

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

DEARNE AREA COUNCIL 22nd May 2023

Report of the Dearne Area Council Manager

Commissioning update

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of the report is for members to receive an update with regards Dearne Area Council commissioned services and potential future projects.

1.2

To approve the continuation of the employability and social connectivity services.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 That members receive the update on the Dearne Area Council commissions;

2.2 That members approve the continuation of the Social Connectivity Commissioned Service into the second year of a three year contract from July 2023 to the end of June 2024, at a cost of £28,000; and

2.3 That members approve the continuation of the Employment and Skills Commissioned Service into the second year of a three year contract from April 2023 to the end of March 2024, at a cost of £34,000.

3.0 Area Council commissions

3.1 Social Connectivity service

This service is now nearing the one-year mark with the social groups in both Thurnscoe and Bolton on Dearne continuing to Thrive. Eighty-eight volunteers also supported 117 older neighbours during this quarter.

It is recommended that the Area Council approve continuation into the second year of a three-year contract.

3.2 Housing & Cohesion Officer

There were 229 reports made to the service, ninety-two fly tipping cases were reported. The officer continues to proactively identify problematic areas.

3.3 Assisting employment and skills

The contract is now at the end of its first of three years. There have been some issues with the lease on the building which have now been resolved. In the last quarter nineteen people have accessed the courses provided with six people moving on into employment. The service has seen a increase in older people accessing the service for support.

It is recommended that the Area Council approve continuation into the second year of a three-year contract.

3.4 **Neighbourhood and engagement officer role**

The neighbourhood and engagement officer part time post was paid for through the area council until May 2024. The post holder also secured a permanent part time post in the Dearne Area Team. However as of 1st of June the post holder as also secured a permanent part time post in the North East. Therefore the actual cost to the Area Council in this finical year will only be £6,354.

3.5 **Environmental service**

Twiggs are now two months into their contract extension which ends at the end of March 2024. The team will be working 3 days in the area with a team leader and apprentice. They will be working with groups, volunteers and undertaking scheduled works which has already been developed by the Area Council and passed on to the provider.

3.6 **Project development**

Now that new elected members are in place a workshop will be convened to discuss environmental and young people's initiatives.

Officer
Claire Dawson
Dearne Area Council Manager

Date:
22nd May 2023