

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

North East Local Area Committee

Meeting held 22 November 2023

PRESENT: Councillors Talib Hussain (Chair), Safiya Saeed (Deputy Chair), Fran Belbin, Mike Chaplin, Jayne Dunn, Abdul Khayum, Abtisam Mohamed and Peter Price

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dawn Dale, Tony Damms, Mark Jones and Garry Weatherall.

2. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

2.1 No items were identified where resolutions may be moved to exclude the press and public.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3.1 No declarations of interest were received.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 The minutes of the meetings of the Committee held on 19th September, 2023 were approved as a correct record.

5. NORTH EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE SPEND REPORT 2023/24

5.1 The Committee considered a report of the Community Services Manager that advised each Local Area Committee had a £100,000 budget to address local priorities, identified within their respective Community Plans. The report set out details of the spend in respect of the £100,000 that had been authorised by the Community Services Manager, in consultation with the LAC Chair and in accordance with the delegation granted in September 2021.

5.2 The report showed funding allocated to the North East Local Area Committee for 2023/24, and set out proposals for its allocation and expenditure in line with the North East Local Area Committee Community Plan.

5.3 The report described the proposals for the use of the remaining funding allocated for cost of living work in the North East area, to a sum of £45,000.

5.4 **RESOLVED:** That the North East Local Area Committee:

- (i) notes the expenditure made in 2023/24 used to address local priorities against the £100,000 budget to address local priorities in the North East LAC in 2023/24 and includes the agreed underspend spend from 2022/23; and
- (ii) agrees the proposals outlined in the report for use of the cost of living funding within the North East LAC area.

5.5 Reasons for Decision

The North East LAC is asked to approve the broad allocation of funding and expenditure under the priority headings identified to assist its ability to monitor its budget, and to authorise the Community Services Manager to approve expenditure above the current delegated authority in certain circumstances so that delivery of the Community Plan is not delayed.

5.6 Alternatives Considered and Rejected

Decisions on any expenditure above the existing authority to the Community Services Manager could be reserved to the LAC but this would delay delivery of priority actions to address specific issues identified in the Community Plan.

6. YOUTH CONFERENCE UPDATE

6.1 Emma Hinchliffe, Youth Voice and Development Worker presented an update to the committee on the Youth Conference that had taken place in October bringing together representatives from local schools to discuss issues affecting young people.

6.2 A poll had been carried out in September across all the schools in the area to determine which of the LAC's priorities the students felt were most important to them. The key areas identified became the points for discussion at the conference. These were;

1. Places to go and things to do for young people
2. How communities get information and how might the LAC communicate better with young people
3. Health & wellbeing issues affecting young people
4. The Cost of Living Crisis and what support is available for young people

6.3 Effective discussions took place at the conference and examples were provided of the students' ideas and suggestions. Some students had offered to work with the LAC in the future to help spread messages amongst their peers.

6.4 Attendance had been affected by the floods that impacted the city on the day of the conference and there was a desire to hold a roadshow event next that would allow the officers to visit schools and enable more young people to contribute to the plans for the local area.

7. SHEFFIELD YOUTH NEIGHBOURHOOD AND COMMUNITIES (SY-NC)

- 7.1 Abdul Malik, Youth Worker, presented an update to the committee on the Sheffield Youth Neighbourhood and Communities (SYNC) project. The committee heard that one of the key aims of the project was to tackle exploitation in the area.

Work had started in the summer and a number of schools had been involved. Hubs had been set up in the community for young people offering different activities such as sports and debates and at the weekend sports sessions were attracting young people who also could access support for mental health issues. Workers were able to informally discuss any difficulties were experiencing at these sessions and then refer them on to other support services.

8. FAMILY HUBS UPDATE

- 8.1 There was no one in attendance at the meeting to provide an update on the Family Hubs.

9. ROADSHOW INTERACTIVE SESSION

- 9.1 The live webcast was paused, and the public participated in a Roadshow Interactive Session. There were information stalls situated around the building which contained information relating to the different priorities of the North East Local Area Committee Community Plan.

- 9.2 After the interactive session, the live webcast of the meeting recommenced.

10. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

- 10.1 The Committee received the following questions from members of the public who had attended the meeting to raise them:-

(a) Mick Daniels

Mick Daniels thanked members for the leaves being removed from Firth Park.

Mr Daniels believed that the committee had agreed that there would be a Christmas Tree installed in Firth Park but he had since been told that two yew trees were being planted instead.

Mr Daniels had been told that there would be a Post Office opened in the area by September but was since informed that it would be situated in Firth Park Library and the work needed for this to happen would take a couple of months.

Councillor Belbin responded to the questions explaining that the Firth Park Forum had discussed installing a Christmas Tree, however, the cost was high and there were insufficient funds available. A decision was made instead to plant two conical yew trees as a permanent solution and lights would be provided to put on them.

The situation with the Post Office was not within the Council's control. The postmaster had decided on the new location but no definitive timescale could be

given on when it would be ready.

(b) Mr Sanni

Mr Sanni highlighted issues that he had encountered in the Firth Park area including the presence of rats and people leaving refuse in the building where he was a tenant rather than using the bins provided. He had reported the problems to his landlord but they had not been resolved.

Members agreed that this was not an acceptable situation and offered to discuss it further with Mr Sanni to find solutions such as pest control services provided by the council and support when contacting his landlord.

(c) Pete Thornett - Scraithwood Estate Tenants and Residents Association

Mr Thornett highlighted that the Scraithwood Estate was a one road estate and that the requested 20mph speed limit was to protect residents who were disabled. A lot of the residents were elderly and Mr Thornett asked for an explanation why a 20mph speed limit could not be implemented.

Councillor Dunn suggested that an officer from the Transport department could visit the site and assess the situation.

Councillor Chaplin encouraged Mr Thornett to continue with his petition and agreed to continue to pursue the speed restrictions with Councillor Dunn.

(d) June Luxon

June Luxon highlighted the problem of cars parking on Barnes Road blocking disabled ramps and preventing people from using the pavements. They had enquired about dropped kerbs being installed but permission was refused.

Councillor Belbin acknowledged that there was a problem with parking in that area but that enforcement resources were limited. The police were only able to provide enforcement if vehicles were causing an obstruction.

Serjeant Gulzar advised that there was unprecedented demand in this area but the police were working in partnership with parking services and he would feed this information back to the local Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs).

(e) Margaret Whelan – Friends of Concord Park and Woolley Woods

Margaret thanked the committee and the police for helping to put on the lantern parade event which was a success.