

NORTH AREA COUNCIL

23rd September, 2013

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

DISCUSSION BETWEEN ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE NORTH AREA COUNCIL

23rd September, 2013

1. **Present:** Councillors Burgess (Chair), Cave, Howard, Leech, Miller, Spence and Tattersall.

The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting. It was noted that as the meeting was not a quorate meeting of North Area Council no decisions could be formally made. Therefore, any conclusions drawn from discussion would have to be formally accepted by the next quorate meeting. It was suggested that an additional meeting be called, subject to the availability of Members, in order to do this.

2. **Minutes from the North Area Council meeting held on 22nd July, 2013.**

It was noted that clarity had been sought on the financial discrepancies relating to hanging baskets and errors had been rectified.

Relating to actions within the previous minutes, it was suggested that a future meeting of the Area Council may want to consider the availability of external funding. In addition it was thought useful to also consider the legalities around the establishment of relevant bodies such as charitable trusts or social enterprises.

RECOMMENDATION:- that the minutes of the North Area Council meeting, held on 22nd July, 2013, be agreed as a true and correct record.

3. **Notes from the Ward Alliances.**

The meeting accepted the notes from the Ward Alliances. No Member wished to raise any issue for further discussion at the Area Council.

RECOMMENDATION:- that the notes from the Ward Alliances be received.

4. **Community representatives on the Ward Alliances.**

The meeting received a report seeking approval for a number of individuals to act as community representatives on Ward Alliances within the North Area, as recommended by Elected Members from that ward. In addition to those contained within the report, it was noted that Darton West had proposed another member for approval.

Therefore the individuals proposed were as follows:-

Darton East Ward Alliance:

- Pauline Brook
- Sandra De Donno

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- Marilyn Gittner
- David Oates

Darton West Ward Alliance:

- Lesley Warden
- Dominic McCall
- Mary Elliott
- Liz Lunn

Old Town Ward Alliance

- Dorothy Hayes
- John Love
- Pamela Todd
- Dennis Barry
- Bill Gaunt
- Malcolm Wood
- Michelle Cooper
- Kirsty Summerfield
- Zbigniew Zaremba
- Roya Pouralli

St Helen's Ward Alliance

- Freda Stretton
- Madge Busby
- Jacqueline Hardcastle
- John Hallows
- Clyde Black
- David Gammon
- Ruth Gammon
- Carl Yeates
- Kathleen Bostwick
- Molly Scolah

RECOMMENDATION:- That the proposed individuals are appointed as community representatives on the relevant Ward Alliance for the remainder of the municipal year.

5. **Nomination of a representative to the Local Development Framework (LDF) group.**

The meeting heard of the election process which had been undertaken to arrive at a representative of North Area Council to attend the LDF group. It was noted that Members had expressed a preference for Cllr Tattersall.

RECOMMENDATION:- that Cllr Tattersall acts as representative of North Area Council on the LDF group.

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6. Report on the use of Devolved Ward Budget and Ward Alliance Fund.

The report was presented by the North Area Council Manager. It highlighted expenditure relating to the Devolved Ward Budget and Ward Alliance Fund from April-August 2013.

It was suggested that Members may want to look to accelerate progress in allocating finance, in order to ensure that projects were completed before the end of the financial year.

Some discussion took place about the proposed Private Thornton memorial and it was agreed that Darton East and Darton West Members meet to discuss this outside the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:- That the report be noted.

7. Update on the indicative priorities for North Area Council - summary of priority workshops

Thanks was given to all Members who had attended the workshops to further discuss the priorities for North Area Council. The workshops sought to further discuss the indicative priorities in more detail, focusing on the challenges faced, acknowledge existing provision and indentifying any gaps in provision.

The North Area Council Manager gave a presentation, as seen at appendix B, which summarised discussion at the workshops. This was supported by a report previously circulated and included at appendix A.

Members were reminded of the previous presentation provided at the July meeting, which highlighted demographic information for the area and which also the Corporate Priorities and associated outcomes of the authority.

The first workshop had considered health and wellbeing and had suggested such interventions as:-

- Community grow projects
- Improving emotional wellbeing through community involvement and volunteering
- Financial management and budgeting advice
- Provision of skills for work
- Food bank network
- Enabling people to stay at home longer
- Community navigators

The second workshop considered youth provision. It was noted that under the current 'hub and spoke' model, the Kat's Whiskers was to be the hub for the North Area. Discussion focused on what could add value to current provision and the following areas were put forward:-

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- Health and wellbeing awareness
- Active citizenship including volunteering

The health implications of poor standards of housing were also raised, specifically relating to children and young people. It was suggested that this may be one of the areas that the Area Council wishes to scrutinise performance of in future.

