

<b>MEETING:</b>	North Area Council
<b>DATE:</b>	Monday, 22 January 2018
<b>TIME:</b>	10.00 am
<b>VENUE:</b>	Meeting Room 5, Barnsley Town Hall

## MINUTES

### Present

Councillors Leech (Chair), Cave, Charlesworth, Howard, Lofts, Miller, Platts, Spence and Tattersall

### 30 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

The Chair informed Members that sadly, Paul Jolley, Community Development Officer for the North East Area Council had recently passed away. A one minute silence was held as a mark of respect.

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

### 31 Minutes of the North Area Council meeting held on 20th November 2017

The Area Council received the minutes of the previous meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2017.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the North Area Council meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2017 be approved as a true and correct record.

### 32 Safer Neighbourhoods Service Update - Paul Brannan

Paul Brannan and Zoe Wardle attended the meeting to give an update with regard to the Safer Neighbourhood Services. Full contact details and details of the referral process will be provided in due course.

It was explained that the Neighbourhood Policing Offer has been refreshed in order to align resources and capacity between South Yorkshire Police and BMBC primarily to address community safety issues and concerns across the borough. Four locality teams are now coterminous with the Area Council teams and there is an additional bespoke town centre team, based at Churchfields Police Station. A triage and assessment system has been introduced, looking at how to better manage demand. The service is 7 days per week in order to address issues in real time, with a multi-disciplinary team of officers with the skills to investigate higher priority issues and problems referred in to the service.

Issues covered include addressing aspects of antisocial behaviour, tenancy breaches, tenancy and landlord issues, planning breaches, homelessness, welfare advice, environmental crime, direct witness support to victims, unauthorised and/or illegal gypsy and traveller encampments, community cohesion, extremist behaviour hate and harassment, access to services and supporting staff or elected members who may have been assaulted.

The service has a priority inbox, with referrals analysed and allocated. Early action is crucial, as prevention in the first place prevents escalation. Up to December the service was involved in issuing 450 warnings, 103 community protection written warnings, 44 community protection notices, S215 notices for environmental blighting, 2000 FPNs for littering and dog fouling, 8 notices seeking possession, 8 closure orders (higher than previously), and 17 civil injunctions. Environmental crime is particularly challenging – of the 470 incidences of fly tipping, only a small number will lead to prosecution. Formal action is being pursued against 8 of the ‘top 10’ but there is a need to manage expectations. It was pointed out that the Council is not responsible for cleaning up on private land and can only do this when the property belongs to BMBC. The service works with landowners and landlords but often it is not their fault.

In the ensuing discussion, and in response to detailed questioning, the following matters were highlighted:

Members expressed concern regarding the lack of a visible police presence and were informed that a successful recruitment drive had taken place recently, although how and where officers will be allocated across Barnsley is not yet known. Special (Volunteer) Constables are used where appropriate.

Members were advised that Paul Brannan could be contacted directly regarding significant issues if Members felt that it was not appropriate to email the generic email inbox.

**RESOLVED** that: Paul and Zoe be thanked for their attendance and contribution and the update report be noted.

### **33 Preventing Excess Winter Deaths, Warm Homes Fund Bid Round 2 - Jenny Macphail**

Jenny Macphail, Senior Health and Improvement Officer, attended the meeting to give an update with regard to the Preventing Excess Winter Deaths (EWDs), Warm Homes Fund Bid Round 2.

A paper was circulated which gave a comprehensive background to the issue. It was highlighted that most excess winter deaths occur in over 65s and can be due to a number of socio-economic risk factors including fuel poverty, underlying health conditions, housing tenure, housing conditions and personal and social behaviours. The target is to reduce EWDs to 15% by 2020, as Barnsley's figure is currently higher than the national average. There is a full EWD plan, which looks at uptake of flu vaccination, falls prevention, winter planning and urgent care, awareness raising and communications work. This is a key priority for the Council and partners. EWDs are costly to the NHS – one EWD equates to around 100 GP visits and also impacts on hospital admissions.

It was explained that there is a link between cold homes and fuel poverty and that there is a risk of death and ill health associated with living in a cold home. Those most at risk include over 65s with health conditions, 0 to 5 year olds, pregnant women, those with asthma, cardio vascular disease, mental health conditions, social isolation and low income. It was pointed out that private sector landlords are no longer be able to rent out properties to new tenants which have an Energy

Performance rating of F or G. The highest rate of EWDs occur in the Darton East and Worsborough wards, which does have a high proportion of private sector rented properties.

An expression of interest has been made to the Warm Homes Fund to provide a single point of access to advice and support around cold homes, integrated with wider services and linking into community and voluntary agencies across the Borough. A dedicated team will be on hand to visit residents and advise on issues such as switching energy providers and claiming benefits. The service will be promoted using a multi-pronged approach, including Facebook and attendance at community events etc.

