

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

CENTRAL AREA COUNCIL

18th May, 2015 2:00pm

51. **Present:** Councillors D. Green (Chair), D. Birkinshaw, P. Birkinshaw, Bruff, G. Carr, J. Carr, Clarke, Johnson, Mathers and Riggs.

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

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests.

53. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Central Area Council held on 16th March, 2015**

The meeting considered the minutes of the previous meeting. Members expressed disappointment that the Neighbourhood Services maps had yet to be circulated and asked that this matter be pursued with the service. Once the maps were available, it was agreed that further discussions needed to be pursued then at Ward level.

The meeting noted the decision to not pursue the publication of a community magazine for the area, but that the Area Council would be considering alternatives approaches should be considered.

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Central Area Council held on 16th March, 2015 be approved as a true and correct record.

54. **Performance Management Report**

The Locality Manager presented a performance management report for the period to May 2015, setting out information in relation to the five contracted services and the six projects supported from the Central Working Together Fund.

The meeting noted issues raised in respect of the Royal Voluntary Service (RVS) project to reduce loneliness and isolation in older people and the extent to which performance reflected the ambitious target set but also the failure of GPs to refer patients who would benefit from the programme. The extent to which RVS had made the use of existing groups was acknowledged, although there was concern that this had not particularly added value. Marie Hoyle, CCG Link Officer, had informed the Chair of the Area Council she would raise the GP referral issues and seek to make the practice she works at an exemplar in the work with RVS.

In respect of the Core Assets scheme to improve the health and wellbeing of young people, the meeting noted that the interim contract monitoring/management meeting had been held on 16th April, 2015 in response to concerns raised by Members in respect of the previous performance monitoring report. The report set out the measures being taken by Core Assets to improve performance, but that a review panel would meet on 4th June, 2015 to consider the up to date position and whether the break clause option at the end of year 1 should be activated in respect of this contract.

The meeting discussed the performance of the Kingdom Security environmental enforcement scheme, where performance was good, except in respect of the meeting of social value targets. Consideration was being given as to how those targets could be re-profiled. Work was continuing to seek to integrate volunteers into the activities undertaken by Kingdom Security and Members commented on the importance of promoting the objectives of the project in schools. Members commented on how Kingdom Security's activities were distributed across the Area Council, and requested for information on the offences prosecuted in specific Wards.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the contents of the performance management report be noted;
- (ii) that the issues raised from the performance report be noted and the associated recommendations outlined be approved, in particular the proposal for the Core Assets contract to be reviewed;
- (iii) that, if the Core Assets review panel recommends that the contract should be terminated at the end of year 1, the Service Director Stronger, Safer and Healthier Communities be authorised to terminate the contract in consultation with the review panel;
- (iv) that, in the event that the Core Assets contract be terminated, the Central Area Council sub-group be established and convened to consider any future service provision for young people aged 13-19 years;
- (v) that the importance of making referrals to the RVS project be made directly to GPs with practices in the area of the Central Area Council; and
- (vi) that Members be provided with a breakdown of the offences prosecuted under the Kingdom Security contract.

55. **Review of Central Area Council Priorities and Allocation of Resources for 2015/16**

The Locality Manager presented a report on the work of the Central Area Council Priority Review Group to review the Area Council priorities and associated expenditure for 2015/16. The review had taken as its context the priorities established in 2013 and the contracts commissioned. They discussed a range of issues, not all of which could be effectively addressed by the Central Area Council as some aspects fell outside of its remit. The report set out at paragraph 6.2 a summary of the issues identified and the proposed way forward, particularly in relation to health inequalities, child poverty, private sector tenant support, anti-social behaviour in Barnsley town centre, school places in Dodworth, fly tipping, littering and dog fouling, and community cohesion issues.

The meeting noted the extent to which issues such as anti-social behaviour and fly tipping were issues for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to investigate, as they did not relate specifically to the Central area. However, Members commented on the impact of the new policing model in terms of a dedicated team no longer being available in the town centre and the need for some clarification of this matter.

The meeting discussed the proposal to include additional car parking enforcement services within the Kingdom Security contract given the updated information in the Area Managers report and Members asked for further information in relation to the number of fixed penalty notices issued with regards to the reliability of fines issued.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the approach taken by the Central Area Council Priority Review Group reviewing priorities and associated expenditure for 2015/16 be noted;
- (ii) that the current and projected financial position be noted and the proposed approach for considering the emerging issues set out at Section 6.2 of the report be approved;
- (iii) that the priorities identified at Section 3.1 of the report be re-affirmed, and the areas on which Central Area Council should focus its efforts and resources for further development in 2015/16, as set out at Section 7 of the report, be approved;
- (iv) that the Service Director Stronger, Safer and Healthier Communities be authorised to complete the necessary procedures to invoke the relevant contract procedure rules to allow the environmental enforcement contract with Kingdom Security to be extended without the need for competitive tendering at the end of March 2016, noting that the cost of the Central Area Council element for this contract extension would be £27,697;
- (v) that an extension to the integrated enforcement SLA with the Council's Community Safety and Enforcement Service from 31st March, 2016 be approved, at a cost to Central Area Council of £4,000;
- (vi) that the continuation of the additional car parking enforcement service currently provided by Kingdom Security as part of the Central Area Council contract be approved, subject to review of the approach to training to ensure that fixed penalty notices are not issued in error;
- (vii) that Central Area Council funds not be delegated to Ward Alliances in 2015/16, but that this option be reconsidered for 2016/17, noting the important projects promoted in some Wards from that source of funding;
- (viii) that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be requested to give specific consideration to issue of anti-social behaviour in Barnsley Town Centre;
- (viii) that the Head of the Safer Barnsley Service be requested to report to the Area Council on the impact of the new policing model on the dedicated town centre team for tackling anti-social behaviour; and
- (ix) that the Senior Management Link Officer investigate the facility for Devolved Ward Budgets unspent in 2015/16 to be carried forward into 2016/17.

56. **Central Area Council Celebration Event/Awards**

The meeting noted that preparations for the Central Area Council celebration event on 25th June, 2015 were well advanced. Members were reminded of the need to submit any nominations for the awards by no later than 22nd May, 2015.

57. **Notes of the Ward Alliances**

The meeting received the notes of meetings of the Ward Alliances within the Central Area held in February, March and April 2015.

Councillor Johnson gave more detailed feedback on progress in the Stairfoot Ward, highlighting the allocation of Devolved Ward budget to projects to provide block paving in Ardsley park, working with community payback, and to refurbish the memorial to the rescue workers following the Oaks disaster. Work had also been done to engage with the local community, with 'Love Where You Live' event in Kendray park, the provision of local notice boards and establishing a network host through OMTI as a simple way for people to keep in touch electronically.

Councillor Clarke gave more detailed feedback on progress in the Worsbrough Ward, highlighting the use of Devolved Ward budget to support a programme of health and wellbeing 'taster' sessions on healthy eating, walking and yoga. Support had also been given to a local history group to take on a neighbourhood network role, including ICT classes. Worsbrough was also the only ward to provide support to after-schools sessions. Engagement with local people and businesses had been supported through networking event, and communication improved through the funding of local notice boards.

RESOLVED that the notes and feedback from the Ward Alliances be received.

58. **Devolved Ward Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds**

The meeting received a report detailing expenditure from the Devolved Ward Budget and Ward Alliance Funds for the year to 31st March, 2015.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the report be noted; and
- (ii) that the Area Team be thanked for their work in supporting the Ward Alliances, with particular thanks to Fiona O'Brien and Michelle Toone.

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Chair