

MEETING:	North East Area Council
DATE:	Thursday, 25 November 2021
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present Councillors Hayward (Chair), Ennis OBE, Green, McCarthy, Richardson and Wraith MBE

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

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

25 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting of North East Area Council**

The meeting considered the minutes from the previous meeting of the North East Area Council held on 23rd September 2021..

RESOLVED that the minutes of the North East Area Council held on 23rd September 2021 be approved as a true and correct record.

26 **Notes of the Following Ward Alliances with Feedback from each Ward Alliance Chair**

The meeting received notes from the Cudworth, Monk Bretton, North East and Royston Ward Alliances held throughout September and October 2021. The following updates were noted:-

Cudworth – The St Johns garden has been planted up by volunteers. Christmas lights will be switched on on Monday, and the lights on the Christmas tree will be lit on 3rd December, with two children from each school in attendance. It was reported that the creative writing workshop run by Lawrence in the library is doing very well. A letter of thanks to Home Farm bakery has now been sent. The planter is to be planted up shortly. Thanks to the Area Council Manager, Cudworth park has now been cleared of wet leaves which were a health and safety hazard.

Monk Bretton – Burton Grange Christmas tree lights are now working, and the Christmas lights will be switched on the tree on 30th November, time to be confirmed. The vicar at St Paul's is moving to a Diocese Cheshire and will be sadly missed. Father Blair has now moved to St Peter's in Lundwood. The Silverdale Dementia club continues to be supported and is well attended. Christmas activities are being arranged. Discussions are taking place about setting up a food bank with Father Blair in the New Year.

North East – Christmas events have been organised in all four villages. More lamppost Christmas decorations have been installed than ever before, particularly in Grimethorpe. At the Remembrance Day Parade, two five feet high statues were made and put at the side of the Cenotaph. Unfortunately BMBC never adopted the

Cenotaph and walled gardens from Brierley Town Council so nobody owns the land at the Cenotaph. Negotiations are ongoing to allow Father Thomas at the Church to take this over, but it is proving difficult. It will be the Brierley winter fayre this weekend.

Royston – All planters have been planted up, Christmas trees will be lit on 1st December, with the lights turned on by the Mayor. Complaints have been received about the manner in which the trees in the park have been cut down. The Bowling green club is being supported. A bench has been obtained through the Poppy Appeal, but obtaining permission to locate it in the village is proving difficult.

RESOLVED that the notes from the Ward Alliances and associated updates be received.

27 Cancer Screening Behavioural Insights

Kaye Mann, Public Health Specialist Practitioner, BMBC, was welcomed to the meeting and updated Councillors with regard to the Cancer Screening Behavioural Insights initiative.

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 (72% caused by smoking), prostate and breast cancer, with around 1500 new case every year in Barnsley.

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, with 8 in 10 surviving when diagnosed at Stage 1. Unfortunately, only 2 in 10 survive when diagnosed at Stage 2. The importance of screening for all cancers 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, 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 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. 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.

Councillor Wraith had personal experience of the impact of cancer and is happy to continue to promote health messages wherever he can. Councillor McCarthy also requested copies of the slides in order to share the messages throughout her networks.

Life expectancy has traditionally varied by 10 years between the east and west of the Borough. Higher rates of unhealthy factors, Barnsley's legacy of coal mining and deprivation does have an impact on cancer rates. Efforts at sharing the messages will be concentrated on those who need it most. Covid has impacted negatively on cancer rates, with many people who have not come forward with signs and symptoms due to fears around the pandemic. Targets are in place to get back on track by March of 2022 but there remains a backlog.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) Kaye be thanked for her attendance and contribution;
- (ii) That the update be noted,
- (iii) Copies of the slides be shared with Councillor McCarthy so that she can share amongst her networks, and
- (iv) Members continue to support the work to share healthy lifestyle messages and work towards improving cancer detection rates.

28 North East Area Council Project Performance Report - update on the delivery of commissioned projects.

The Area Council Manager introduced this item and gave a detailed update on the delivery of commissioned projects. Projects highlighted included: Social Isolation Dementia Project, Age UK (who are working with schools to deliver hampers). Activities are restarting such as the Chatty Café, Tai Chi, walking groups, craft afternoon tea. It was reported that restarting activities in the care homes is proving more difficult due to Covid but it is hoped that this will improve in the New Year. A number of case studies were included within the report. District Enforcement have been involved in various activities across the North East Wards. The Community Listening event has proved useful and information will be shared with other agencies and will inform future plans. Concerns were expressed around the boxing club and the play equipment which had been removed and stored. The Area Manager agreed to look into these issues. Thanks were expressed to all those involved in getting trees cut at the Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre.

RESOLVED that

- (i) The update be noted;
- (ii) The Area Manager will look into issues around the boxing club and the play equipment; and

(iii) Thanks be expressed to the staff and volunteers who have worked so hard during these challenging times.

29 NEAC Financial Position and Procurement Update

The Area Council Manager introduced this item, reporting that the North East Area Council was on target for spend.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

30 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds

The Area Council Manager introduced this item, reporting that the Ward Alliances are a little behind in terms of spend.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

31 Interim Financial Report

The Area Council Manager introduced this item, highlighting the following points:

In April 2022, the Environmental Enforcement Services will be procured through the Safer Neighbourhood Service with a single contract for a Boroughwide service, with no payment contribution required from the Area Council. If the Area Council require additional specific resource for their area then this can be paid for by contacting the Safer Neighbourhood Service direct, and as part of the new offer it will be commissioned from the single provider at the relevant costs.

As a result of the Stop Smoking Outreach Service being recognised as a Good Practice initiative, and being replicated in other Area Councils, Public Health will now fund the Stop Smoking Outreach Service across the North East Area Council communities for a period of 1 year from September 30th, 2021 until September 30th, 2022 at a cost of £28,215.

Members were asked to note that the additional £57,000 that has been requested via the Practical Support Fund will be reimbursed into the budget.

Members were asked to note that the Neighbourhood Engagement role, although initially COVID specific, has developed and become an integral role within the North East Area Team. It is recognised that adding more capacity and being able to engage with services and businesses that have not had a voice previously is even more important going into the Covid recovery period within our local communities. It is recommended that the Neighbourhood Engagement Officer contract is extended until April 1st, 2023, on a 1 + 1 year extension basis until April 1st, 2024, at a cost of £35,000 per annum.

Members were asked to note that the Private Sector Housing Management Officer service level agreement with Enforcement Services finishes on March 31st, 2022, and consider that it is renewed until April 1st, 2023, on a 1 + 1 year extension basis until April 1st, 2024, at a cost of £37,750.

RESOLVED that:

(i) Members note the single contract for a Boroughwide Environmental Enforcement Service and that the Stop Smoking Outreach Service across the North east Area Council will now be funded by Public Health;

(ii) Members note that the additional £57,000 for the Practical Support Fund will be reimbursed into the budget;

(iii) Members agreed that the Neighbourhood Engagement Officer contract is extended until April 1st, 2023, on a 1 + 1 year extension basis until April 1st, 2024, at a cost of £35,000 per annum.

(iv) Members agreed that the Private Sector Housing Management Officer service level agreement with Enforcement Services is renewed until April 1st, 2023, on a 1 + 1 year extension basis until April 1st, 2024, at a cost of £37,750.

Chair