

# **BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **CENTRAL AREA COUNCIL**

**6<sup>th</sup> July, 2015 2:00pm**

1. **Present:** Councillors D. Green (Chair), D. Birkinshaw, Bruff, Clarke, K. Dyson, Johnson, Mathers (Mayor), Mitchell, Pourali, Riggs and Williams.

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

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

3. **Minutes of the previous meeting of Central Area Council held on 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2015**

The meeting considered the minutes of the previous meeting. Members heard that a number of meetings had recently been held with Neighbourhood Services, and maps detailing the areas where service is to be provided were still being produced, but would be circulated when finalised.

With reference to increasing the referrals from GPs to the service to reduce loneliness and isolation for older people, the meeting noted that the service had received its first referral, which was hoped would be the first of many.

Members acknowledged the success of the Central Area Council Celebration Event. A special mention was made to Henry Clarke who was overall winner. Each ward was well represented at the event, and the hard work of each Ward Alliance was acknowledged.

The meeting discussed the size and location of the event, and it was suggested that the Town Hall be used as a venue in the future if at all possible.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Central Area Council held on 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2015 be approved as a true and correct record.

4. **Performance Management Report**

The item was introduced by the Area Council Manager. Members considered Part A of the report containing cumulative performance figures to date.

Members discussed the newly added underpinning principle of Community Cohesion and Integration. It was agreed that this required further development, and consideration as to how this would be implemented in practice.

The meeting went on to consider Part B of the report, which considered the performance of individual contracts.

It was noted that although the formal performance information relating to the contract with Twiggs Grounds Maintenance had not been updated since the last meeting, satisfaction remained high with the service.

Similarly satisfaction was high with the contract delivered by Kingdom Security. Members noted that in May and June 171 notices were issued for litter, dog fouling and parking violations, and that more detail would be provided at the next meeting.

The meeting considered the YMCA contract and it was noted that the panel involved with the annual review of the contract were impressed with the quality of the work. All performance targets were either being met or had been exceeded. Members acknowledged that further detail on how the project would improve the health and wellbeing of young people would be considered at a future meeting. A discussion took place on the need to consider emotional and physical wellbeing, but to ensure that provision was in addition to specialist services such as CAMHS which were required to be provided at the appropriate level.

With regards to the RVS contract, it was noted that some performance measures remained rated red or amber. This was attributed to the original targets being over stretching, and it was noted that these had since been revised for the second year of the contract. Though year 1 targets had not been met, Members noted the impact the contract on the lives of older people in the area.

The meeting heard how a number of videos had been produced in order to tell stories, highlighting the impact of work being undertaken by Area Councils and Ward Alliances. A video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tkgf4I4xpSI> had been produced regarding the work to reduce loneliness and isolation, which the meeting watched and which they felt appropriately showcased the work of the RVS contract. It was suggested that the video be used to further promote the service to GPs.

Members were provided with an update on the contract with Core Assets. The meeting was reminded of the critical quarter three/annual review meeting. This was held on 4<sup>th</sup> June, 2015 and it was noted that the review panel still had concerns about the contract, including the numbers of young people attending three or more sessions. The panel had therefore recommended that the contract be terminated at the end of year one, on the 27<sup>th</sup> July, 2015. A decision was therefore taken by the Service Director, Stronger, Safer and Healthier Communities to issue appropriate notice of termination.

Noted was the £33,500 underspend expected from the Core Assets contract on year one, in addition to the £98,500 previously allocated to the second year of the contract.

Following the termination of the contract a sub-group was established to consider further provision for young people aged 13-19. The outcome of this was a proposal to fill a gap in provision. In the short term this consisted of a single 2 hour session in each of the Wards during a 4 week period in the summer, provided by BMBC Targeted Youth Support Service. These would take place at venues and times closely linked to the current schedule of Core Assets. The full cost of the organisation, coordination, and publicity of these sessions would be £5,900.

It was also suggested that a working group be convened to consider provision for 13-19 year olds in the medium term. It was proposed that at least one Member from each Ward be in attendance.

A brief update was given in relation to the Private Sector Housing Enforcement Service contract. Members were assured that the project was working well so far with 18 live cases, and a number of highly vulnerable tenants identified.

**RESOLVED:-**

- i) that the contents of the Performance Management Report be noted;
- ii) that the termination of the Core Assets contract be noted;
- iii) that £5,900 be allocated to the delivery of a single 2 hour session each week in each of the Wards for 4 weeks by BMBC Targeted Youth Support Service;
- iv) a sub-group be established to consider further provision for young people aged 13-19 in the medium term, with representation from each Ward.

**5 Central Area Council Priorities 2015/16 update.**

The item was introduced by the Area Council Manager. Attention was drawn to priorities that had recently been reaffirmed for 2015/16, the agreed actions, and the progress in implementing these.

Members considered the current financial forecast, noting that the figures did not include recent changes due to the Core Assets contract termination or the subsequent decision to provide short term provision by BMBC Targeted Youth Support Service. The income from enforcement notices was also acknowledged.

The meeting was reminded about the previous agreement to extend the Environmental Enforcement Contract to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2016. However, should the Area Council wish to continue to fund such a service, it was noted that this would require retendering. As many of the Area Councils were intent on commissioning a similar service, this would require a joint tender with individual lots, and would take the procurement above EU thresholds. This would result in a longer lead time.

The complexity of the procurement process was discussed, and noted was the move away from bespoke individual contracts, with a focus on the Area, to one which provided a similar service across the Borough.

Members were reassured that, once the procurement was complete, this would result in each Area Council holding its own contract, with the ability to renew this annually subject to the satisfaction of the Area Council and availability of budgets. The meeting noted that this would require further discussion, and a formal decision to be made at a future meeting of the Area Council.

Members discussed the need to prevent littering and dog fouling in addition to enforcement. Reassurance was given that this is included in other commissions such as Twiggs Grounds Maintenance, and was also covered by the Love Where You Live programme.

**RESOLVED:-**

- i) that the update on progress to deliver against the re-affirmed Central Area Council priorities for 2015/16 be noted;
- ii) that the current and projected financial position for 2015/16 and 2016/16 be noted.
- iii) that a future meeting of the Area Council gives further consideration to the procurement of an Environmental Enforcement Service post 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2016.

**6. Notes of the Ward Alliances**

Members received the notes of Central Ward Alliance held on 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2015; Dodworth Ward Alliance held on 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2015; Kingstone Ward Alliance held on 1<sup>st</sup>

June, 2015; Stairfoot Ward Alliance held on 11<sup>th</sup> May, 2015; and Worsbrough Ward Alliance held on 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2015.

The meeting heard how two schools in the Dodworth Ward were now no longer due to take part in the Junior Wardens scheme, leaving places so other areas could engage with the programme. Cllr Riggs agreed to circulate details to all Members of the Area Council.

**RESOLVED** that the notes from the Ward Alliances be received.

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

The meeting received a report detailing expenditure from the Devolved Ward Budget and Ward Alliance Funds.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

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Chair