

REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE PLACE BOARD
Place Board Progress Report

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report provides an update of the 2016/17 Work Plan.

2. Background

- 2.1 At the beginning of each financial/municipal year Washington Area Committee agrees its Local Area Plan priorities associated with Place and refers the priorities to the Washington Place Board to action on behalf of the Area Committee.
- 2.2 The Place Board has presented interim reports to each Area Committee meeting to update on action taken on those priorities and highlighted key achievements during that period.
- 2.3 This report provides the update to the work plan

3. Update of 2016/17 Place Board Work Plan

- 3.1 The 2016/17 Work Plan is attached as **Item 4 Annex 1**
- 3.2 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of influence / achievements of the Washington Place Board up to 30th November 2016.

| Area Priority: Environment and Green Space | |
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| Action | Outcome |
| Neighbourhood Improvement Project | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A number of ward based projects are under development as part of the Neighbourhood Improvement Project (NIP). Area Place Manager continues to meet with Ward Members to discuss potential proposals, to identify partners and to aid development and delivery. Detailed reports are presented to each Place Board• The project has spent or allocated £82,106 and has a balance of £42,894 remaining.• Area Committee is requested to note the NIP criteria for delivering local action and proposals which encourages partnership working and in kind or match contribution - it does not require proposals to be matched with cash. If proposals are unable to identify partnership working and/or in kind contributions then as long as local community benefits are evident and the project does not back fill SCC cuts then they can proceed without an identified partner. Each proposal will be considered on its individual merits. |
| Washington Clean and Green | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Place Board requested officers to meet with relevant partners re how to deliver a co-ordinated approach to neighbourhood management and environmental improvements to respond to local concerns across the area.• Following a Call for Projects for Washington Clean and Green Programme and the Washington Healthy Spaces Healthy Communities Project, all applications have been out to consultation and assessed under SIB procedures. The Officer recommendations are to be determined under Item 5 Finance Report. |

| Area priority: Member and Community Engagement | |
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| Encourage partnerships with the local community and VCS, link Ward Members to activities and events | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk and talk programmes to identify community partnerships • Members engage residents re AC role at key Washington events and involved in steering an events and culture programme |
| Area priority: Heritage and Culture | |
| Events | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following Members agreeing the Project Brief and proposed budgets for the Washington Events Programme 2017/18, a Call for Projects was launched with 1 x application being received. The Executive Summary and results of the SIB assessment and consultation is presented under Item 5 Finance Decisions and Proposals for a decision. |
| Washington's heritage and culture offer | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heritage Strategy Refresh: Work on the strategy has commenced and the review is nearing completion. Having met with at least 12 heritage groups during August and that was followed up in September with further meetings to provide information about those organisations. A workshop will be held in the New Year to agree a way forward for heritage and to look at opportunities. This will inform the strategy and its recommendations. Issues raised at these meetings have also been shared at the VCS Network meeting and has been used to inform some of the network priorities. This work is ongoing and on schedule with the project exploring opportunities that the sector has to strengthen and grow. • Events: The project has met with Beamish Museum and a number of primary schools to get them on board with the event to celebrate the school meals strike 100 years ago. Beamish will work and a visit to the museum. Parents will be able to attend and different schools will be invited to do this with the Trust to support the delivery of the school based activity which will take place prior to the event during February half term week. As part of this week an opportunity has been secured for Washington Heritage groups to put up displays for the week around various venues at the museum. Initial discussions have taken place with heritage groups who have indicated they wish to be included in a Heritage Fair. • City of Culture Submission: The project outcomes included identifying how culture and heritage in Washington can play a supporting role in the Council's bid for City of Culture and the type of activities that could be delivered in Washington, by Washington groups and organisations to ensure Washington is included. The project has had contact with 36 groups during August to October and met with many of them to inform the City of Culture submission and discuss what they would like to offer. All the groups have committed to work |

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| | with the Trust to be part of the bid by supporting it and by agreeing to deliver an activity associated with their organisation should the City bid be successful. |
| Influencing role: Highways Capital Programme 2017/18 | <p>Infrastructure and Transportation Service attended November Board to commence the process for Members to influence the development of 2017/18 Highways Maintenance Programme. An update regarding the 2016/17 Programme was also presented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2017/18 programme is to continue with a 25% Member influence – financial value to be determined once the Capital Programme value is confirmed. It is anticipated to be a similar sum as last year - £100,000 • Highways Officers are currently gathering intelligence from condition surveys, reports etc. and Members have already been requested to identify their priority streets for consideration. • From this list – and those streets identified for 2016/17 programme which did not get prioritised, those listed will be inspected and prioritised for consideration in this year's programme • A prioritised list of streets will be brought forward to February Board for consideration in next year's programme and that Place Board's recommendation will be presented to March Area Committee for approval. <p>Following discussions, Place Board recommends to Area Committee that they would like the Area Chair and Vice Chair to seek some clarity and reassurance from the Portfolio Holder that as 70% of the City's current industry is located in Washington, this is reflected in the Highway Management Programme distribution of budget, with regard to the upkeep and maintenance of the strategic routes, and also having particular regard to the proposed increase in manufacturing and industry in Washington.</p> <p>Core Members would also welcome discussion with Councillor Mordey in relation to their local influencing role for future Highway Management Programmes irrespective of the outcome of the proposed Challenge Bid.</p> |

5. Recommendations

5.1 Members are requested to:-

- Consider the Performance Update with regard to the Washington Area Place Board's Work Plan for 2016/17 attached as **Item 4 Annex 1**
- Note the updates as presented in paragraph 3.2
- Agree a recommendation for the Area Chair and Vice Chair (Place) to seek clarity and reassurance from the Portfolio Holder that as 70% of the City's current industry is located in Washington, this is reflected in the Highway Management Programme distribution of budget with regard to the upkeep and maintenance of the strategic routes.
- Agree to inviting the Portfolio Holder to a future Board to discuss the local influencing role for future Highway Management Programmes irrespective of the outcome of the proposed Challenge Bid

Contact Officer: Karon Purvis. Area Community Development Lead Tel: 0191 561 2449
Email: karon.purvis@sunderland.gov.uk

Annex 1: Place Board work plan 2016/17