



Author/Lead Officer of Report:
Dave Luck, North LAC Community Services
Manager

Tel: 07795637875

Report of: Community Services Manager

Report to: North Local Area Committee

Date of Decision: 26 September 2023

Subject: Approval of the North LAC Community Plan 2023-24

Is this a Key Decision? If Yes, reason Key Decision:-	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
- Expenditure and/or savings over £500,000		<input type="checkbox"/>		
- Affects 2 or more Wards		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Which Executive Member Portfolio does this relate to? Community Engagement and Governance				
Which Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee does this relate to? Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee				
Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) been undertaken in respect of this decision?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
If YES, what EIA reference number has it been given? 2149				
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If YES, give details as to whether the exemption applies to the full report / part of the report and/or appendices and complete below:-				
<i>"The (report/appendix) is not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph (insert relevant paragraph number) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)."</i>				

Purpose of Report:

The Terms of Reference for Local Area Committees (LACs) provide that each LAC must agree a Community Plan setting priorities for the area of the committee, monitor delivery of that plan and keep it under review, and that the decisions it makes in relation to funding must fit with the priorities set out in the Community Plan and following engagement with the community.

Through public consultation, the North LAC has developed a new draft Community Plan for 2023/24 that seeks to identify the key issues within the area and develop a series of priorities that will inform the direction of the LAC, and direct the spending of delegated budgets, where the LAC has authority to do so.

This Report recommends the approval of the draft North Community Plan, attached as an Appendix to this report.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the North Local Area Committee:

Approves the North Community Plan as a statement of the priorities of the area, subject to any amendments being agreed by Members at the meeting on 26th September 2023.

Authorises the Community Services Manager to produce a final version of the Community Plan document, incorporating any amendments approved by the LAC at its meeting of 26th September 2023, and to publish it on the webpages of the North Local Area Committee; and

Notes that future LAC decisions relating to funding must fit with the priorities set out in the Community Plan and following engagement with the community.

Background Papers:

(Insert details of any background papers used in the compilation of the report.)

Appendix – North Draft Community Plan 2023/24

Lead Officer to complete:-		
1	I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed, where required.	Finance: Adrian Hart
		Legal: Petra Der Man
		Equalities: Bev Law
<i>Legal, financial/commercial and equalities implications must be included within the report and the name of the officer consulted must be included above.</i>		
2	Head of Service who approved submission:	Carl Mullooly
3	LAC Chair consulted:	Cllr Alan Hooper
4	I confirm that all necessary approval has been obtained in respect of the implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist and that the report has been approved for submission to the Decision Maker by the Head of Service indicated at 2. In addition, any additional forms have been completed and signed off as required at 1.	
	Lead Officer Name: Dave Luck	Job Title: North LAC Community Services Manager
Date: September 26 th 2023		

1. PROPOSAL

- 1.1 The Terms of Reference for Local Area Committees (LACs) provide that each LAC must agree a Community Plan setting priorities for the area of the committee, monitor delivery of that plan and keep it under review, and that the decisions it makes in relation to funding must fit with the priorities set out in the Community Plan and following engagement with the community.

Through a recent public consultation carried out in summer 2023 the North LAC has developed a draft Community Plan that seeks to identify the key issues within the area and develop a series of priorities that will inform the direction of the LAC, and direct the spending of delegated budgets, where the LAC has authority to do so.

This Report recommends the approval of the draft North Community Plan, attached as an Appendix to this report.

The Community Plan seeks to identify specific priorities and develop a series of actions, whereby the LAC can work with residents; businesses; community organisations; Council departments and other statutory organisations to effect change.

Following consultation with people in the North via a variety of avenues the proposal is to replace the previous priorities:

- Safe roads and effective transport links
- Clean and attractive environment
- Vibrant community life

With the new priorities of:

- Improving local transport through practical Highways improvements and promoting better public transport
- Improving community safety
- Improving community life

The North will continue to pursue the same three long term goals:

- The North is a connected place where people can access what they need to play an active part in their community
- The North is a safe place to live in and travel around
- The North is an attractive place with good facilities

The Community Plan is intended to be realistic in terms of what can be achieved within the timescales, having regard to financial, legal and logistical implications.

2. HOW DOES THIS DECISION CONTRIBUTE?

Local Area Committees directly support the Communities and Neighbourhoods and Our Council commitments in the 'Our Sheffield: One Year Plan' but to be effective they need to have the capability to respond quickly to emerging local issues.

3. HAS THERE BEEN ANY CONSULTATION?

- 3.1 The Community Plan has been developed through community consultation that has comprised of an online survey through the Council's Have Your Say platform; a paper-based survey for those less digitally-enabled; engagement activity with representative organisations and in-person engagement at events and popular community spaces.

Partner organisations and Council departments that have been identified as offering potential solutions to some of the issues identified have also been consulted, to establish whether suggestions can be realistically implemented.

4. RISK ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

4.1 Equality of Opportunity Implications

Decisions need to consider the requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duty contained in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.

This is the duty to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

The Equality Act 2010 identifies the following groups as a protected characteristic: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex and sexual orientation.

- 4.1.1 The overall impact of this decision is likely to be positive and not disproportionate from an equality, diversity and inclusion perspective. In developing a Community Plan, local communities have been given the opportunity for a greater say in local decision making for services which impact their daily lives.

The devolution of responsibilities will improve inclusion for local people and the work of the Sheffield Equality Partnership will support and enhance the approach from a citywide and underserved communities' perspective.

However, in order to ensure this approach takes into account people who share protected characteristics under the Public Sector Duties the Local Area Committee Community Plan will be supported by appropriate equality monitoring of budget.

An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA 916) was previously carried out in respect of the establishment of Local Area Committees.

4.2 Financial and Commercial Implications

- 4.2.1 There are no additional financial implications. This report relates to the decision to approve the Community Plan. The decision to allocate specific budgets to the Local Area Committees has already been made.

Procurement of supplies and/or services will be carried out in line with Standing Orders.

4.3 Legal Implications

- 4.3.1 The LAC must operate in accordance with its Terms of Reference, approved as a change to Council's Constitution by Full Council at its meeting on 18th March 2021. The Terms of Reference provide that each LAC must agree a Community Plan setting priorities for the area of the committee, monitor delivery of that plan and keep it under review, and that the decisions it makes in relation to funding must fit with the priorities set out in the Community Plan and following engagement with the community.

4.4 Other Implications

- 4.4.1 None

5. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 5.1 A key element in establishing LACs is the principle that each LAC will develop a Community Plan. An alternative would have been to retain the previous plan but it is important to carry out fresh consultation and update plans to ensure they are an up to date summary of local issues and priorities. The proposed plan builds upon the previous plan agreed in March 2022 and the work that has taken place since it was adopted.

6. **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 The proposal to approve the North LAC Community Plan is recommended on the basis that the Plan provides a clear framework in how the LAC will direct its resources to address key issues identified through community consultation.