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Penistone Area Council

Business Case for a Clean and Tidy Team in Penistone

Background:

- The Environment is a key priority for the Penistone Area Council. The priority was reconfirmed and agreed during a series of Members' workshops looking at statistical data, anecdotal evidence and feedback.
- BMBC currently run a Clean and Tidy Service , £160,000 over 18months, the contract comes to an end on the 30th April 2017
- Members have agreed to commission clean and tidy activities from the 2017/18 commissioning budget and have allocated between £75,000 - £100,000

Table 1 below shows the providers that have been appointed to deliver services that address the priorities and deliver the outcomes and social value objectives for the Penistone Area Council.

	Service	Provider	Contract Value	Contract start date
The Local Economy including tourism Environment	Countryside Skills & Training	Growforest	£100,00 + £54,600	October 2014 + Sept 2015 Contract now ended
Environment	Clean and Tidy Team	Environmental Services, BMBC	£160,000 18months	1 st November 2015
Health and Well Being	DIAL Drop in Service	DIAL	£5570	2015/16
Activities for Young People Health and Well Being Environment	Working Together Fund	Penistone Scouts Penistone Round Table TPT Volunteers Penistone FM	£8050 £11,660 £6630 £15,627	TBC

Guiding principles:

To ensure that the Penistone Area Council procures a Clean and Tidy service that meets identified need it is important the that the new specification is mindful of any lessons learnt from the existing BMBC Clean and Tidy contract and the guiding principles agreed by the Penistone Area Council at the meeting on the 8th December 2017. The following were agreed as **guiding principles** across all of the Penistone Area Council priorities and commissioning work:

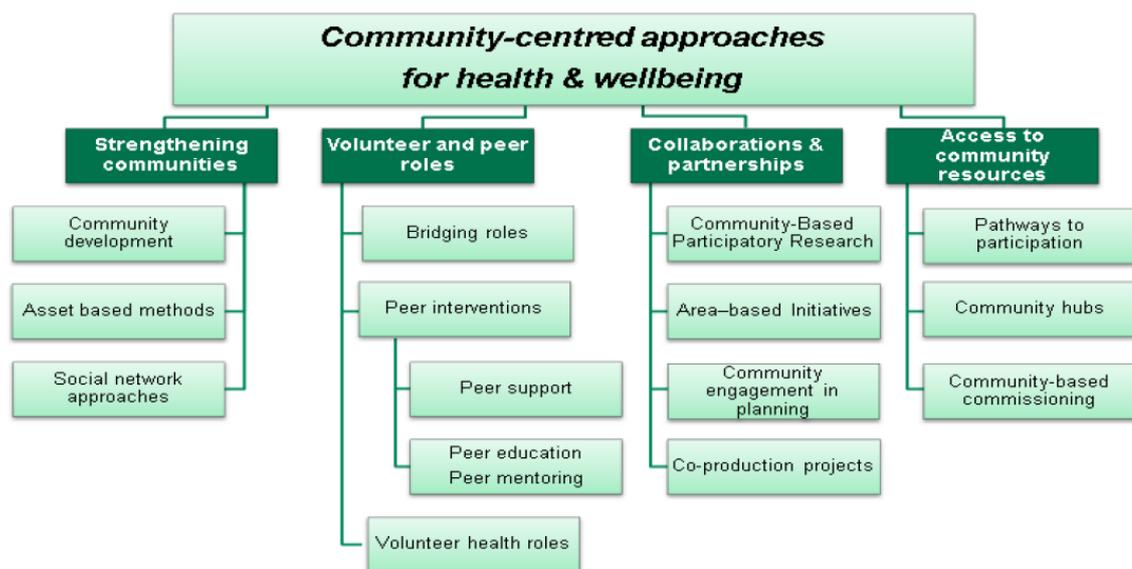
- Consider the specific needs of young people when developing services and projects, acknowledge the challenges they may face and addressing any equality and access issues.
- Providing opportunities for groups and residents to come together support each other, build skills and knowledge

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- Ensuring our work and partners reflects the rural nature of the area and are fit for purpose
- Maximise resources by working with partners on delivering priorities in particular health and well being
- Involve service users, officers and residents in the development of projects
- Make better use of neighbourhood networks in promoting our work and its value and communicating in a variety of formats that meet differing needs
- Supporting volunteering opportunities and social action

The guiding principles will need to underpin the specification for a clean and tidy team. In particular the need to capture the value and impact of the activities in meeting health and well-being outcomes will be a priority. Whilst there have been clear benefits to people's health and well being this hasn't always been captured. The NHS England 'Guide to Community Centred approaches to Health and Well Being' can be used as a model to explore how to capture the impact and ensure better aligned our outcomes:

Figure 2. The family of community-centred approaches for health and wellbeing¹



¹ The family of community-centred approaches for health and wellbeing (South, 2014)

Lessons Learnt:

The BMBC contract doesn't end until 30th April 17 so a complete evaluation and lessons learnt report has not been produced yet. The following have been pulled together from the contract delivery to date:

- Primary schools have been slow to engage, this has not been due to a lack of interest but the fact that they plan their lessons and activities months in

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advance. A long lead in time is needed to work effectively with the schools and consideration for seasonal work requires planning months in advance.

- Potential to broaden out the Initial work with schools on planting, bird boxes etc with a much more focused educational agenda and projects.
- The contract has exceeded the targets around reactive and clean and tidy activities which the clean and tidy team can carry out independently. The number of these requests have shown that there is a demand for clean and tidy activities and has been useful as gap fillers (when a project finishes early or cancelled due to weather).
- Whilst the impact of this work has been clearly beneficial and visible, the new specification would seek to reduce this target and increase the targets which aim to carry out the work alongside and supporting the community; better meeting the guiding principles of building knowledge / skills. There would be an emphasis in the specification on working with and supporting and not doing for.
- Sustainability important – need to build in problem solving and solutions to ensure longer term impact of work carried out – i.e. addressing area of fly tipping.
- It has been difficult to engage businesses – the specification would still want to look at targets for working with businesses – links with local businesses will be key as well as innovative approaches.
- Employee supported volunteering has been successful at involving volunteers who haven't previously volunteered
- The profile of the clean and tidy team remained low throughout the project – facebook posts and use of the neighbourhood network (Penistone FM) was underutilised. Before and after photos not posted etc. Specific targets required within the specification
- Love Where You Live events target not reached – The specification would need to build on the Love Your Street concept developed by the Community Development Officer.
- Number of perception surveys completed were low – need to think about how to better capture and encourage feedback
- Supporting social action and volunteering - positive messages about the value
- Work needs to be programmed in throughout the contract to take into account appropriate seasonal work.
- Many groups have requested weekend work which is not currently within the contract
- Dog Fouling and flytipping not within the contract however there is scope to focus on educational and prevention work
- Use of a Social return on investment model would help quantify the investment return

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Social Value Objectives

Under a new specification the successful provider will be required to actively contribute to the achievement of social value objectives. These include:

- Provision of local skills development, work experience placements and Apprenticeship opportunities which strengthen the community's skill base
- Employment and training opportunities within the locality
- Use of local Voluntary Community Organisations and community groups
- Recruitment, training, support and deployment of volunteers
- Development of strong community networks, community self-help and resilience
- Engaging with local residents to initiate social action and to Love Where They Live
- Use of local supply chains
- Provide a strong Social Return on Investment