

23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023

## **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.

#### **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 Area Plans from 2023/24 onwards are being developed with data/intelligence gathering underway. Members will take part in a series of workshops and discussions to recommend priorities and actions for inclusion in these plans, which will be agreed at June 2023 Area Committee**

#### **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](http://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. Funded projects are providing presentations to Area Committee the St. Peters Ward Raising Aspirations Project delivered a presentation to June Area Committee and Castle and Redhill Raising Aspiration Project delivered a presentation at September Area Committee. Fulwell and Southwick Raising Aspirations will be delivering presentations to March Area Committee
- 4.4 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of action/progress of the Board up to February 2023.

Priority/Issue	Update
<b>Love Where You Live</b>	February 2023 Board received an update from Planning and Regeneration on the developments on the Seafront and Washing Facilities.  Planning and Regeneration to provide costs for shower facilities to be considered at a future Board
<b>Invest in Highways, Pavements and Street Lighting</b>	February Board received and considered the Highways Maintenance Programme recommendations for 2023 – 2024. Members recommended approval to March 2023 Area Committee subject to any amendments being communicated by elected members to Highways
<b>Invest in Parks, Play Areas, Cycle and Walking Routes</b>	<b>Thompson Park:</b>  City Development are now leading on this project with Chief Officer Group (COG) confirming additional capital funding to support the North Area Committee funding. Ward members and Area Chair have been provided regular updates and a timeline for delivery of the project.  November Board considered a funding application for the delivery of Phase 1 of the Thompson Park Regeneration and recommended approval to December 2021 Area Committee, due to the cancellation of the December Area Committee the funding application was agreed via the Responsive Decision making process in January 2023  Work has now commenced on site with anticipated completion Easter 2023  February Board considered an expression of interest for an event to be held in Thompson Park to celebrate the North Area

	<p>Committee investment and recommended full application to be considered by March 2023 Area Committee details of which are included in <b>Item 3 Annex 1</b></p>
<p><b>Support the voluntary and community sector to provide additional services and extend opening times within local community venues as well as host community events, activities and nurture family learning</b></p>	<p><b>Downhill Community Hub:</b></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. Area Committees approved <b>£100,000</b> in total for the refurbishment project.</p> <p>June 2021 Board agreed to recommend an alignment of a further <b>£100,000</b> 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 2021 Area Committee agreed the alignment of <b>£100,000</b>.</p> <p>April 2022 Board considered the full application and recommended approval to June 2022 Area Committee which was agreed.</p> <p>Work is progressing on the capital improvements at the Downhill Hub and additional services and activities are being developed and delivered from the venue including the delivery of a Warm Space. Regular quarterly monitoring updates are provided to the Board</p> <p>A Taking Stock Survey is currently being carried out via the North VCS Network in order understand the needs of the sector in managing their buildings, volunteer support required, programme of services and activities delivered all of which will be used for them to benefit from social value support.</p> <p>The North VCS Network was provided with the opportunity to apply for funding to deliver Warm Space projects across the North. Details of all warm spaces within the North are included on the following link:</p> <p><a href="#">North Area - Sunderland City Council</a></p>
<p><b>Support youth clubs and spaces for young people to be together and feel safe</b></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.</p> <p>Through the responsive decision making process Area Committee agreed the recommendations of the Task and Finish Group in July 2022.</p>

	All projects are currently delivering with evaluations and feedback to be presented to a future Board
<b>Promote heritage assets and deliver heritage activities to improve health and wellbeing and improve community cohesion</b>	<p><b>Hylton Castle:</b></p> <p>June 2021 Board agreed to recommend an alignment of <b>£100,000</b> for the development of a project that will lead towards the restoration of the chapel and cellars. June 2021 Area Committee agreed the alignment.</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. Full application agreed at June 2022 Area Committee</p> <p>February 2022 Board agreed in principle to recommend to a future Area Committee the alignment of <b>£100,000</b> 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. Full application agreed at June 2022 Area Committee</p> <p>Regular updates on the developments at Hylton Castle are provided to the Board</p>
<b>Support Communities to Deliver Local Events</b>	<p><b>Battle Re-enactment</b></p> <p>February 2023 Board considered an expression of interest from Hylton Castle Trust to deliver a Battle Re-enactment event at Hylton Castle in July 2023 with match funding secured from Sunderland City Council Events. The Board recommended full application to be considered by March 2023 Area Committee details of which are included in <b>Item 3 Annex 1</b></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 Consider and agree the recommendations of the Neighbourhood & Community Board regarding the Highways Capital Maintenance programmes for the North for 2023 – 2024 attached at Annex 2
- 5.3 Receive the presentation on the Fulwell and Southwick Raising Aspirations Projects

Annex 1      North Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020/2023  
Annex 2      Highways Capital Maintenance Programme 2023/2024

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