

MEETING:	Central Area Council
DATE:	Monday, 12 November 2018
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Reception Room, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present

Councillors Riggs (Chair), D. Birkinshaw, P. Birkinshaw, Bowler, Bruff, G. Carr, Clarke, K. Dyson, M. Dyson, W. Johnson, Mitchell, Pourali, Williams and Wright

17. Declaration of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

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

18. Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Central Area Council held on 27th September, 2018 (Cen.12.11.2018/2)

The meeting received the minutes from the previous meeting of Central Area Council held on 27th September, 2018.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Central Area Council held on 27th September, 2018 be approved as a true and correct record.

19. Performance Management Report (Cen.12.11.2018/3)

The Area Council Manager presented a performance management report for quarter two, covering the period July to September, 2018.

Feedback was provided within the report for all services currently commissioned, with all being RAG rated for performance as 'Green'.

With regards to the contract for Environmental Enforcement it was noted that there had been a change in staff, and numbers of Fixed Penalty Notices had increased significantly on the previous quarter. There had also been a focus on dog fouling resulting in the issuing of 13 Fixed Penalty Notices.

Those present discussed the information circulated to Members by Keep Britain Tidy, and it was agreed for the Chair to consider this in more detail, bringing any recommendations back to the Area Council.

Members discussed the focus of Kingdom Security, and it was noted that the Area Council Manager had discussed with them the refocus on litter other than cigarette ends.

Discussion turned to the behaviour of Kingdom officers, and it was suggested that details of any behaviour that was of concern be forwarded to the Area Council Manager to discuss directly as part of contract management arrangements.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the report be noted;
- (ii) That the Chair considers information circulated by Keep Britain Tidy, and reports back to the Area Council.

20. Consideration of Boroughwide Services Delivered Locally - update (Cen.12.11.2018/4)

The item was introduced by the Area Council Manager, and Members were reminded that some time ago it had been suggested that a consideration exercise be undertaken with Berneslai Homes.

Members had previously been asked on which areas they would like the exercise to focus, and suggestions had been incorporated into the scope for the work.

In responding to the scope, colleagues at Berneslai Homes had produced a report, giving details of service delivery and performance targets.

The consideration panel met to consider the report, and a workshop was then held between the panel and Berneslai Homes staff. Feedback from the workshop was positive, with the background information, answers to questions, and information provided thought to be extremely useful. The meeting considered the next steps contained within the report.

Members raised concerns that the information subsequently provided detailing houses acquired by Berneslai Homes would be more useful if it went back further in time. It was noted that Berneslai Homes was undergoing a reorganisation and review, and that more accurate information could be provided subsequently.

Members noted plans for an Overview and Scrutiny workshop to be held in January 2019 to consider social housing across the borough.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That thanks be given to all Berneslai Homes officers and Members involved;
- (ii) That the feedback contained within the report be noted.

21. Procurement and Financial Update (Cen.12.11.2018/5)

Members were reminded of the priorities of Central Area Council and how these dovetailed with those of the Council.

Members' attention was drawn to the current situation with regards to contracts held and it was noted that the contract held by RVS would be reviewed in March, and if extended would finally cease on 31st March, 2020. It was also noted that the contract with YMCA was due to be reviewed in January, and if extended would also finally cease on 31st March, 2020.

Those present were reminded of previous approvals associated with a Private Rented Tenant Support service. It was noted that, following a second attempt at recruiting, a successful candidate was due to start in post imminently. The meeting discussed how the contract would be managed and it was stressed that although

employed as part of the Safer Neighbourhood Service, the resource was that of the Area Council.

Members discussed how the officer would identify new tenants, and it was acknowledged that the service had positive links with letting agents, and it was noted that Members were encouraged to supply intelligence.

In relation to the service to the Targeted Household Fly-tipping service it was noted that a formal recruitment exercise had been undertaken and the successful candidate was also due to start imminently. Members were reminded that a steering group for the service would be established to agree 'hot spot' areas to target.

Those present noted that the group emerging from the Homestart Home Visiting Service was still continuing to meet, led by two volunteers, and discussions were still ongoing to incorporate this into the work of Hope House Church.

An update was provided in relation to the procurement of a revised Clean and Green Service. The service was currently out to tender, and an evaluation panel was to be convened on 30th November, 2018, with a view to the successful bidder commencing the service from 1st April, 2019.

