BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Dearne Area Council Meeting:

Report of Dearne Area Council Manager

Area Council Future Action Plan

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 This report outlines the Area Councils future action plan following on from the Area Council review.

2.0 Recommendation

2.1 That the Dearne Area Council receives an update with regards the future action plan for Area Councils

3.0 Introduction

3.1 Earlier this year workshops were held with elected members, area teams and link officers for the area councils. The workshops were designed to review the role and workings of each of the 6 Area Councils. From the feedback key themes have been brought together and actioned within the plan in order to further develop the role of Area Councils

4.0 Area Council future action plan

Section 1 - How we work with internal & external partners and the wider strategic landscape **Potential Actions**	**Target date for completion**	**Who would be responsible for development?**
1.1 Expand coverage of Area Council and member role as part of new member induction	March 2010 in time for induction of any new members from 2020 local elections	Head of Stronger Communities Already underway through Member Development Working Group/Officer
1.2 Explore development of Area Council Link Officer role through: • Discussion of Link Officer role at Area Chairs Liaison Group • Workshop session/s with Link Officers & Area Managers to explore role in more detail following Area Chair discussion • Development of guidance for Link Officers if needed after workshop session/s	 October 2019 December 2019 March 2020	Head of Stronger Communities

1.3 Explore potential links between Integrated Wellbeing Teams, Primary Care Networks and Area Governance structures	Dependent upon Integrated Care programme – currently unknown	Director of Communities & Service Director SSH Communities to explore once Integrated Care model approved by Cabinet
Section 1 - How we work with internal & external partners and the wider strategic landscape **Potential Actions**	**Target date for completion**	**Who would be responsible for development?**
1.4 Share good practice across Area Councils through Member Talkabout sessions to share good practice	2019/20 session to take place before 31/03/20 One session per year to be programmed in annually by Member Development Group	Member Development Group/Officer
1.5 Develop guidance and processes around the role of Area Councils in relation to: • Escalation of issues arising from Area Councils (either singly or together) which require consideration or action at a strategic level • Considering the effectiveness of services delivered within their communities, in partnership with those responsible for the management of these services	March 2020	Area Chairs Head of Stronger Communities + Area Managers

Section 2 – Impact of the Area Council's work **Potential actions**	**Target date for completion**	**Who would be responsible for development?**
2.1 Explore ways to make work of Area Councils more visible in communities through: • Development of a Communications Plan & more effective promotion • Development of branding/logo for Area Councils • Better promotion of Area Council work through Area Team Facebook pages • Area Chairs to take on role of leading on direction & delivery of Area Council Communications work	Communications Plan to be developed by Head of Stronger Communities, Area Managers & Communications Team by 31/03/20 Area Chairs to take on role of directing this work from April 2020	Head of Stronger Communities, Area Managers + Communications Team

2.2 Develop methods for consistently sharing evaluation, best practice & learning that can be shared more widely, through: • Review of circulation list for quarterly case study performance reports with internal and external partners • Development of impact reporting for Area Councils to accompany case study performance reports • Development of member Talkabouts as outlined in 1.4 * Identified as key action in recent BMBC Peer Review	Review of circulation list by 30/10/19 Development of impact reporting methods by 31/03/19 2019/20 Member Talkabout session to take place before 31/03/20 One session per year to be programmed in annually by Member Development Group	Head of Stronger Communities + Area Managers Member Development Group/Member Development Officer

Section 3 – Commissioning cycle, including priority setting, use of budgets & member involvement **Potential actions**	**Target date for completion**	**Who would be responsible for development?**
3.1 Continue use of Social Return on Investment to assess and promote impact of Area Council work	Ongoing – to be reviewed annually	Head of Stronger Communities + Area Managers
3.2 Develop guidance to support Area Councils to decide where use of SROI methodologies is/is not appropriate, to be used in conjunction with SROI toolkit currently under development through Social Value Group	March 2020	Head of Stronger Communities + Member Development Working Group/Officer
3.3 Improve consistency and effectiveness of Area Council delivery through: • Standardising frequency of priority setting process for Area Councils & explore best practice in priority setting • Exploring methods to better use locally availably intelligence from Ward Alliances and community consultations • Exploring methods to ensure that Area Council work aligns with & does not duplicate/replace mainstream provision • Agreeing process for challenges that are experienced across several areas or innovations in service delivery developed by Area Councils to be brought forward for further consideration by SMT	April – September 2020	Series of workshops with Area Chairs, Area Managers & Business Improvement

Section 3 – Commissioning cycle, including priority setting, use of budgets & member involvement **Potential actions**	**Target date for completion**	**Who would be responsible for development?**
3.4 Area Chairs to work with Area Councils to assess level of interest in training for members in commissioning/procurement Develop member training for those wanting to become involved if sufficient numbers come forward	December 2019	Member Working Group/Officer Head of Strategic Procurement
3.5 Large scale review needed of data provided to Area Councils as not currently fit for purpose for either priority setting or commissioning (to include development of suitable proxies where up to date data not available and explore what data is held by other parts of BMBC or partners which could be useful)	December 2020	BIIT Team Population Health Management Unit

Officer Contact:	**Tel. No:**	**Date:**
Claire Dawson	**01226 775106**	**18th November 2019**