

MEETING:	Dearne Area Council
DATE:	Monday, 6 September 2021
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present Councillors Noble (Chair), Cain, Danforth and Gollick

17 **Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

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

18 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Dearne Area Council held on 26th July, 2021 (Dac.06.09.2021/2)**

The meeting received the minutes from the previous meeting of Dearne Area Council.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Dearne Area Council meeting held on 26th July, 2021 be approved as a true and correct record.

19 **Cancer Screening Behavioural Insights - Emma Bates/Kaye Mann (Dac.06.09.2021/3)**

Kaye Mann, Public Health Specialist Practitioner, BMBC, and Emma Bates, Commissioning and Transformation Manager, Barnsley CCG were welcomed to the meeting.

Members were reminded that 1 in 2 people get Cancer in their lifetime and that potentially 600 new cancers in Barnsley could be postponed or prevented each year. The leading causes of death from cancer in Barnsley are lung, prostate and breast cancer.

It was noted that living a healthy life does make cancer less likely, including being smoke free, keeping a healthy weight, and being more active.

Those present heard of the importance of early diagnosis, which leads to an improved chance of surviving cancer. The importance of screening was also stressed.

Attention was drawn to the signs and symptoms of common cancers and the need for residents to have themselves checked if they experienced these symptoms.

An overview of behavioural insights and nudge theory was provided, and examples provided of where this could be utilised to increase cancer screening.

Members heard of the behaviour science trial being conducted. Based at the food bank in the Dearne, this would see staff and volunteers speak to clients, and offer to

refer to Care Coordinators at GP surgeries. They would then be able to proactively book appointments. It was noted that that promotion of the trial would commence shortly, and, if successful, elements could be rolled out across the borough.

The meeting heard of the support services available for those recently diagnosed with cancer living in a Barnsley postcode or accessing services at a Barnsley Hospital. It was agreed that confirmation would be sought as to whether this included all Dearne residents, as some have a Rotherham postcode and access hospitals in Rotherham or Doncaster.

Members were asked to promote healthy lifestyle messages, raise awareness of the signs and symptoms of cancer and encourage the uptake of screening. The message of consulting a GP if something did not feel right was also emphasised. It was noted that GPs were extremely busy, but it was suggested that awareness could be raised that if residents highlighted that their symptoms may be linked to cancer, this would help prioritise appointments.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That thanks be given for the information presentation; and
- (ii) That Members support the work to improve cancer detection rates as highlighted.

20 Dearne Area Council Finance Update (Dac.06.09.2021/4)

The Area Council Manager spoke to the item, highlighting that there was an opening budget of £208,783.34 for 2021/22. From this, four commissions had been funded to a value of £175,000 and more latterly the Housing Officer post had been extended to March, 2022 at a cost of £5,432. This left £28,351.34 remaining to allocate.

The Dearne Development Fund had started the financial year with a total of £5,378.41 and Members chose to allocate a further £30,000. Therefore, the budget remaining was £35,378.41.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

21 Commission - Assisting employment and skills (Dac.06.09.2021/5)

Members were reminded of the discussion at the previous meeting. It had been agreed to fund a service to assist employment and skills for three years. It was noted that the current service was due to end in March 2022.

Members were thanked for their comments on the proposed service, which had been taken into account in the latest version of the specification. The specification for the service included the need for one-to-one and group work, with the needs of individuals catered for. The service was required to be open for all adults, provide accreditation, promote the benefits of working and the latest employment opportunities, and was expected to work collaboratively with other services. Within the specification was the desire for the service to provide apprenticeship and work experience positions if possible.

The proposed procurement timeline was noted, with the service to be operational from the end of March, 2022.

RESOLVED that the specification for the Assisting Employment and Skills commission be approved at a cost of £34,000 per year for a total of three years.

22 Notes from the Dearne Ward Alliances (Dac.06.09.2021/6)

The meeting received the notes from the Dearne North Ward Alliance held on 3rd August, 2021 and Dearne South Ward Alliance held on 8th July, 2021.

Dearne South had received an update from the new Neighbourhood Engagement Officer and the work undertaken in response to the pandemic. The meeting also received an update on Section 106 funding in the area. An outline of the work of SYFAB was then provided by their new worker.

The meeting discussed the work of the Area team including the Mental Health and Wellbeing sessions funded through Barnsley Bonds.

Dearne South received a similar update in relation from the Neighbourhood Engagement Officer and in relation to the work of SYFAB. The Ward Alliance also discussed the use of finance provided by Barnsley Bonds.

RESOLVED that notes from the respective Ward Alliances be received.

23 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Dac.06.09.2021/7)

The Area Council Manager provided an overview of the current financial situation in relation to the Ward Alliance Funds. The Dearne South Ward Alliance Fund had an opening balance of £11,317.72 and had funded three projects. This left £7,017.72 remaining for allocation.

The opening balance for Dearne North Ward Alliance Fund was £10,182.92. After funding four projects £4,898.92 remained.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Chair