

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

CENTRAL AREA COUNCIL

19th January, 2015 2:00pm

32. **Present:** Councillors D. Green (Chair), Barlow, D. Birkinshaw, P. Birkinshaw, Bruff, G. Carr, J. Carr, Clarke, Johnson, Perrin, and T. Sheard.

33. **Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests.**

Councillor G. Carr declared a non-pecuniary interest in minutes 37 and 38 as Vice Chair of Homestart Barnsley.

34. **Minutes of the previous meeting of Central Area Council, held 10th November, 2014.**

The meeting considered the minutes of the previous meeting of Central Area Council, held on 10th November, 2014.

Members noted that it had been confirmed in writing that any unallocated Devolved Ward Budget and Ward Alliance Fund finance could be carried forward into the next financial year.

Members were reminded that further details of services provided to young people had been circulated to Members, which included relevant contact details.

It was noted that further details of the service responsibilities of Neighbourhood Services had been circulated to Members by the Area Council Manager. Members discussed this and felt that the information was not up to date. It was agreed to circulate updated maps and schedules relating to their Ward to Members.

The meeting noted that Ward information was available for some of the Area Council contracts, and it was agreed that this be discussed with the Area Council Manager at Ward briefings.

With regards to the proposed work to consider the Integrated Youth Support Service delivery in the area, it was noted that the service will be changing considerably in the near future due to Council restructuring. It was therefore agreed to delay this work to after the restructure had taken effect.

Brief feedback was provided by Cllrs Clarke and G. Carr relating to the events they had recently attended on behalf of Central Area Council.

RESOLVED: -

- (i) that the minutes of Central Area Council held on 10th November, 2014 be approved as a true and correct record;
- (ii) that the Central Area Council Manager circulates updated maps and schedules to Members relating to Neighbourhood Services delivery in their Ward.

35. **Central Area Council celebration event.**

The item was introduced by the Central Area Council Manager. Proposed was a single high-profile event covering the Central Council Area. This would celebrate and reward activity being undertaken within the community. Recognising efforts made in the area was supported, and it was noted that this provided an efficient way of doing so, when compared to organising an event in each Ward.

The meeting considered a number of options for funding the event.

RESOLVED: -

(i) that Central Area Council allocates up to £5,000 to host a celebration event in June, 2015;

(ii) that a planning group, with at least one Member from each Ward as part of its membership, is established to assist the planning an organisation of the event.

36. **Future Council/Barnsley's Community Offer**

The Executive Director, Adults and Communities introduced the item, referring to the recently held workshop for Members on the Community Offer, and the ongoing work to engage and support the community.

The meeting noted a number of pieces of work which were currently progressing. These included exploring the potential to join up engagement activity with the Clinical Commissioning Group. The meeting discussed 'story telling' and the impact of providing real examples through the use of videos etc to help promote engagement and empowerment. It was noted the recording of 'stories' was being resourced and suggestions for stories were welcomed.

Members noted a review of voluntary and community infrastructure, and plan to review the Compact. Also noted was a review of welfare services, providing information and advice to residents in the borough. The meeting also heard of the discussions with partners to consider the best use of accommodation, reducing costs and increasing efficiency.

Members discussed the reliance on a small number of committed volunteers, and noted the programmes in place to support the expansion of volunteering.

RESOLVED: -

(i) that the report be noted;

(ii) that Members forward suggestions of 'stories' for 'story telling' to the Central Area Council Manager.

37. **Central Area Council procurement and financial update.**

The item was introduced by the Central Area Council Manager, providing details of commissions which had yet to report formally on their contract performance.

With regards to the Private Sector Rented Housing Management/Enforcement Service, members heard how both posts had been recruited to and, after considering a number of options, Members agreed that the project should formally commence on 1st April, 2015.

Members heard how the Twiggs Grounds Maintenance 'Clean and Green' contract had commenced on 20th October, 2014, and formal contract monitoring would feed into the Central Area Council Performance Management Report on 16th March, 2015. Interim feedback about the service was extremely positive.

Interim feedback from Central Working Together Fund was also noted, as was the success of a recently held networking event for officers, volunteers and Members involved in the Central area.

A profile of finance committed to date was considered, and it was noted that a figure of approximately £103,000 remained unallocated for 2015/16. It was agreed that a future meeting of the Area Council would consider current data and information pertaining to the area, with a view to reviewing the current priorities and discussing future priorities for the allocation of remaining funds.

RESOLVED: -

(i) that the progress in establishing the Private Sector Housing Management/Enforcement Service be noted, and that the service commence 1st April, 2015;

(ii) that the delivery to date of the Clean and Green contract and Central Working Together Fund projects be noted;

(iii) that the success of the Central Area Networking Event be noted;

(iv) that Members note the revised financial statement and support the approach for reviewing the area priorities, with a view to allocating remaining funds for 2015/16.

38. **Performance management report**

The Area Council Manager introduced the report which contained information on 4 of the current services contracted by the Central Area Council.

Attention was drawn to the cumulative performance of the contracted activity against the priorities agreed by the Area Council.

With regards to the contract with Royal Voluntary Service (RVS), Members discussed the RAG ratings for quarter 2 performance and noted the failure to meet the target relating to referrals. The reasons why this was the case were discussed, which included difficulty in engaging GPs and the reluctance of GPs to refer to non-clinical services. It was also suggested that the target may have been over optimistic. The RVS Manager had given assurances that targets for year 1 would still be met. Members were encouraged to promote the service and forward any ideas to improve referrals. In order to assist this, figures by Ward would be made available to Members at relevant briefings.

Members considered the quarter 1 performance of the contract with Barnsley YMCA. All elements of the contract performance were RAG rated as green, despite a number of difficulties early on in the delivery of the contract. Some concern was expressed with regards to the venues being used and a suggestion made that activity ought to be more peripatetic. It was agreed to feed this back to the YMCA.

Performance of the contract with Core Assets in quarter 1 was considered. Many of the RAG ratings were red, reflecting a number of issues with delivery, which included the lack of referrals through schools and too much of a focus on sports. Members

recognised the 13-19 age group was difficult to engage and noted the action plan already in place to address the issues.

Members noted that quarter 1 performance report for Kingdom Security with all targets rated as green, with the exception of Social Value targets, which were amber due to details of local spend not being submitted. Members noted that 4 targeted operations had taken place but that 101 Fixed Penalty Notices had been issued by the end of quarter 1, which rose to 220 when figures to date were considered. It was noted that enforcement relating to car parking had now commenced. Members were encouraged to keep submitting intelligence to tasking officers, with the potential to arrange a 'walkabout' of the Ward with Kingdom Officers to highlight 'hotspot' areas.

RESOLVED: - that the report be noted.

39. **Notes of the Ward Alliances.**

The meeting received the notes from the Ward Alliances within the Central Council Area, held in November and December, 2014. It was agreed that in a future meeting of the Area Council, further time would be allocated to receive feedback from Ward Alliances.

RESOLVED: - that the notes of the Ward Alliances be received.

40. **Report on the use of the Devolved Ward Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds.**

Members considered the latest figures relating to the Devolved Ward Budget and Ward Alliance Fund in each of the Wards within the Central Area. It was noted that any unallocated finance could be carried forward in to the 2015/16 financial year.

RESOLVED: - that the report be noted.

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Chair