

**BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**Dearne Area Council Meeting  
2<sup>nd</sup> February 2015**

**Report of the  
Dearne Area Council Manager**

**Agenda Item: 7**

**Dearne Area Council – Proposed Clean and Tidy Commission**

**1.0 Purpose of Report**

**1.1** This report invites members to discuss and agree the attached outline specification referred to in Appendix 1 to this report for the commissioning of a Clean and Tidy Service for the Dearne Area.

**2.0 Recommendations**

**2.1** That members agree the attached Clean and Tidy Service Specification to go forward to the procurement process, including the proposed allocation of £75,000 to the 1 year project from the Area Council Budget.

**2.2** That the Service Director, Stronger, Safer and Healthier Communities be authorised to agree price/quality award criteria following consultation with Norfolk Property Services, and the Area Council Manager prior to its placement on YORtender.

**3.0 Background**

**3.1** Following a meeting between the Area Council Manager and Cllrs Noble, Gardiner, Brook and Sim on 11 November 2014 to discuss to discuss project ideas for future commissions the following proposals were put forward to the Dearne Area Council held on 24 November 2014.

- Clean and Tidy Service – Environment Priority
- Young People’s Work Experience – Skills and Training For Work
- Additional Activities for Young People
- Working Together Fund

**3.2** Members were broadly in agreement with all four of the ideas put forward and requested the Area Manager to produce a draft specification for the Clean and Tidy Service and progresses the other project proposals in due course.

**3.3** It is envisaged that the Clean and Tidy Service will complement the additional enforcement commission which is dealing with littering and dog fouling.

#### 4.0 Project Proposal Summary

4.1 The Project Proposal is to commission a Provider to deliver a Clean and Tidy service which will:

- Work towards an improved physical appearance for Dearne North and Dearne South Wards which have suffered adverse publicity on local and national media.
- Work towards the provision of a clean, green and welcoming environment for local residents and businesses in the Dearne area.
- Complement the existing environmental improvement activities including the work carried out by local volunteers through friends and community groups.
- Engage with local residents to initiate social action
- Work towards increasing the numbers of volunteers who are committed to creating an improved environmental impact and improved image for the Dearne Area.
- Encourage and support community responsibility for existing green areas/shrub beds etc.
- Work with existing operations through other agencies and BMBC Services including the Our Streets Project and the work of the Safer Neighbourhood Team towards clearing hotspot areas i.e. the disused railway embankment in Goldthorpe.
- Work in a proactive and reactive way to improve the environment.

Work could include:

- Pruning and weeding vegetation
- Minor repairs of replacement fencing
- Cutting grassed areas and hedges
- Removal of litter
- Organising the removal of fly tipped materials, graffiti, discarded needles, asbestos, trees etc.
- Clearing of specific pathways and footpaths.

#### **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Specification of requirements.

<b>Officer</b>	<b>Tel No.</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Elaine Slater Area Council Manager</b>	<b>01226 787559</b>	<b>19 January 2015</b>

**Appendix 1****Dearne Area Council Commissioning****Specification of Requirements for:  
Dearne Clean and Tidy Service****1. Brief Summary of Service**

The Dearne Area Council wishes to commission a Provider to deliver a service which will complement existing service provision, including the work currently carried out by local volunteers to improve the overall environmental appearance of the Dearne North and Dearne South.

The service will contribute to maintaining a clean, well presented and welcoming physical environment in the two wards of the Dearne area through a reactive and proactive approach to the issues of fly tipping, littering, vegetation, weeding, pruning and maintenance of green areas.

The provider will involve local people and existing community groups who have an interest in keeping their local environment clean and tidy. The involvement of businesses, local people and groups is a key element, not only through volunteering and stakeholder engagement, but also via formal sub-contracting arrangements at local level where appropriate. In addition there are a number of agencies and services working together towards improving the Dearne Area including additional enforcement around littering/dog fouling and housing regeneration and enforcement initiatives as well as work currently carried out by BMBC Neighbourhood Pride service and the Safer Neighbourhood Service. It is expected that the work of the provider will be designed to complement and build up rather than duplicate this existing provision.

In developing and delivering the service, the provider should ensure that it is contributing to the Council's Corporate priorities and outcomes statements. Sustainability, community support, self-reliance, resilience and reciprocity should therefore be built into the service design and delivery. Also and where possible, work experience placements, apprentice opportunities and local volunteering opportunities should be used.

