to understand what support and services are available to people,

	<p>ii) It was noted that Washington Area Committee are investigating self-harming and its impact on their community.</p> <p>iii) There is a health needs assessment currently being conducted on behalf of the Hostel Strategic Working Group with the majority of respondents located in temporary accommodation in the North area of Hendon.</p> <p>Therefore it was agreed to host a meeting with service providers who deliver substance misuse support to understand their 'offer'. Keep a watching brief on Washington's developments relating to self-harming to see if the East area can benefit from their findings, and refer the JSNA onto the Hostel Strategic Working Group to contribute towards the health needs assessment.</p>
Community Family Fun	<p>During the Summer 2016, Area Committee financially supported the delivery of a community family fun programme, which successfully delivered 92 sessions across the school holidays that encouraged learning, fun and a nutritional meal.</p> <p>Fourteen partners and a team of volunteers worked tirelessly throughout the holiday period engaging with over 2,000 individuals and serving up 4,385 meals throughout the six weeks.</p> <p>The highest cohort of children who benefited from the scheme were 4-10 years old.</p> <p>Each lead agent was required to complete an evaluation of their sessions. The list below provides a snapshot of the feedback collated, all of which was positive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Overwhelming support from all the partners involved in the scheme. ii) Other VCS partners provided support i.e. volunteers, equipment. iii) New people accessing services / community buildings, and continue to do so. iv) Co-ordinated engagement and publicity contributed towards increasing the participation rates. v) All un-used food was passed onto families, homeless drop in centres and other charities. There was no waste. vi) Local businesses provided free or heavily discounted fresh food. vii) Fully inclusive programme (age / ability / accessibility) delivered. viii) Providing a meal encouraged people to talk and make new friends. ix) Increased volunteering and confidence levels. x) Using accessible local community venues reduced the risk of transport being a barrier. xi) The scheme reduced financial pressure which reduced stress on families. <p>As a follow on from the successful scheme the Area Board</p>

	are organising a de-brief with lead agents to gather intelligence about what can be learned from the whole exercise which could be used to shape a Scheme for 2017.
Improving health and housing standards for vulnerable people	<p>In September 2016, Area Board received an update from the Hostel Co-ordinator in relation to the work being carried out with private landlords and partners to look at different ways to improve housing standards and address associated community safety and health issues in the hostels in and around the Sunnyside area of the East.</p> <p>It was reported that the remit of the Hostel Strategic Steering Group is currently under review and an update will be provided at a future meeting. It was noted that an operational working group has been established which has looked at housing benefits, universal credit, financial management and safeguarding.</p> <p>Considerable enforcement work has been carried out to close down a hostel which fell below standards and rehousing the occupants into suitable accommodation. The Area Board acknowledged the good work carried out by the Housing Team and the positive impact the changes has had on the tenant's health and confidence levels.</p> <p>All of the hostels have had robust inspections carried out to further improve standards of accommodation, with some receiving a schedule of works outlining refurbishments or repairs that need completing within a set deadline. Failure to adhere to the schedule of works could result in enforcement action being carried out.</p> <p>Over the following months the project will focus on health and connecting residents, hostel owners, staff and partners together.</p> <p>The Area Board acknowledged the dedication of the Hostel Co-ordinator and the sterling work delivered on behalf of Area Committee.</p>
Universal credit	In September 2016 Area Board received an update from representatives from the DWP in relation to progress with the roll out of Universal Credit and issues currently affecting claimants in East Sunderland. A future update was requested to enable further discussion in relation to the necessary support and preparation required for vulnerable groups who will be included in full service roll out (provisionally during 2018)

3. Recommendations

3.1 Members are requested to:-

- (a) Note the East Sunderland Area People Board Work Plan, as set out in **Annex 1**.
- (b) Note the progress made against the Area Work Plan 2016 / 2017.

Annex 1	East Sunderland Area People Board Work Plan 2016 / 2017
Background Papers	East Sunderland Area People Board Agendas, Reports and Action List
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