

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

CENTRAL AREA COUNCIL

10th November, 2014 2:00pm

22. **Present:** Councillors T. Sheard (Chair), Barlow, P. Birkinshaw, Bruff, G. Carr, J. Carr, Clarke, M. Dyson, Mathers, Mitchell, Johnson, and Perrin.

23. **Election of a Chair**

As Councillor D. Green was unfortunately unable to attend, nominations were taken for a Member to chair the meeting. Councillor T. Sheard was proposed and elected unanimously.

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

Councillor Johnson declared an interest in minutes 27 and 29 as the Chair of Oaks Millennium Technology Initiative (OMTI).

25. **Minutes of the previous meeting of Central Area Council, held 8th September, 2014.**

The meeting considered the minutes of the previous meeting of Central Area Council, held on 8th September, 2014.

RESOLVED: - that the minutes of Central Area Council held on 8th September, 2014 be approved as a true and correct record.

26. **Area Council Terms of Reference.**

The item was introduced by the Council Governance Officer, who made members aware that a revised version of the Area Council Terms of Reference had been approved by Cabinet on the 22nd October, 2014.

It was noted that the document sought to give clarity to the roles of the Area Council, rather than provide any significant changes.

Members noted that proposed Community Representatives on the Ward Alliances would now not need the approval of the Area Council, but that this function would be delegated to the Assistant Director Neighbourhoods Access and Support, in consultation with Members from the relevant ward.

RESOLVED: - that the report and revised terms of reference be noted.

27. **Notes of the Ward Alliances.**

Members considered the notes of Central, Dodworth, Kingstone, Stairfoot, and Worsbrough Ward Alliances held between July to October, 2014.

It was noted that the network host for Worsbrough had been confirmed as the Worsbrough Local History Society. For Stairfoot it was noted that OMTI would

continue to be the network host, but not from their current building. Members had heard how Hope House had been selected to be the network host for the Central Ward.

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

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

The Central Area Council Manager introduced the item, noting that there were a number of very recent approvals, which would not yet feature in the figures circulated.

Although it was thought that all remaining finance could be carried forward in to the 2015/16 financial year, Members requested confirmation from officers in Finance that this was the case.

RESOLVED: -

(i) that the report be noted;

(ii) that confirmation be sought from Finance as to whether funds can be carried forward into the 2015/16 financial year.

29. **Central Area Council Contract and Procurement Update.**

The item was introduced by the Central Area Council Manager, and attention was drawn to the recent procurement exercise to deliver a Service to Create a Cleaner and Greener Environment in Partnership with Local People.

Five organisations had submitted tenders, and the two top scoring organisations had been interviewed. The successful tenderer was John Twigg, and it was noted that the contract formally commenced on 20th October, 2014, with the first formal quarterly monitoring report for the service expected on 9th January, 2015.

The meeting noted that preliminary feedback about the service was positive, and once fully established staff would spend the average of a day per week in each ward.

A discussion took place regarding the need to avoid duplication with Neighbourhood Services, and with Community Payback teams. The meeting heard how discussions had taken place with Neighbourhood Services prior to finalising the contract with John Twigg, and it was agreed that the Area Council Manager would circulate a note to Members on the current responsibilities and work programme of Neighbourhood Services.

Members noted that the service would largely follow a schedule which responded to the information and intelligence provided by Ward Alliances. However, should any urgent action be required, it was suggested that Members contact the Area Council Manager.

With regards to the Private Sector Housing Management/Enforcement service, it was noted that necessary delegated report had been signed and recruitment was now underway.

Members acknowledged the other updates with regards to the additional services contracted by Central Area Council. It was noted that additional detail of the services for young people would be circulated electronically to Members.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the report be noted;
- (ii) that the Area Council Manager circulates a note with details of the service responsibilities of Neighbourhood Services;
- (iii) that, in the event of any urgent action required to be undertaken by the Service to Create a Cleaner and Greener Environment in Partnership with Local People, Members contact the Area Council Manager;
- (iv) that further detail on the services for young people be circulated to Members.

30. **Central Area Council Framework for Monitoring Progress and Challenging Performance**

The Central Area Council Manager introduced the item, noting the multiple roles of Area Councils, not only in considering the performance of contracted services, but also that of other services delivered in the area.

A flowchart was considered, which usefully described the roles in more detail and the processes undertaken. The meeting discussed the timescales for receiving contract monitoring reports, and it was suggested that a chart be prepared to give details of this in an easy to view format.

Concern was expressed as to whether there were adequate resources to consider the performance of services other than those directly commissioned by the Area Council. Confirmation was received that there had recently been improvements to staffing capacity to support the Central Council Area. In addition, staff in Performance and Partnerships would provide support for considering performance.

Members considered the draft Performance Management Report and were supportive of the format, suggesting that adding trend information would also be useful. It was noted that the report would be more fully populated for the next meeting of the Area Council as more quarterly monitoring of contracts would have taken place. Following this Members were encouraged to provide feedback on the format and approach taken.

The meeting discussed whether performance information could also be provided at a Ward level, and it was suggested that the Area Council Manager considers the implications of this with regards to cost and time.

Members discussed proposals to consider the delivery of the Council's Integrated Youth Support Service (IYSS), which is provided locally. This included requesting information from the service, which would then feed into a briefing before a workshop session was held with the service in question. The findings of the workshop and any recommendations would then feed into the next Area Council meeting.

RESOLVED: -

- (i) that Members note the different performance management/monitoring roles of the Area Council, and the framework for how each of these roles will be taken forward by Central Area Council;
- (ii) that Member and service provider representatives of the original evaluation panels for each procurement be invited to participate in the respective six monthly and annual contract/performance management meetings;

- (iii) that the Area Council Manager provides a chart detailing the expected timescales for contract monitoring reports;
- (iv) that the Area Council Manager considers the cost and time implications of providing contract performance information at a Ward level;
- (v) that the scope of the investigation and timeline for considering the delivery of IYSS in the Central Council Area be approved, and that a Member from each of the Central Council Wards be invited to participate in the associated workshop, with a report outlining the findings of this process to be presented to the next meeting of the Area Council.

31. **Representation from Central Area Council**

It was noted that Councillor D. Green had requested that Central Area Council considers the events ‘How do we work together to give all our children the best start we can?’ and ‘It’s your green space...help us shape its future’ with a view to appointing a representative to attend each event on behalf of the Area Council.

RESOLVED: -

- (i) that Councillor G. Carr attends the event ‘How do we work together to give all our children the best start we can?’ on behalf of Central Area Council;
- (ii) that Councillor Clarke attends the event ‘It’s your green space...help us shape its future’ on behalf of Central Area Council.

Thanks were given to Councillor T. Sheard for chairing the meeting at short notice, so competently, and within the time constraints.

Members were encouraged to allocate appropriate time for the meeting within their schedules, however noting the busy diaries of Members it was agreed that items for decision should be placed as early on the agenda as possible.

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Chair