

NORTH AREA COUNCIL

31st March, 2014

BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

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41. **Present:** Councillors Burgess (Chair), Cave, Cherryholme, Duerden, Howard, Leech, Platts, Spence and Tattersall.

42. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non Pecuniary Interests

No member wished to declare any pecuniary or non pecuniary interests.

43. Minutes from the North Area Council meeting held on 3rd February, 2014

The meeting considered the minutes from the previous meeting of North Area Council, held on 3rd February, 2014.

RESOLVED:- that the minutes of North Area Council, held on 3rd February, 2014 be approved as a true and correct record.

44. Notes from the Ward Alliances and nominations for Community Representatives

Members considered the notes from Darton East, Darton West, Old Town and St. Helen's Ward Alliances held in January, February and March of 2014.

The meeting noted that Darton West Members had hosted a successful event, presenting awards to those in their community who had made a positive contribution.

It was noted that the Old Town Ward Alliance had recently held a successful meeting, with much progress including the allocation of funds.

Members heard that St. Helen's Ward Alliance now had elected a treasurer and secretary.

It was noted that a review of area governance arrangements, which would include Ward Alliances, would commence shortly. This would include a self assessment with Ward Alliances as a group.

The meeting then considered the individuals being proposed to act as Community Representatives on the Ward Alliances and all were agreed.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the notes from the Ward Alliances be received;
- (ii) that the individuals proposed be approved as Community Representatives on the respective Ward Alliances.

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

The meeting noted the standard report, detailing the levels of expenditure to date which also corresponded with the end of the year. Confirmation was given that all unallocated expenditure would be carried forward to 2014/15.

The meeting was made aware that forms relating to the Ward Alliance Fund were currently being reviewed. This would help to ensure they were user friendly for applicants, and that projects showed their contribution to the delivery of the relevant Ward Plan. In addition the collation of monitoring information was also being revised.

RESOLVED: - that the report on the use of Devolved Ward Budget and Ward Alliance Fund be received.

46. North Area Council update on priorities and commissioning

The Lead Locality Officer introduced the report. Referred to was a proposal to establish a series of working groups aligned to each of the priorities of the North Area Council. It was suggested that each working group would be open for all Members to attend, but would have one Member from each Ward who would take the lead on behalf of their Ward, and develop a greater understanding of the priority and any proposed intervention.

Discussion resulted in the following being proposed:-

Youth Provision - Cllrs Burgess, Tattersall and Duerden (Old Town Member to be confirmed)

Health and Wellbeing - Cllrs Platts, Cave and Spence (Old Town Member to be confirmed)

Environment - Cllrs Tattersall, Spence and Howard (Old Town Member to be confirmed)

Anti-Poverty - Cherryholme, Burgess, Leech and Miller

Members discussed involvement in the tender evaluation process. It was noted that there was no requirement for Members to be involved in Tender Evaluation Panels, and given the complexity of the process, it was suggested that this task be solely that of officers.

Youth Provision

The meeting noted that the tender exercise for the Youth Employability specification was due to be concluded shortly, and would be the first project from any Area Council to go live. Thanks were given for the contribution of officers and Members to progress the project to this stage.

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Healthy eating

The meeting considered the procurement strategy and specification of requirements for the 'Healthy Eating, Healthy Lifestyles Project'. It was agreed to amend the indicative split between the two elements of the project in the specification:- Cook and Eat in the Community; and Nutritional Health and Social Engagement from a 60%/40% split to give an equal weighting of 50%/50%.

In addition, following the experience in evaluating tenders for the Youth Employability project, it was also agreed to amend the weighting within the procurement strategy to place more importance on the interview stage. It was agreed to increase this from 10% to 30% with corresponding reductions in social value from 25% to 20% and technical capacity from 60% to 45%.

It was also suggested that the outcomes within the specification were over prescriptive and would be difficult to evidence; such as the reduction in BMI or cholesterol of participants. It was therefore agreed to reconsider these prior to procurement in order to ensure they were appropriate.

With the caveats above, the specification of requirements and procurement strategy for the project were approved.

Environment

The meeting considered the supplementary report for this item, which detailed proposals for an enhanced enforcement service. The specification of requirements proposed 4 enforcement officers for the North Area, specifically focused on littering, parking and dog fouling at a cost of approximately £100,000 for a year. This would be supported through a service level agreement with the Community Safety Service which would provide equipment, training, administration and other support costs at a cost of £28,000.

It was noted that finance associated with fixed penalty notices would be received by the Area Council for re-investment. Clarity would be sought about how this could be used.

The meeting was supportive of the proposal though it was suggested that monthly reports produced should also feed into the Area Council as part of monitoring arrangements.

Concern was also expressed around how this initiative would be communicated and promoted to residents as the scheme was likely to be high profile. It was noted that careful consideration should be given to this, and it was suggested that the Chair discusses this with relevant officers in Communications.

Anti-Poverty

Following the approvals made, it was noted that there would be approximately £127,000 of Area Council finance in 2014/15 left to allocate. It was agreed that the

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next priority to consider for commissioning would be Anti-Poverty. To progress this it was agreed to hold a detailed workshop with Andrea Hoyland, the Child Poverty & Family Support Strategy Programme Manager. This would consider the range of support already available, and discuss where gaps in provision occurred, and where support could potentially be given by the Area Council.

Members were encouraged to forward their availability to the Area Manager or Lead Locality Officer in order to arrange the session.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the progress in taking forward the North Area Council priorities be noted;
- (ii) that, subject to the amendments highlighted, the specification of requirements and procurement strategy for 'Healthy Eating, Healthy Lifestyles Project' be approved, to a value of £100,000 over a 12-18 month period, and with a price/quality split of 20%/80% in favour of quality;
- (iii) that, subject to the amendments highlighted, the specification of requirements for 'Environmental Enforcement' be approved, to a value of £100,000 for 12 months with a break option after 6 months, and with final approval of the Procurement Strategy and Price/Quality split delegated to the Assistant Director Neighbourhoods, Access and Support, following consultation with members, including the Area Chair;
- (iv) that the Service Level Agreement with the Community Safety Service to support the 'Environment Enforcement' project' be approved to a value of £28,000;
- (v) that a workshop be arranged to discuss the Anti-Poverty priority in more detail.

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Chair