

NOTES OF THE CENTRAL LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE ONLINE CONSULTATION EVENT HELD 24TH JANUARY, 2022

Councillor Bernard Little, Chair of the Central Local Area Committee (LAC), welcomed everyone to the meeting and outlined the procedure for how the meeting was to run. Jay Bell (Democratic Services) read out the housekeeping arrangements. The Chair then invited Members and Officers to introduce themselves.

An agenda for the meeting was displayed onscreen.

Report back on the public consultation on the Local Area Community Plan

Adeel Zahman, Central Area Manager gave a presentation on the public consultation on the Local Area Plan.

Breakout Sessions

Members, officers and members of the public were then placed into breakout sessions that lasted approximately 45 minutes.

Feedback from breakout sessions

Councillor George Lindars-Hammond attended the Community & Neighbourhoods breakout group. Feedback were as follows:-

- Impact of litter – making sure communities stay clean and that bins were always collected.
- Could the LAC engage with University's to ensure students are good members of the community.
- Needed to support community areas across Central.
- Networking across Central – Could the LAC publicise good things that was happening.

Councillor Martin Phipps attended the Crime & Community Safety breakout group. Feedback were as follows:-

- The need for more in-depth consultation on a local level.
- Joined up thinking across the LAC.
- Lighting and clear sighting in community areas to improve safety.

Councillor Josie Paszek attended the Environment breakout group. Feedback were as follows:-

- Main issues were environmental maintenance, cleaning, waste and rubbish.
- Impact of traffic on neighbourhoods – noise pollution.
- Needed to build community spirit with student areas – to help them understand the importance of keeping the community clean.
- Issues around transport and speeding – how closing roads impact on other roads.
- Ensuring parks and open green areas were kept for the community.

Councillor Douglas Johnson attended the Transport & Highways breakout group. Feedback were as follows:-

- Ensuring Bus Stops and other community areas were adequately lit.
- Busses had CCTV both inside and out which could add to community safety.
- Needed good reliable public transport.
- Whether it was appropriate for taxis to use bus lanes.
- Issues on speeding around Marlcliffe Primary School – Police to be invited to carry out a survey on this.

Councillor Angela Argenzio attended the Business, Employment & Skills breakout group. Feedback were as follows:-

- Needed to consult more with Local businesses.
- Improving people's skills for future employment – mapping out requirements.
- Needed to explore what students do after they finish University, do they stay in Sheffield and how long for.
- Publicise job fairs better.

Public Questions.

The Chair explained there was no public questions received, prior to the meeting.

The Chair then invited further questions from members of the public, advising them that 15 minutes would be allowed for this item.

Kaarina Hollo Asked what powers does the Central LAC have.

The Central Area Manager explained the powers of the Central and what it can devolve was still to be confirmed. It was added that Central LAC had a budget of £100,000.

Sian Beynon

How did the Central LAC aim to engage with people that had so far not been heard throughout the process. Additionally, how could the Central LAC ensure those voices had been heard and included in the process.

The Chair stated that the LAC will continue to engage with the public as much as possible throughout the entire process. The areas that had lower engagement had been noted, and the LAC aimed to target those people in the future. The Central Area Manager added that it was important to frequently engage with the public and ensure they was satisfied. It could also be a useful exercise to ask the public their views on how they think they should be consulted.

Lucia Lorente-Arnau

Asked what information was available regarding air pollution in the central area.

Councillor Douglas Johnson confirmed that information could be found on the Council's webpage.

Adam Butcher

Could the LAC ensure that documentation was in a readable format for people with disabilities.

The Chair agreed that all documentation needed to be available for everyone so that everyone had an equal opportunity to have an input in the process. The Chair added that at the previous LAC meeting, British sign language representatives were present to enhance the ability to engage with more people. This was something the LAC was aware of and would continue to consider.

Dianne Leek

Asked how all the information at the meeting would be captured and fed back to the public.

The Central Area Manager explained that the meeting had been webcast on the Council's webpage for the public to view. Members of the public could also watch the meeting on the Council's webpage, once the meeting had closed. It was mentioned that notes had been taken from each breakout group, which would be published on the Council's webpage along with informal notes of the entire meeting.

Caroline Irving

Caroline encouraged everyone to use public transport more often. It was believed that public transport should be the primary mode of transport rather than people using cars.

Campaign groups should also be formed to change people's views and reduce air pollution.

The Chair agreed with Caroline's comments and referred to the Carbon Net Zero by 2030 plan which was approaching therefore this had to be grasped as soon as possible.

Richard Axelby

Asked if the LAC budget would be carried over to the next financial year. Richard also thanked the Area team for their hard work in engaging with members of the public through the previous months.

The Central Area Manager shared that the £100k has currently not been spent and will be available in April.

Chair's Summary and Next Steps

The Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting and felt that a good start had been made. The next steps were to collate all the feedback, review any available data and present the LACs findings to the next meeting to be held on 21 March 2022.