

MEETING:	Penistone Area Council
DATE:	Thursday 7 September 2023
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Council Chamber, Penistone Town Hall

MINUTES

Present Councillors Greenhough (Chair), Barnard, Burnett, Kitching and Lowe-Flello

15 Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

No Members declared an interest in any item on the agenda.

16 Children and Family Services Update - Jane Fleming and Rachel Barraclough (Pac.07.09.2023/2)

Jane Fleming, Healthy Child Programme Lead and Health Visitor Practice Teacher, was welcomed to the meeting and provided members with an overview of the 0-19 Public Health Nursing Service in the Penistone Area.

Members were provided with an in-depth update of the 6 Area Teams and the areas of work that they covered. Members were informed that in the Penistone Locality there were:

- 4,908 children receiving a universal level of service;
- 106 receiving a universal plus level of service;
- 187 children schooling in/living out ; and
- 186 children living in/schooling out children

A detailed overview was provided of the varied work, targeted support, assessments and reviews that the 0-19 Service carried out. Members also heard of the various partner organisations that were collaborated with in order to provide this service and of the positive relationship the Team had with the local GP surgeries and chemists.

Following some in depth discussion and questioning, members raised concerns around the low staff numbers compared to the number of people requiring the service across the area and questioned whether this was due to budgets or difficulty in recruiting. In response members were informed that in the past year the Service had trained and retained 8 nurses to become a School Nurse or Health Visitor and they had recruited a further 8 for training this year. It was also identified that there were some areas with a higher level of deprivation who would require more School Nurses or Health Visitors compared to the Penistone Area.

Positive in roads had been made with Penistone Grammar School and the School Nurse had a Monday lunchtime slot at the school to hold health themed drop in sessions which were well attended.

Rachel Barraclough, Family Service Manager for Family Services was welcomed to the meeting and provided members with the background to and an update of the proposed family hubs offer for Barnsley and what it would entail.

Members heard that there would be one family hub in each Area Council Area and that Penistone had been chosen as one of those sites with the Penistone Library being the potential chosen venue in the longer term with an interim location being based at the IKIC Centre on High Street in Penistone.

During an in-depth debate members commented that there was very little on offer in Penistone as there seemed to be an assumption that there was little need for such services in the area. It was positive news about the offer of a family hub in Penistone which was seen as a step up from the current partial service offer in the Area.

RESOLVED that Jane Fleming and Rachel Barraclough be thanked for their comprehensive presentations and that the updates be noted.

**17 Minutes of the Penistone Area Council meeting held on 20 July 2023
(Pac.07.09.2023/3)**

The Area Council received the minutes of the previous meeting held on 20 July 2023.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Penistone Area Council meeting held on the 20 July 2023 be approved as a true and correct record.

**18 Notes from the Penistone Ward Alliance held on 27 July 2023
(Pac.07.09.2023/4)**

The meeting received the notes from the Penistone Ward Alliance meeting held on 27 July 2023.

RESOLVED that the notes from the Penistone Ward Alliance meeting held on 27 July 2023 be received.

19 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Pac.07.09.2023/5)

Members received the report, noting its contents. The Area Council Manager drew members attention to £18,435.18 which remained in the budget. Members noted that there had been a decline in applications being received for Ward Alliance Funding and would be encouraging people and groups to come forward.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

20 Quarter 1 Performance Report (Pac.07.09.2023/6)

The Area Council Manager provided members with an overview of the Quarter 1 Performance report dated April to June 2023 and all contracted Services. Members attention was drawn to the statistics and in particular the decline in new volunteer numbers. It was acknowledged that the current Clean, Green and Tidy Contract had created many self-sufficient volunteers and the Age UK Contract had maintained trained volunteers, resulting in the new volunteer numbers going forward being lower than previous years.

The Clean, Green and Tidy contract would be coming to an end at the end of September 2023. They had achieved a number of their targets and had proactively worked with 36 projects. GXO logistics had provided volunteer support to the Royd Community Garden. Two schools had been supported which were Hoylandswaine Primary School and Penistone Grammar School who had teamed up with Springvale Community Gardens to create wildlife habitats and general maintenance. Volunteer numbers had fallen with 53 against a target of 150. The contract had continued to receive positive feedback.

The Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older People contract were meeting their targets with a high number of people using the information and advice service. Benefits had seen the most enquiries resulting in an estimated £40,000 of benefits gains. The Community Car Share Scheme continued to be popular with 2 volunteers providing 127 journeys. Members were informed that Men in Sheds continued to attract attendees and that they were looking for new permanent premises.

