

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

South Area Council Meeting:

27th February 2015

Agenda Item: 6b

**Report of South Area Council
Manager.**

**South Area Council Performance Report – Performance of borough-wide services
delivered locally**

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 This report outlines the performance management and improvement role of Area Councils in relation to area based and boroughwide services provided locally.

1.2 This report asks for the South Area Council to discuss and consider in more detail the service areas which it wishes to performance monitor in more detail at a local level.

2. Recommendation

It is recommended that:

2.1 Members agree on the service area/s they would wish to initially prioritise as part of a South Area Council performance monitoring programme from 1st April 2015 onwards.

2.2 Members approve the process for performance monitoring of services outlined in Section 4 of this report.

2.3 Members note the diagram which outlines the two main strands of performance management work to be undertaken by the South Area Council.

3. Introduction & context

3.1 This report is set within the context of decisions made on the way the Council is structured to conduct business at Area / Ward / Neighbourhood levels, as agreed in the following Cabinet reports: Cab.13.2.2012/6; Cab.16.1.2013/10.3; Cab.13.2.2013/9; Cab.8.5.2013/7.1; Cab.22.10.2014/8.1

3.2 Subsequently the South Area Council agreed to the revised Terms of Reference at its meeting on 19th December 2014. Please refer to Appendix 1.

3.3 Since the South Area Council was established, a number of the functions outlined in the Area Council's Terms of reference have been effectively undertaken and the identification of priorities and subsequent procurement has been prioritised.

3.4 Looking forward it will be necessary for the South Area Council to consider how the Area Council's other functions will be conducted.

3.5 A number of neighbouring Area Councils have also identified the need to challenge performance. A paper circulated at the Central Area Council in May 2014 has prompted the writing of a report which details the framework that will enable some of these roles to be realised and the production of a diagram outlining the two main performance management roles of the Area Councils which is attached at Appendix 2.

3.6 The ensuing roles for the South Area Council were discussed at its meeting in September 2014, but it was decided to defer the decision about service areas it wished to consider until nearer the start time of 1st April, 2015. This paper reintroduces this discussion to allow a decision to be made.

3.7 The diagram at Appendix 2 also shows the role of the Area Council in relation to its existing performance management of its commissioned projects, which is outlined in the red column.

**4. Proposed South Area Council Performance Monitoring processes for Area Based Services/Boroughwide services (both Council and other) delivered locally:
(Refer to blue column on Diagram at Appendix 2)**

Steps 1 & 2

- A shortlist of services to be considered (both Council and other services) to be agreed at a meeting of South Area Council at its meeting on 27th February, 2015.
- A scope for the process for each of the chosen services to be brought to the meeting of the South Area Council on 24th April, 2015 for discussion and approval, which will include the establishment of a Local Service Delivery Panel for each service area identified.

Steps 4 & 5

- A South Area Council member from each ward should be invited to participate in each of the identified Local Service Delivery Panels. The Service Delivery Panel will also include the South Area Council Manager and a Performance and Partnerships representative.
- To ensure all members of the Local Service Delivery Panel have all the necessary information required to participate effectively in the
- Local Service Delivery Workshop with the identified Service, a detailed briefing meeting will be held.

Step 6

- The outcome of each Local Service Delivery Workshop with any associated issues for attention or action/improvement plan or subsequent work, will be reported into South Area Council as part of an overall South Area Council Performance Management agenda item. This would include any reference to the Overview and Scrutiny Committees where strategic or policy issues are raised.

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Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Revised Area Council Terms of Reference

Appendix 2 – Diagram outlining the Area Council's two main strands of performance management

APPENDIX 1

**AREA COUNCILS – TERMS OF REFERENCE AND MEETINGS PRACTICE
(Revised October 2014 and received by South Area Council December 2014)**

- To use data and intelligence to arrive at and agree local priorities for the Area, which comprises a number of Electoral Wards, as defined by Full Council.
- To approve the Area Plan.
- To approve the allocation of the Area Budget and the commissioning of services from the Area Budget to support Area Plan priorities.
- To monitor the performance of services commissioned from the Area Budget in relation to the Area Council's priorities and desired objectives/outcomes.
- To influence the planning of internal and external services provided on a Borough-wide basis.
- To request reports as appropriate on area-based service activity from internal or external providers.
- To consider local issues identified by Members about the delivery of area-based services and those Borough-wide services provided locally, and identify issues for attention or action, including reference to the Overview and Scrutiny Committees where strategic or policy issues are raised.
- To consider Councillor Calls for Action that would not more appropriately dealt with by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- • To provide a reference point for local consultation and the increase of public engagement.
- To receive notes or reports of the proceedings of Ward Alliances within the area, as appropriate.
- To receive reports on decisions made in relation to the Devolved Ward Budgets, Ward Alliance Funds and other funding pertaining to the area.
- To make recommendations to the Council, Cabinet or the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on relevant matters relating to the area in question.
- To consider any matters relating to the area in question that might be referred to them by the Council, Cabinet or the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- To appoint a Member of the Area Council to represent the interests of the area on consultative or advisory bodies
- To establish sub-groups, working groups or workshops to discuss issues in more detail and report back to the Area Council.
- To work collaboratively with other Area Councils, sharing best practice and taking advantage of economies of scale where appropriate.

APPENDIX 2

SOUTH AREA COUNCIL PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