The meeting noted that a discussion focusing on regeneration and economic development had taken place and a health check of economic and social centres and of industrial estates within the North Area had been suggested. This was to be done with a view on recommending some interventions which could add value.

At the meeting Members received further information from the Development, Environment and Culture directorate and were asked to provide comment . It was suggested that high street committees would be useful in providing ideas to improve the viability of centres. It was noted that further investigation was required to understand what interventions were possible and plausible.

The workshop to consider anti-poverty noted that a strategy and action plan had been developed by the Anti-Poverty Board and a number of actions were being taken forward. In order to add value to this the following were suggested:-

- Getting people into employment
- Financial management and budgeting advice
- Enable more volunteers to support people with task including IT skills, completion of forms and signposting.

In addition to the above, Members suggested that access to transport may be an important factor in the poverty within the area.

The Chair summarised the discussion on this item and concluded that a number of key themes were emerging as follows:-

- Volunteering - in a variety of settings and for a variety of reasons;
- Financial management;
- Access to employment;
- Economic and social regeneration.

The meeting acknowledged that all of the above would contribute to helping improve health and wellbeing.

In moving forward to commissioning, it was suggested that a smaller number of larger scale projects may be preferable in order to avoid the complexity of managing a large number of small projects. However, it was acknowledged that larger projects may be more complex to commission and procure.

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A copy of the draft Area Plan leaflet was then circulated and it was reinforced that the document will provide a rationale for the commissioning decisions of the Area Council.

Members were asked to provide comments on content and style. It was noted that the final version will be easy to read with an attractive 'glossy' format.

RECOMMENDATION:-

- (i) that the areas proposed are taken forward as priorities for North Area Council
- (ii) that the key themes emerging are further developed as potential areas for investment.

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Appendix A

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

**Meeting:
22nd July, 2013**

Agenda Item: 7

**Report of North Area Council
Manager**

Summary of Priority Workshops

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To enable the North Area Council to rationalise the Ward Priorities in order to identify which are suitable for budget investment by the Area Council.

2. Recommendation

- 2.2 That the North Area Council receives the report in order to inform the decision making process for the North Area priorities.

3 Introduction

- 3.3 At an earlier meeting Members of the North Area Council were asked to identify priorities for each of the four Ward within the geographic area. At the last Area Council Meeting on the 22 July it was agreed that a series of workshops would be held to investigate if value could be added by commissioning services in the following areas: Health and Wellbeing, Youth Provision, Regeneration and Anti-Poverty. This report aims to summarise the key finding from the workshops that will assist in the identification of priorities for the Area Plan.

4 Key Consideration

- 4.1 It is important to note that the spend of the Area Council Devolved Budget is intended to commission services which will address the corporate priorities:

- Growing the economy
- Changing the relationship between the council and the community
- Improving people's potential and achievement

- 4.2 BMBC has also identified 18 outcomes linked to priorities which should help to inform decision making at Area Council level. These have been previously discussed by the Area Council and are attached as Appendix 1.

5 Summary of Key Findings from Priority Workshops

- 5.1 On the Monday 2nd September a workshop was delivered on Health and Wellbeing. During which the attendees received information regarding average life expectancy

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in the area, causes of death and risk factors affecting health. Information was also received on Welfare Reform and the number of clients receiving care via Adult Social Care. In discussion the following potential priority areas were identified:

- 1) Community Grow Projects
- 2) Improving emotional wellbeing through community involvement and volunteering
- 3) Financial Management and budgeting advice
- 4) Provision of Skills for Work
- 5) Food Bank Network
- 6) Enabling people to stay at home longer
- 7) Community Navigators

5.2 On Wednesday 4th September a workshop was delivered on Youth Provision. Information was received on creating a Sustainable Integrated Youth Support Service for the borough, including: Open Access Services, Target Youth Support Services and Youth Justice Services and an explanation regarding the area based hub and spoke model. The following potential priority areas were identified:

- 1) Health and Wellbeing Awareness
- 2) Active Citizenship inc. Volunteering

A project proposal has been requested from the Sustainable Integrated Youth Support Service, for receipt in time for the Area Council Meeting on the 23rd September. It was also recognised that a mapping exercise might be required in the area to determine the extent of available provision in the voluntary and community sector that might be able to support this agenda as the Integrated Youth Support Service moves more into an enabling role.