**RESOLVED** that Jenny Macphail be thanked for her attendance and contribution.

### **34 Sport England Families Funding**

The Area Council Manager introduced this topic and provided Members with an introduction to Sport and Active Health's funding application to Sport England for their Families Fund. It was explained that the aim of the project is to increase participation in physical activities by families through behaviour change. The 3 year project will use the Family Centres as a hub, working closely with family centre staff to facilitate family multi-sport sessions. The project will be piloted at Athersley Family Centre. A member requested that Sue Duke is contacted regarding engagement of hard to reach families.

Tatt: aware that some families don't engage (Sue Duke will update)

**RESOLVED** that

- (i) The Area Council note the report, and
- (ii) Agree to provide match funding of approximately £5000 for this project if the application is successful in the bidding process to Sport England.

### **35 Preventing Excess Winter Deaths - Strategic Social Isolation Pilot North Area**

The Area Council Manager introduced this item and provided the Area Council with an introduction to Barnsley Council's intention to bid for the Warm Homes Fund Round Two (Preventing Excess Winter Deaths – Strategic Social Isolation Pilot - North Area). Members were made aware that this will provide the North Area with an opportunity to develop a reducing social isolation project with a housing and energy focus piloted in the North Area. This is a complementary project linked to the Warm Homes Fund and Woolley Colliery work and looking at social isolation.

The proposal is for an annual investment of £75,000 for at least three years to fund two social inclusion officers who would receive specialist training to offer home energy assessments and advice. The work would also include building a network of trained volunteers with knowledge of how to identify and address fuel poverty. This will ensure that there is active community capacity building within the community that will lead to increased resilience and leave a positive legacy once the project concludes.

**RESOLVED** that:

- (i) the Area Council should proceed, in principle, with a collaborative pilot project for the North Area that would focus on reducing loneliness and social isolation and preventing excess winter deaths, and
- (ii) The Area Manager be tasked with continuing to develop this piece of work.

### **36 Commissioning, Project Development and Finance update**

The Area Council Manager introduced this item and provided the Area Council with a financial position and forecast for expenditure based on the projects that have been proposed, highlighting the projects requiring significant financial commitment.

Members were updated with regard to the Anti-Poverty Community Outreach Project, the Clean and Green Service, Environmental Enforcement, Private Sector Housing Officer, Opportunities for Young People, Health and Wellbeing and the Stronger Communities Grant. A member highlighted that the National Youth Agency (NYA) may have a suitable role profile for the Youth Participation Worker.

The Area Council Manager highlighted that there is currently an underspend of £167,183 for 2017/18 which is due to factors beyond the Area Council's control, which were detailed within the report, plus receipt of recycled income. Risks noted

**RESOLVED** that:

- (i) The North Area Council note the existing budget position, current financial position and forecasted annual budget commitments together with the risks outlined within the report;
- (ii) The North Area Council note that contrary to previous information the North Area received a budget of £400,000 for the period 2017/18;
- (iii) Members note the position on the recruitment of the Private Sector Housing and Environment Officer;
- (iv) The Area Council Manager should proceed with the variation of the role profile for the Young Peoples Participation Worker.
- (v) The Area Council proceed with the development of the Health and Wellbeing Project focusing on Excess Winter Deaths
- (vi) The Area Council approve the annual commitments from April 2018, totalling £447,000, as detailed within the report.

### **37 Report on the use of Ward Alliance Funds**

The Area Council Manager updated Members with regard to the current financial position of the Ward Alliance budgets for 2017/18.

**RESOLVED** that:

- (i) Members note the current position of the Devolved Ward Budget and Ward Alliance funds and
- (ii) Each Ward prioritises the efficient expenditure of the Ward Alliance funds in line with the guidance on spend.

### **38 Notes from the North Area Ward Alliances**

The meeting received the notes from the Darton East Ward Alliance held on 14<sup>th</sup> November and 12<sup>th</sup> December, Darton West Ward Alliance held on 1<sup>st</sup> November and 6<sup>th</sup> December and St Helen's Ward Alliance held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2017.

Darton East – as printed.

Darton West – It was reported that the 'Stars of Darton' event is due to take place on 9<sup>th</sup> March in Barnsley Town Hall.

Old Town – It was reported that the goalposts lock had been cut, a number of gypsy travellers had been evicted due to breaking and entering and the lock now needs replacing. The Traffic Regulation Order issue is still ongoing and was discussed at the meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> January.

St Helens – as printed

The Area Council Manager reported that community magazines will continue to be printed twice per year, although some residents reported that they hadn't received a copy. This is being investigated. The gazebos have now been purchased and installed.

**RESOLVED** that the notes of the respective Ward Alliances be noted.

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Chair