

**BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**SOUTH AREA COUNCIL**

**20<sup>th</sup> December, 2013**

26. **Present:** Councillors Stowe (Chair), Andrews, Dures, Franklin, Frost, Markham, Morgan, Saunders, Shepherd and R. Wraith.

27. **Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests**

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

28. **Minutes of the meeting of South Area Council, held on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2013**

The minutes of the previous meeting of South Area Council were accepted as a true and correct record.

29. **Notes of previous Ward Alliance meetings**

Members received the notes from the most recent Ward Alliance meetings, held in the area in October and November 2013.

Hoyland Milton/Rockingham, held on 1st October, 2013; Wombwell, held on 28th October, 2013; and Darfield, held on 14th November, 2013.

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

30. **Report on the use of devolved ward budgets**

Members considered a report on spend to date from devolved ward budgets within the South area. No member wished to raise any issues regarding the report.

**RESOLVED:** - that the report on devolved ward budgets be noted.

31. **Health Inequalities**

Steve Turnbull, Assistant Director Public Health, introduced the item, referring to the transfer of Public Health to the Council in April 2013 and the desire for the team to build links with the Area Councils.

It was noted that Health Inequality Profiles had been developed for each Area Council area and for each Ward. Feedback was encouraged on the format of both.

The meeting considered the causes of death in the South Area, which reflected those of the borough; cancer and cardio-vascular diseases. Also considered were factors associated with lifestyle choice which contributed to the high prevalence of these, such as smoking; high blood pressure; high cholesterol; obesity; low fruit and vegetable intake; and physical inactivity.

The meeting considered how the priorities of South Area Council, whilst not having a direct focus on health, might contribute to by addressing the wider determinants of health.

Members discussed the need for a proactive, locally based approach to improving health, rather than relying on referrals from GPs. It was noted that the Ward Alliances are considering how they might work to improve health; for example through walking and cycling groups. However, it was recognised that levels of cycling do improve when the relevant physical infrastructure is in place.

It was noted that the Area Council could also assist in disseminating information and publicising health improvement campaigns.

32. **Barnsley Economic Strategy**

Unfortunately Mark Lynam, Head of Regeneration, was unavailable to attend. Therefore it was agreed to request that an updated presentation be received at the February 2014 meeting of the Area Council.

**RESOLVED:-** that the South Area Council receives an updated version of the Barnsley Economy Strategy presentation at its next meeting.

33. **Commissioning and Procurement**

The meeting welcomed Karen Temple and Sharon Bradley to give a presentation on Commissioning and Procurement.

Members considered the cycle of procurement and noted the buying rules in place to protect both the council and suppliers.

Declarations of interests were discussed, especially in the light of many Members knowing suppliers. It was suggested that Members bring to light any potential issue in order that advice could be provided.

The potential of larger contracts across multiple area councils was also considered and the potential economies of scale. It was noted that the Area Chairs were meeting in early 2014 to discuss where common priorities exist.

Buying rules and thresholds were discussed and the opportunities to utilise waivers when appropriate. It was noted that thresholds were likely to increase in the new year and that the council now required that

procurement under EU thresholds include 2 out of 3 quotations to be from local businesses.

The meeting discussed contract management, including pre-contact works such as agreeing scoring mechanisms and outcomes. Also discussed were performance monitoring and change management within the contract.

The need to adhere to procedures when the contract concluded was noted, including a project close down meeting and evaluation.

Members discussed the need to encourage Barnsley businesses to be on the list of suppliers and the need to reduce bureaucracy where possible to encourage small business and social enterprise to bid for tenders.

Insurance requirements were briefly considered and it was noted that council's policy on levels of personal injury insurance is now flexible so as to be proportionate to the contract.

Members acknowledged that commissioning was new to the function of a Area Teams and that there would be a period of learning as tendering processes were conducted for the first time.

34. **Area Plan Progress**

**Local Supported Pre-employment Programme proposal**

The item was introduced by Phil Hollingsworth, noting progress which had been made by the working group developing the proposal. This aimed to address the numbers of young people who remained Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) at ages 18 and over.

The proposal aimed to provide a programme of support and guidance from a number of agencies, with a work placement tailored to meet the needs of the person taking part.

Members noted the themes suggested, which linked work experience with emerging business opportunities such as retailing; warehousing, distribution; caring; working with children amongst others.

It was acknowledged that the proposal required further development and therefore the meeting agreed that the working group convene to do so.

**Local Information and Guidance 'One Stop Shop' proposal**

The meeting noted the progression the second working group had made in developing a proposal and that this had been in collaboration with North and Dearne Area Council, which had identified similar needs in their area. However, it was acknowledged that the South Area Council required the end outcome to be bespoke to the needs of the Area.

The proposal aimed to address the need for support services within the area, including that for welfare rights, housing related support, debt advice and money management support.

Members discussed the need for proposals to be tailored to the needs of, and to be complementary to, existing services already provided within the South Area. It was noted that these could differ greatly from the North and Dearne Areas.

Noting that the proposal was still at an early stage of development, it was agreed that proposals required further work. Input from all members, either via the working group or by providing comments via email was encouraged.

**Resolved:-**

- (i) that the working groups reconvene to further develop the proposals;
- (ii) that all South Area Council Members are invited to input into the working groups to develop the proposals.

35. **Appointment of community representatives to the Ward Alliances**

The meeting received a report putting forward individuals to act as community representatives on the Darfield and Hoyland Milton & Rockingham Ward Alliances.

**RESOLVED:-** that the individuals proposed be approved to act as community representatives on the respective Ward Alliances.

36. **Venue for the next meeting**

Previously it had been agreed to rotate venues for Area Council meetings within the South area, therefore it was agreed to hold the next meeting in the LIFT centre in Hoyland.

**Resolved:-** that the February meeting of the Area Council be held in the Hoyland Lift Centre.

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Chair