

# SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

## East Local Area Committee

### Meeting held 18 October 2022

**PRESENT:** Councillors Mary Lea (Chair), Anne Murphy (Deputy Chair), David Barker, Terry Fox, Dianne Hurst, Mazher Iqbal, Ben Miskell, Nabeela Mowlana, Zahira Naz and Sophie Wilson

#### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

1.1 An apology for absence were received from Councillors Mike Drabble and Sioned Mair-Richards

#### **2. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

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

#### **3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

#### **4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

4.1 RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022, were approved as a correct record.

#### **5. EAST LAC MANAGER UPDATE**

5.1 The East Local Area Manager, Huda Ahmed gave a presentation to the Committee.

5.2 The presentation outlined all the work that the East Local Area Committee (LAC) had undertaken since the last meeting of the Committee. These pieces of work were shown alongside the following 3 themes which were agreed as areas of priority at a previous meeting:

- Crime, Anti-Social Behaviour and Community & Neighbourhoods
- Environment, Highways & Transport
- Children and Young People, Health and Wellbeing

5.3 The LAC funding of £100,000 was still to be spent against these priorities. The Council was still determining the right issues and projects to allocate funding for, in order to make to most impact for

the communities. In addition, there was funding available as part of the ward pots and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) which can be used to target specific issues in the communities.

- 5.4 The presentation would be uploaded onto the Council's meeting webpages, following the meeting.
- 5.5 The Chair of the Committee (Councillor Mary Lea) explained that since the priorities were set at a previous meeting. Some funding will now be used to help children through the cost-of-living crisis. Some of the funding would be used to provide children with weekend activities, giving them somewhere to go and access warm spaces. The LAC will also look at similar provisions for the elderly.
- 5.6 The Head of Communities, Carl Mullooly gave an update on how the Council intended to support residents in regard to the Cost-of-living crisis.
- 5.7 The Head of Communities explained that Sheffield City Council had produced a package of supported to provide all available guidance on financial, fuel and food for anyone facing hardship. He stated that Senior Officers at the Council were leading on this work although the LACs had a key role to play in co-ordinating responses in their areas.
- 5.8 The Committee and members of the public were introduced to NeighbourGood, which is the name of the programme that would provide residents with welcoming places, where they could get access to warm drinks or be provided with information and help in these challenging times.
- 5.9 The Head of Communities stated that the Council had worked in partnership with Voluntary Action Sheffield and Faith Sectors. They had agreed an approach to share this information. Postcards and would be shared with front line workers at so they could signpost information to people who need help and advice. There was also a citizen's space survey taking place for organisations to register a welcoming place. Following the results of the survey, the Council is looking to create a cost-of-living crisis database where information would be shared on where residents could get help and access these warm spaces.
- 5.10 The Head of Communities referred to the postcards which were distributed across the tables. He explained that you can use mobile devices to scan over the QR codes which would then lead you to the relevant websites.
- 5.11 A Member of the Committee added that Members had been working with a tech-based company in the city centre, on

developing an application that could be downloaded on mobile devices. This application was free to download, easy to use and would provide people with advice relating to the cost-of-living crisis. It was stated that the application should be ready to download within the following week.

- 5.12 A Member of the Public asked how people who did not have online access, could access this same information.

A Member of the Committee mentioned there was information on those postcards that gave details of who to contact for further information.

The Chair also mentioned that all the information relating to the cost-of-living crisis, as mentioned at this meeting, would be available at libraries in the city.

- 5.13 A Member of the Public asked if the information would be available in other languages.

The Head of Communities confirmed that it would be available in different languages.

- 5.14 A Member of the Public asked how the Council would fund the heating costs for these warm spaces.

The Head of Communities explained that this could be funded as part of various pots of money. The Council may also receive funding from the Government to tackle issues relating to the cost-of-living crisis. The Head of Communities encouraged the member of public to get in touch with the LAC team if they needed support on this.

- 5.15 A Member of the Public asked what the LAC was doing to tackle potential issues relating to bonfire night and the use of fireworks.

A Member of the Committee explained that in previous years, the Council had allocated funding into local activities such as youth clubs. These would run into the late evening and in some cases midnight. It was mentioned that as of last year, there was no longer funding for these services therefore this was a challenge.

Simon Mitchell explained the difficulty in engaging with adults on this issue. He mentioned there was funding as part of the Community Safety Partnerships which can be used to look at issues in the East. There was also a good Police and Partner plan in place, prepared to deal with these issues.

