

Item 28



MEETING:	Dearne Area Council
DATE:	Monday, 14 May 2018
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Meeting Room, Goldthorpe Library

MINUTES

Present Councillors Noble (Chair), Gardiner, Gollick, C. Johnson, Phillips and Sixsmith MBE

37 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillor Sixsmith declared an interest in Item 6 in his capacity as a Board Member of Age UK in view of that organisation's potential involvement in the social isolation project.

38 Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Dearne Area Council held on 22nd January, 2018 (Dac.14.05.2018/2)

The meeting received the minutes from the previous meeting of the Dearne Area Council held on 22nd January, 2018.

RESOLVED that the minutes be approved as a true and correct record.

39 Performance Report (Dac.14.05.2018/3)

The Area Council Manager introduced a report giving an update on the performance of services commissioned by the Area Council and the service level agreement with BMBC, together with the progress of projects supported by the Dearne Development Fund, for the period January to March 2018.

The meeting noted in particular that the Twiggs clean and tidy project was exceeding targets, which had been reviewed and increased. The Kingdom environmental enforcement commission was showing some underachievement of targets, and a formal performance report from the company was delayed but had now been received. However, the Area Manager was aware of a number of staffing issues that had contributed to this and she was seeking to address these with Kingdom. The Area Manager was aware that dog fouling remained a considerable concern for Elected Members and it was hoped to target better the offenders and Members were asked to identify particular areas for attention. In relation to private sector housing enforcement, although performance for this quarter was low, progress overall was good. It was noted that a vacant post and then newly appointed person had contributed to this lull in performance. It was proposed to review the targets for this SLA where it was not possible for the activity to show that impact.

The meeting noted that the problems in progressing car parking enforcement was partly due to the issue of "no parking" signs not being in place and the meeting noted work to address this issue. The parking restrictions at the Post Office on Market Street continued to be of concern and Councillor Gardiner agreed to investigate the background to the introduction of these restrictions.

The meeting noted the progress of projects funded from the Dearne Development Fund, and the slight overspend from 2017/18 that would be carried over into 2018/19. The Development Fund continued to provide good value for money, with the DIAL project, for example, bringing in £22 to the area for every £1 spent. Dearne Electronic Village had now seen 14 of its learners move into employment and by the end of the project over 60 learners will have achieved an OCR qualification. The project was directly related to one of the Council's overall priorities and was achieving a major impact for a very small investment, and the project was now receiving referrals from the Job Centre.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

40 Community Safety in the Dearne (Dac.14.05.2018/4)

The Area Council Manager introduced a report on the position on community safety issues in the Dearne for the period 1st January to 31st March, 2018. Members noted in particular the multi-agency action day in the Gosling Gate Road area to deal with a number of complaints.

The meeting noted continuing problems with cyclists in the area and that actions previously agreed did not appear to be having an impact. The need for a further meeting with Police representatives to discuss this issue was agreed.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

41 Dearne Area Council Financial Position and Progress of Projects (Dac.14.05.2018/5)

The Area Manager introduced a report giving an updated financial position for all Dearne Area Council expenditure during 2017/18 and the anticipated position for 2018/19 on the basis of current plans. It was noted that this position did not take account of any income that might be forthcoming from fixed penalty notices.

Progress was being made in developing the 2018/19 commissioning intentions in advance of the meeting scheduled for 11th June. It was hoped that funding could be secured for a research project into reasons for residents not attending GP and hospital appointments, which might form the basis of a university student research project in the event that the funding bid was unsuccessful.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

42 Dearne Area Council Social Isolation Project (Dac.14.05.2018/6)

The Area Council Manager introduced a report giving an update on developing the project to tackle social isolation in the Dearne, in particular to provide evidence for a model for a self-sustaining programme of support. The meeting noted that external funding had been secured for the project, but the Area Council needed to consider providing match funding of £2,000 in each of 2018/19 and 2019/20. A draft specification for the project had been developed and would be circulated to Members for consideration and comment.

The meeting noted the intentions of Age UK to take forward initiatives in the Dearne, with social isolation being a particular focus. The meeting noted that there will be an opportunity for Age UK to tender to undertake this work or undertake complementary activity in due course.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that Members submit comments to the Area Council Manager on the draft specification for a social isolation project in the Dearne and the Service Director Stronger, Safer and Healthier Communities be authorised to approve the final specification in consultation with the Chair of the Area Councils; and
- (ii) that match funding of £2,000 in 2018/19 and 2019/20 be contributed to the project from the Dearne Development Fund, subject to completion of the usual application process.

43 Notes from the Dearne Approach Steering Group held on 15th January, 2018 (Dac.14.05.2018/7)

Members considered the notes from the meeting held on 15th January, 2018.

RESOLVED that the notes from the Dearne Approach Steering Group be received.

44 Notes from the Dearne Ward Alliance held on 1st February, and 15th March, 2018 (Dac.14.05.2018/8)

The meeting received the notes from the Dearne Ward Alliance meetings held on 1st February and 15th March, 2018.

RESOLVED that notes from the respective Ward Alliances be received.

45 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Dac.14.05.2018/9)

The Area Council Manager introduced a report on the use of the Ward Alliance funding allocations during 2017/18. The meeting noted that the bulky rubbish project was now being administered through Berneslai Homes and the private sector housing project where specific issues were identified.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Chair

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