The Age UK contract remained a success and it had been suggested for them to commence charging for some of the Groups they run in order to become self-sustaining. It was noted that there was the added value from the centrally run services which also had an impact on the Penistone Area.

The CAB online offer had supported 56 clients against a target of 39. A range of issues had been dealt with a particular increase in benefit and housing issues due to increase in rent and mortgages. Members heard how they had returned to face to face appointments in Penistone Library and that the initial uptake would be slow and it was acknowledged that it would take time for people to start using the face to face service.

DIAL were offering face to face appointments, and as a result target numbers were slightly under. 36 residents attended outreach, and there was the added value of the core offer which had seen 78 residents being given telephone advice.

Angel Voices Adult Singing Workshop had settled in Cawthorne Village Hall and was reporting the improvement of health and wellbeing of the people attending.

The Supporting Young People Grant Fund had funded 4 projects including Ad Astra that had seen positive outcomes. 40 students from Penistone Grammar School had successfully completed training and received an accreditation in the Royal Society of Public Health level 2 mentoring qualification. This had enabled pupils to provide peer support to others within the school.

Angel Voices Young People Workshop had seen some success stories including one pupil who had gone on to take part in a TV Talent Show and they continued to provide a vast variety of performances across the area for different occasions.

Members were informed that the Area Council manager was still awaiting the final performance details from the Girl Guides.

Members were provided with updates as to the work the Area Team had been undertaking in the quarter.

The Food Options consultation event had taken place. The issues around a suitable venue remained but collaborative work was being undertaken with Good Food Barnsley to network together and make it work.

Members raised concerns as to the low numbers of adults taking part in the Angel Voices Adult Workshops. The Area Council Manager agreed to raise these concerns.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

21 Procurement and Financial Update (Pac.07.09.2023/7)

The Area Council Manager spoke to the item providing members with a highlight of each commissioned contract.

Members attention as drawn to the £37,052 remaining in the Penistone Area Council Working Together Grant Fund. It was noted that this would be used for the possible food options should they emerge.

Members were informed that the Supporting Young People Fund had received 9 enquiries with only 3 applications being submitted. If all 3 were to be approved there would still be some money remaining to go back out to encourage further projects to come forward.

Market engagement exercises for 2 services had begun for the Clean Green and Tidy Contract going forward. Service one would be to carry out specific environmental works and service two would be for a community and environmental support service. Members were informed of the process and that once the market engagement exercise concludes, the spec would be assessed before it goes out on YOR Tender estimated around the end of September/beginning of October.

Members raised concerns around the interim period where there would be very little service until the new services were in place. They also questioned whether the Area Council could purchase litter picking equipment and safety vests in the transition period to provide volunteers with some equipment. Members acknowledged that this would be difficult to manage and would see if there was a demand for such equipment before putting any approval forward for funding.

Members were provided with an overview of the 2023/24 budget position. It was noted that a budget of £37,216 remained.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the update of the contract funded by the new Supporting Isolated and Older People Grant Fund be noted;
- (ii) that the update on the current financial position of the Penistone Working Together Fund be received;
- (iii) that the update on the existing Supporting Young People ringfenced funds within the existing Working Together Grant Fund be received and that the update on the progress for the next round of funding be noted;

(iv) that the updates on the current Green, Clean and Tidy contract started in April 2020 and now in the final extension period to the end of September 2023, be noted;

(v) that the update in the procurement processes for contracts to support Penistone Area Council's environmental priority following the completion of the existing Clean and Tidy Contract be received;

(vi) that the current financial position of the Penistone Ward Alliance be noted; and

(vii) that the record of allocated and proposed spend and current budget position for 2023/24 be noted.

22 Cultural Strategy Update - Liane Holdsworth (Pac.07.09.2023/8)

Liane Holdsworth, Programme Development Manager and Coby Walsh, Project Officer, were welcomed to the meeting and provided members with an overview of the work being undertaken to create Barnsley's Cultural Strategy.

Members received a detailed account of the sector mapping work being undertaken in collaboration with the University of Sheffield to create the Strategy. Members were informed of the proposed member creative sessions in order for officers to gain further knowledge and an understanding of what local members felt were missing and what already exists in their areas.

Members questioned whether Barnsley had any input into part of the Yorkshire Sculpture Park that was in the Penistone East Ward. They were informed the Long Barn which was a storage unit for the Sculpture Park which was in the Penistone East Ward, was being developed to also house some artists studios.

Members were informed that they would be invited to Engagement Events in the near future.

RESOLVED that thanks be given for the presentation and the update be noted.

Chair