## 2. Background and Context

The Dearne area sits in the east of the borough of Barnsley and is part of the Dearne Valley link which brings Barnsley together with Doncaster to the north and Rotherham to the south. The area has seen a number of major physical changes over the last 10 years including the development of both commercial and residential properties and new road schemes. The area covers 16 sq. km with a population of 22,387.

Historically the Dearne area has suffered greatly from littering, fly tipping, graffiti etc and the particularly poor state of the disused railway embankment which runs through the centre of Goldthorpe has made adverse local and national news. Gateway routes have also been highlighted as problem areas. One of the aims of this service is to work with other agencies and local people to help create a better image for the Dearne which can be publicly celebrated instead

A number of initiatives have taken place in recent times funded by local elected members including a free 'Bulky Rubbish' collection service and provision of free skips in certain areas for clean-up days. This proved expensive and in the end ineffectual without additional enforcement.

There are also several initiatives also being delivered currently by agencies i.e. the 'Our Streets' project, a joint initiative between BMBC Housing Regeneration Team and the Safer Neighbourhood Team and the 'Goldthorpe Tidy Streets' project being delivered by the Goldthorpe Development Group. The Safer Neighbourhood Team are also in discussion with Network Rail who own the disused embankment to try to address the problems associated with the vast amount of fly tipping which takes place in the area.

Additional Housing and General Enforcement has been commissioned recently through the Area Council. This initiative and the Our Streets Project referred to above as well as involvement of local people through Goldthorpe Development Group are starting to have an improved impact but the issues are too big for local people alone. It is hoped that the provision of a commissioned Clean and Tidy service, funded by the Area Council will finally make the big difference to the area and in turn create a better, cleaner environmental image to the outside world and a more welcoming place for visitors and residents.

Improving the Environment is a priority of the Dearne Area Plan which was produced after research was carried out during 2012/2013 and is used for the allocation of Dearne Area Council funds through commissions which must relate to the priorities highlighted within it. A copy of the Dearne Area Plan is enclosed as Appendix 1 with this document.

<b>3. Strategic Aims and Priorities for BMBC and The Dearne Area Council</b>	
<b>BMBC Priorities</b>	
Improving people's potential and achievement	By encouraging people who live and work in the two Wards of Dearne North and South to 'Love Where They Live' and take pride in their local environment.
Growing the economy	Making the Wards of Dearne North and South a more inviting place to live and work. Use volunteering to gain new skills and experience. Encouraging new businesses into more attractive, vibrant and clean village centres. Use the knowledge, capacity and experience which exists at community level to create a more resilient and self-reliant community.
Changing the Relationship between the Council and the Community.	<p>Number of community representatives involved in making decisions which contribute to local priorities.</p> <p>Ensure people have the opportunity to be more involved in designing, delivering and supporting services that improve their lives.</p>
<b>Area Council Priorities</b>	
<p>1.Improving the Economy</p> <p>2.Young People</p> <p>3.Debt and Benefit Advice</p> <p>4.Community Involvement</p> <p>5.Improved Environment</p> <p>This project relates to the Dearne Area Plan priorities 1, 4, 5 and possibly 3 depending on activities and the age of volunteers.</p>	

#### 4. Specific Aims and Objectives of the Service / Project

To work with local people and other initiatives operating in Dearne North and South towards the creation of a clean, tidy and welcoming environment for residents, visitors and businesses.

#### 5. The Service/Activities to be Delivered

The Service Provider will provide a flexible, and responsive service to specific requests for improvements across the two Wards. The Area Team will receive and co-ordinate requests for the service from elected members and local people. These could include:

Pruning of and weeding of vegetation

Painting of street furniture

Minor repairs to fencing

Strimming grassed areas and hedges

Removal of litter

Assisting Goldthorpe Development Group in their clean up operations

Reporting and organising the removal of fly tipped materials, graffiti, discarded needles, asbestos, trees which might need the attention of a tree surgeon etc.

Clearing and cleaning specific pathways and footpaths

Working with other agencies on targeted operations.

#### **Social Action**

The Service will help to address local needs through encouraging people who live and work in the area to access volunteering opportunities and take pride in their area through informal engagement. Also to encourage social action through supporting existing and new community groups/friends of groups who undertake, or wish to undertake environmental improvement work in their community including clean up days and '**Love Where you Live**' initiatives across the two wards. It is expected that the provider will organise clean-up operations with local people ensuring their safety at all times.

The provider will also work alongside the Safer Neighbourhood Team, volunteers and other agencies to provide a co-ordinated agency/community approach to joint environmental improvement initiatives.