5.3 On Monday 9th September the Chair and Area Council Manager met with an Assistant Director of Development, Environment and Culture who explained that his directorate included: Planning, Housing, Economic Development and Regeneration. A discussion took place which included the following areas: Enterprising Barnsley, targeted business coaching, encouraging apprenticeship programmes, youth enterprise initiatives and establishing high street committees. It was agreed that further information was required to enable an evidence based approach.

An outline project proposal has been requested for an assessment (health check) of the economic and social centres including the high streets and industrial estates in the North Area. This should outline who could undertake this piece of work, how they would complete it and how much it would cost. The information collated should enable an 'Economic Improvement Plan' for the North Area to be drawn up to identify how Area Council funding could be used to add value in relation to economic development. The project proposal has been requested in time for the Area Council Meeting on the 23rd September.

5.34 On Wednesday 11th September a workshop was delivered on the subject of Anti-Poverty. The Child Poverty Action Groups (CPAG) definition of Poverty - 'poverty is not simply about being on a low income and going without – it is also about being denied power, respect, good health, education, and housing, basic self-esteem and the ability to participate in social activities'. The Anti-Poverty Strategy aims to make poverty everyone's business. It's core messages are: Promoting employment,

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Protecting the Vulnerable and Fostering Independence. Further information was provided on what poverty looks like for Barnsley and what local resources already exist. It was recommended that due to changes resulting from Welfare Reform that mapping of local needs should be completed and current provision investigated to highlight 'real time' gaps and identify need. This would then allow for evidence based intervention and provision to be commissioned.

The following priorities were identified:

- 1) Getting people into employment
- 2) Financial Management and Budgeting advice
- 3) Enable more volunteers to support people with task including IT skills, completion of forms and signposting.

6 Appendices

- Appendix 1 - Please find attached BMBCs Corporate 18 Outcomes

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Tel. No:
01226 773583

Date:
September 2013.

NORTH AREA COUNCIL**23rd September, 2013****Appendix 1****Barnsley, a Borough that works to.....**

In order to achieve these priorities we have set out 18 outcome statements. These statements help to explain most of what we do and provide focus on how we will progress and achieve.

Priority	We will work to.....
	1. Create the conditions for economic growth and greater prosperity
	2. Create more jobs and businesses through appropriate provision of business, enterprise and employment programmes
	3. Reduce worklessness amongst those currently unemployed and increase skills levels of our current and future workforce
	4. Develop a vibrant Town Centre
	5. Prioritise the economic renewal of Goldthorpe and the wider Dearne area
	6. Significantly strengthen our visitor economy by further developing our key cultural assets and events
	7. Improve the quality of learning and leadership in schools to support better educational attainment levels
	8. Ensure high quality partners are engaged in our new relationship with schools
	9. Target young people, families and communities who may need extra help in gaining the skills and experience they need to succeed
	10. Prioritise the safeguarding of vulnerable children and adults, and ensure that the risk of them getting harmed is kept to an absolute minimum
	11. Make the improvement of people's health and wellbeing everybody's business, with an emphasis on prevention and the contribution that all services can make
	12. Prioritise the reduction of health inequalities between different parts of the Borough and the Borough and the rest of the country
	13. Ensure that the Council plays a strong part in keeping the Borough safe and work with others to improve community safety
	14. Ensure people of all ages have a much greater involvement in designing services and actively participating in improving their lives and Barnsley
	15. Support the many benefits of volunteering and foster our many and diverse opportunities for residents to gain new skills and experiences through volunteering
	16. Ensure customer services and the citizen experience of access is improved – we are a successful customer service organisation and our plans facilitate greater self-help
	17. Engage local communities in helping them shape the decisions and services in their neighbourhood
	18. Ensure the Council operates fairly and demonstrates total commitment to equalities in policy and practice