The Peri-Natal Emotional Wellbeing Volunteer Home Visiting Service had recently been out to tender, with the evaluation panel meeting on 9th November, 2018. A preferred contractor had been arrived at unanimously, and it was hoped that the service would commence in January, 2019. Members queried whether the service would take a family centred approach and reassurances were given that it would. Questions were also asked in relation to referrals from the midwifery service, and it was noted that the service was supportive, and had worked with the Area Council Manager to develop the proposal.

Members noted that the Environmental Enforcement Service was also out to tender, with a closing date of 19th November, 2019. Members acknowledged that this had been advertised as a combined tender with two other Area Councils, so as to be more attractive to potential contractors. It was noted that this would be awarded as a single contract but would be managed as three separate lots, individual to each Area Council. Members were reassured that the tender documentation stressed the need to focus on litter other than cigarette ends, and for flexible hours of patrolling.

In relation to the previously agreed Service Level Agreement with the Safer Neighbourhood Service to provide appropriate support to the organisation delivering the Environment Enforcement Service, it was noted that a further £5,000 was required per annum in order to lease a vehicle, which was unaccounted for in previous figures.

Members were reminded of the success of previous celebration and awards events hosted by Central Area Council, with a proposal that a similar event be held in early 2019. A suggestion was made for £5,000 to be allocated to the organisation of an event for 2019.

Members went on to consider the potential devolving of Area Council Finance to the Ward Alliances for use in 2019/20, with current levels of finance considered. In the

ensuing discussion the impact of Ward Alliance Funds was noted, and a suggestion was made to allocate £10,000 per ward as in previous years.

The Area Council Manager provided an overview of the current financial situation and that projected to 2021/22, taking into account contracts which could be extended and devolving of finance to Ward Alliance Funds in 2019/20. It was noted that in 2019/20 an underspend of around £115,000 was expected, but this could rise to around £135,000 when income from Fixed Penalty Notices was received.

The attention of Members was drawn to a proposal contained within the report to utilise projected underspend in the year 2019/20 by establishing a one off Wellbeing Fund for the Area Council. This would build on the success of the Working Together Fund and the Youth Resilience Fund to deliver Central Area Council priorities. It was also suggested that the fund would also help to build the capacity of small businesses, voluntary and community groups and social enterprises.

It was noted that Public Health was also looking to provide finance to improve wellbeing and it was suggested that the fund be combined for more efficient distribution. The Area Council Manager agreed to provide further information on the Public Health finance when this was available. It was expected that this would be allocated based on deprivation. Members stressed the need for any fund to respond to the Area Council priorities.

Members discussed the merits of the proposed fund, noting that provision in the past had delivered a service across all Wards of the Area Council, and was often was tailored to individual wards.

Concern was expressed about the impact being constrained when funds were only available for a year; however it was noted that two of the projects previously funded through the Youth Resilience Fund had been successful in gaining external funds and would continue to deliver in the area. It was also suggested that considering the future sustainability of the project could be part of the grant process.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the overview of Central Area Council's priorities, contracts, Service Level Agreements and associated timescales be noted;
- (ii) That the update in relation to the procurement of a Clean and Green Service; and Environmental Enforcement Service; and a Peri-Natal Emotional Wellbeing Volunteer Home Visiting Service be noted;
- (iii) That £5,000 per annum for up to 3 years be approved for the cost of leasing a vehicle for use by the Environmental Enforcement Service to start from 1st April, 2019;
- (iv) That £5,000 be approved for the development and implementation of an awards and celebration event for Central Area Council in 2019;
- (v) That £10,000 per Ward be devolved to the Ward Alliance Funds, for 2019/20 at a total cost of £50,000, to be distributed through existing mechanisms, with any finance not expended by 31st July, 2020 to be repaid to the Area Council;
- (vi) That the financial position for the Area Council in 2018/19 and projected position for future years be noted;

- (vii) That a task and finish group be established to develop a Central Area Council Wellbeing Fund to be delivered in 2019/20 with an indicative amount of £90,000 allocated from the Area Council.

22. Notes of the Ward Alliances (Cen.12.11.2018/6)

The meeting received the following notes of the meetings of the Ward Alliances within the Central Area:-

Central Ward Alliance held on 26th September, 2018;
Dodworth Ward Alliance held on 18th September, 2018;
Kinstone Ward Alliance held on 19th September, 2018;
Stairfoot Ward Alliance held on 10th September, and 8th October, 2018; and
Worsbrough Ward Alliance held on 6th September, 2018.

RESOLVED that the notes and feedback from the Ward Alliances be received.

23. Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Cen.12.11.2018/7)

The Area Council Manager introduced the item; Members noted the financial position of each of the Ward Alliance Funds contained within the report.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Chair