The provider will actively encourage local residents to become involved in taking responsibility and 'adopting' areas to keep clean and tidy within their own community.

**Operational Development**

We expect the service to operate from a local base and have a local presence in order to be able to responsive to Councillors requests via a central point of contact and to maintain a local community presence.

The service will include both proactive and reactive functions by working to flexible schedules and reacting to local requests efficiently. The service will be flexible and complement the schedule and planned work programmes provided by BMBC Neighbourhood Services in the area and refer any anti-social activity relating to environment abuse to the local SNT Tasking Officer to be dealt with by the Enforcement Officers.

In addition the provider will work closely with local community groups i.e. Goldthorpe Development Group who are presently undertaking and planning further clean up operations in the area and other BMBC initiatives working to improve the environment i.e. the Cleaner Streets operation in Goldthorpe.

*Please complete questions 6 or 7 as appropriate*

**6. Target Groups and Accessibility**

People who live or work in the Wards of Dearne North and South.

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**7. Location and Area**

Across the wards of Dearne North and Dearne South.

**8. How will this work help to improve the local area**

The Dearne area has been blighted by uncomplimentary press images about its appearance and the poor state of the environment. This project will work towards the creation of a clean, tidy and welcoming environment where people can be proud to say they live and work in. It will also complement other projects commissioned by the Dearne Area council which are also working toward improving the area i.e. the Skills for Work and additional Housing and Generic Enforcement initiatives. It will also contribute to local people's pride in where they live and work, creating more resilient and

responsive members of the community to local issues.		
<b>9. Performance Measures</b>		
<b>9a. Outcomes</b> <i>(What good, benefit, change are you expecting to achieve as a result of the service or activity being delivered?)</i>		
<i>(state outcome)</i>	<i>(evidence)</i>	<i>(Evaluation Methodology)</i>
An improved local environment	Before and after photos	Perception Surveys
An improved image of the Dearne area.	Comparing before and after press releases.	Photographs Evidence of good press releases
Active local citizens being involved in keeping their area clean and tidy.	Collation of names of groups and individuals being involved in clean-up operations.	Photographs/ signing in sheets for events.
<b>9b. Outputs (collectables)</b> <i>(Easy to measure actions, units, events that tell us how much, how many or how often)</i>		
<i>(Output)</i>	<i>(Target Number)</i>	<i>(Supporting Evidence)</i>
No of volunteers involved in clean and tidy activities.	40	Lists of names addresses/photographs.
No of clean-up operations with other agencies/community orgs.	5	Evidence from agencies/.community groups/photographs
Number of responses completed	100%	Providers completed job records.
Average response times	1 – 3 days	Contact Point
No of compliments	To be quantified as received	Collected through Area Team/feedback from elected members.
No. of complaints	To be quantified as received	Collected through Area Team/feedback from elected members
Tonnage of waste collected/litter etc.	tbc	Weigh tickets
<b>9c. Milestones</b>		
<i>(Activity/Action)</i>	<i>(By When)</i>	
Place tender advert		
Tender Return		
Tender Evaluation		
Tender Report and Approval to Award		



Standstill period and feedback		
Issue Letter of Intent / Contract		
Provider to determine delivery schedule.		

<b>10. Contract Value</b>
<i>£75,000 (1 year and to be reviewed for further funding if successful)</i>

<b>11. Contract Terms and Conditions</b>

<b>12. Monitoring and Recording Arrangements</b>
<i>(i.e. regular meetings, progress reports from suppliers etc.)</i>
<i>Quarterly contract monitoring meetings throughout the lifetime of the project?</i>
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<b>13. Quality Standards</b>
<p>The provider will have all relevant policies and procedures in place.</p> <p>Provider required to adhere to the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974.</p> <p>All materials used comply with the Control of Substances, Hazardous to Health Regulations.</p> <p>All materials and equipment are stored in a safe and proper manner.</p> <p>Environmentally friendly materials used whenever possible.</p> <p>Staff receive appropriate training, including needle search training.</p> <p>Goods and materials used are in accordance with the British standards Code of Practice.</p> <p>Provider holds a valid Waste Carriers Licence</p> <p>Staff employed will be subject to a DBS clearance.</p> <p>The Service Provider will have a robust system for monitoring complaints and suggestions; feedback from service users will be recorded and inform service delivery.</p>

Service Provider will submit reports summarising any complaints, investigations and remedial actions and in the same way any compliments received/success stories etc.

**14. Commissioning/Procurement Officer Details**

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