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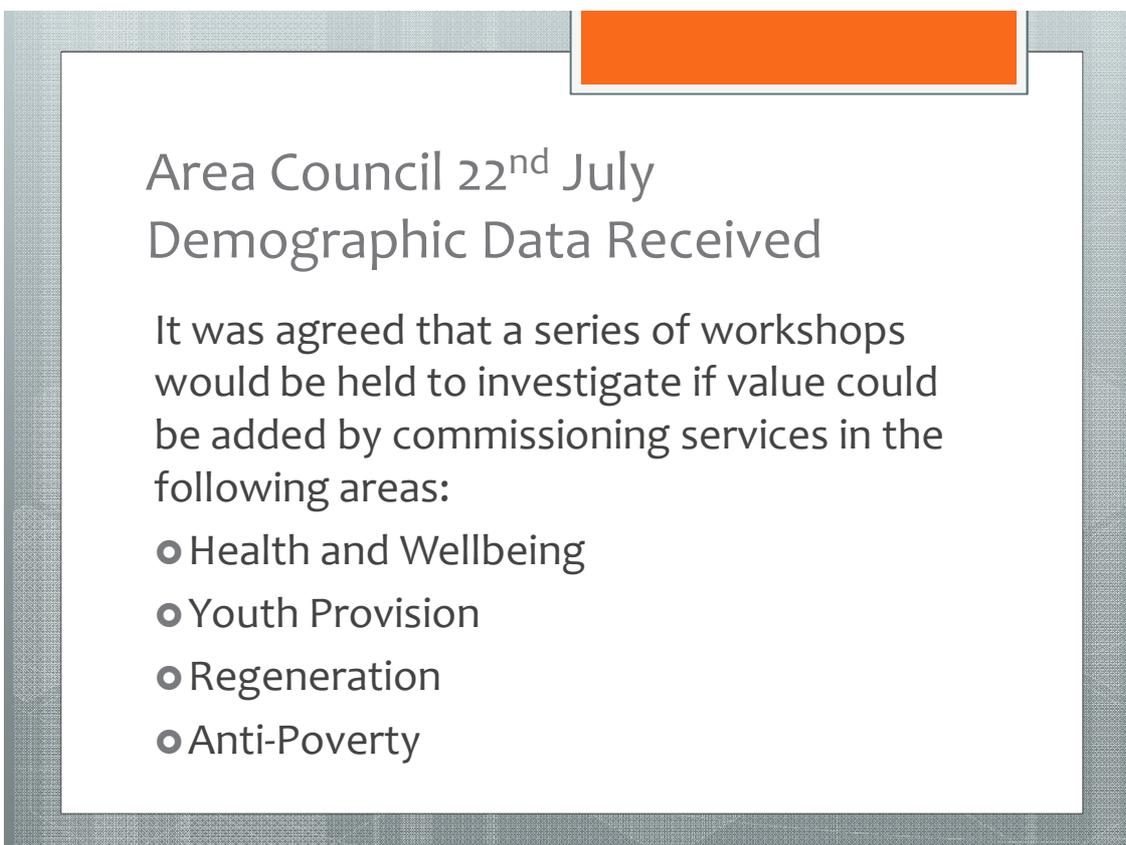
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Appendix B



Summary of
Priority
Workshops

North Area Council
23rd September 2013



Area Council 22nd July
Demographic Data Received

It was agreed that a series of workshops would be held to investigate if value could be added by commissioning services in the following areas:

- Health and Wellbeing
- Youth Provision
- Regeneration
- Anti-Poverty

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Addressing Corporate Priorities

By commissioning services with the Area Council Devolved Budget:

- Growing the economy
- Changing the relationship between the council and the community
- Improving people's potential and achievement

NB - BMBC has also identified 18 outcomes linked to priorities which should help to inform decision making at Area Council level.

Health and Wellbeing Workshop – 2nd September

The following potential priority areas were identified:

1. Community Grow Projects
2. Improving emotional wellbeing through community involvement and volunteering
3. Financial Management and budgeting advice
4. Provision of Skills for Work
5. Food Bank Network
6. Enabling people to stay at home longer
7. Community Navigators

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Youth Provision Workshop 4th September

Information was received on creating a Sustainable Integrated Youth Support Service for the borough, including: Open Access Services, Target Youth Support Services and Youth Justice Services and an explanation regarding the area based hub and spoke model.

The following potential priority areas were identified:

1. Health and Wellbeing Awareness
2. Active Citizenship inc. Volunteering

Regeneration & Economic Development Discussion - 9th September

An outline project proposal has been requested for an assessment (health check) of the economic and social centres including the high streets and industrial estates in the North Area.

The information collated should enable an 'Economic Improvement Plan' for the North Area to be drawn up to identify how Area Council funding could be used to add value in relation to economic development.

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Anti-Poverty Workshop 11th September

The following priorities were identified:

1. Getting people into employment
2. Financial Management and Budgeting advice
3. Enable more volunteers to support people with task including IT skills, completion of forms and signposting.

Recommendation

That the information received in Agenda Item 7 – Summary of Priority Workshops Report, summarised in this presentation, is considered by representatives of the North Area Council in order to inform decision making in relation to local area priorities.