## **6. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS**

6.1 The Committee received the following questions from members of the public, in attendance at the meeting.

6.2 Sandra France

– In relation to speeding issues and Parking Permits, the member of public referred to a meeting at the Town Hall between residents and local Councillors. At the meeting residents were promised three solutions to those issues raised. One solution was for a Councillor to meet again with residents again and look into the issues further although she mentioned that this still had not happened.

A Member of the Committee explained that the Councils Head of Strategic Transport and Infrastructure, who attended the meeting referred to, mentioned that he was unable to give a specific date to meet with residents. She added that the issues raised will be taken to the Transport, Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee in November. She confirmed that this meeting would happen, once the work around this issue had been completed.

Another member of the Committee explained that he was the Co-Chair of the Transport, Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee. He mentioned that the previous meeting with residents highlighted multiple issues around speeding and parking on specific roads. He added that The Head of Strategic Transport and Infrastructure was still collating information from a recent survey which would be needed before they can move forward with possible solutions. He stated that a meeting with residents and local councillors would take place in the coming weeks.

6.3 Allan Ogle

– Raised concerns around the repeated incidents of violent crime. He stated that he did not feel there was a multi-agency strategy on this and asked if the LAC had considered this.

Simon Mitchell explained that some of this would be covered as part of his presentation, at the meeting.

6.4 Steve Lewis

– Asked if the LAC could look into the speeding and parking issues outside Woodthorpe Primary School, he mentioned that vehicles were double parking on the main road as well as speeding and that were a real safety concern for those school children.

A Member of the Committee said that he would be happy to take Mr Lewis's details and inform local Councillors of these issues. He

added that the enforcement aspects would be carried out by South Yorkshire Police.

A Member of the Committee explained that this was an issue around a lot of schools in the city. He stated that when enforcement officers were present in the area that a lot of people knew to avoid double parking and speeding. He explained that prevention was the next step to tackling this issue.

6.5 Christine Hobson

Similar to the previous question, it was explained that large vehicles also had a tendency to drive outside Phillimore School during school opening and closing hours.

A Member of the Committee explained that there had been campaigns to stop large HGV vehicles travelling on those roads. Although, added that there were several industrial companies in the area which required the use of those vehicles. He agreed something needed to be put in place.

The Chair of the Committee, Councillor Mary Lea mentioned there was a public consultation happening at Phillimore School and that details of that would be shared with the member of public.

**7. COMMUNITY SAFETY PRESENTATION AND WORKSHOP**

7.1 The Committee received a presentation from Simon Mitchell, Community Service Manager. The presentation covered what the Community Safety Team did and the common issues that they faced. It also highlighted some of the positive been carried out.

Allen Watt, Sustainable Community Officer, addressed the LAC. He explained there was a team of Community Officers now in place and that they worked closely with South Yorkshire Police for dealing and reducing anti-social behaviour in the area.

7.2 The presentation would be published on the Council's meeting webpages, following the meeting.

7.3 Following the presentation, Members of the Committee broke out into breakout groups with Officers and members of the public. They were asked to consider the following 2 questions.

1. How can we improve what we do to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour?
2. How do you think you can help?

7.4 Following the breakout session, one person from each group was asked to feedback their groups thoughts. A summary of that feedback were as follows: -

7.5 Group 1

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- Crime was a wide subject and covered a variety of issues.
- The Cost-of-living crisis was only going to get worse. This could also increase crime rates.
- Needed to work more closely with communities in regard to dealing with violent crime and crime against women.
- Discussed 101 helpline compared to 999 emergency helpline.
- Community intelligence and passing on information to the Police. Could there also be an application developed to communicate between communities and relevant authorities.

7.6 Group 2

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- Discussed issues around people's confidence when reporting crime.
- Needed to promote positive behaviours so people knew that doing the right thing helped others in the community.
- Discussed the importance of using a variety of methods to communicate and report crime the Police.
- Using local venues to share information on how residents can report crime.
- Make the most of using the routes already in place to reduce the increase of expenditure.
- Sustainable Community Officers needed their own Twitter page.

7.7 Group 3

- Discussed whether we should be taking a public health approach to community safety.
- Communication was an issue that needed to be improved.
- Difficulties getting through to the 101 helpline.
- Residents were usually aware of where crimes was been committed, but the delays with reporting issues usually meant it was over by the time someone was informed.
- Needed quicker reporting methods and quicker responses.
- Needed to encourage residents to speak up and report issues.
- Needed to look at other ways to report crime other than reporting crimes online.
- Look at having an application to report crime, specifically to target fly-tipping.

**8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

8.1 There was no other business conducted at the meeting.