

Time Commenced – 6.02pm

Time finished – 7.44pm

COMMUNITIES, PUBLIC PROTECTION AND HOUSING SCRUTINY REVIEW BOARD 27 November 2023

Present: Councillor Eyre (Chair)
Councillors C Ingall, Chambers, Kaur, Onuoha, Pandey, Fowke
Also present: Councillor P Ingall

In Attendance: Charles Edwards – Head of Community Safety & Localities
Neil Woodhead – Service Manager – Locality Working
Daniel Giles – Locality Manager
Kelsey Mumford – Locality Manager

23/23 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received for Councillor Kaur.

24/23 Late items introduced by the Chair

There were none.

25/23 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Eyre informed members of the Board that he had been the Cabinet Member for Community Development, Place and Tourism from October 2021 to May 2023.

26/23 Minutes of the meeting held on 27 November 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 November 2023 were agreed as an accurate record.

27/23 Localities presentation

The Board received a report and presentation on Localities. This was presented by the Head of Community Safety & Localities and the Service Manager – Locality Working.

It was noted that the Locality Team brought together a core team of council officers who were focused on working together with citizens, their friends, families and communities to build on and build up a shared vision:

It was reported that this vision was that every person in Derby should be able to live in a place they called home, with the people and things that they loved, doing the things that mattered to them; as part of a community where they looked out for one another.

It was reported that the Localities Team engaged in prevent, reduce, delay formal support activities including:

- Working across the team delivering a strengths-based approach in localities – improved outcomes for residents, their families and their community.
- Ongoing work to support Community Hubs tackling the cost-of-living crisis
- Increased focus on education and engagement work to reduce environmental crime and fly tipping.
- Mental Health First Aid training for residents and those living and working in the city.
- Team members trained as Falls Ambassadors working with health colleagues to build a network of Falls Champions across the locality
- Bringing qualitative data and qualitative information and intelligence together to identify possible priorities across people, place and partnerships – targeting and tailoring approaches.

It was noted that the Localities Team were working with and as part of Team Up Derby to support a 'Healthy Lifestyles' event in Normanton Library and a health pop up; blood pressure monitor loan at Blagreaves Library.

Councillors took part in a demonstration of VR headsets that were being used by the Localities Team to educate local schools and community groups on the risks and dangers associated with gangs and knife crime.

A councillor asked to be provided with a list of schools in Derby that were due to receive a demonstration of the VR headsets. The Locality Manager agreed to provide this. It was noted that Locality Managers would be asked to highlight with councillors that the VR headsets were available for community groups in their wards.

Councillors discussed the role of PPOs, LACs and Neighbourhood Services. Councillors raised concerns around the staffing levels for PPOs and Locality Managers. It was agreed that a follow up discussion would take place on these issues. It was agreed that the Board would be kept up to date with the Council's recruitment of further PPOs.

Councillors asked whether PPOs had enforcement powers and it was agreed that information on this subject would be provided at a future Board meeting. Councillors asked to be provided with the number of fines issues by PPOs so far in 2024. The Head of Community Safety & Localities agreed to provide this information.

Resolved to note the update.

28/23 Neighbourhood funding usage and best practice

The Board received a report and presentation on Neighbourhood funding usage and best practice. This was presented by the Head of Community Safety & Localities and the Service Manager – Locality Working.

It was noted that Neighbourhood Board funding was used for the funding of projects or events that would benefit both the neighbourhood and its residents. It was reported that specific allocations of funding was made by relevant ward councillors and that funding couldn't be used for projects that required ongoing maintenance or anything that went against council policy. It was noted that organisations that could apply for neighbourhood funding included not for profit VCS organisations and CIC's

The Board noted that each neighbourhood was allocated £5,000 per Councillor. It was reported that across the city this equated to £255,000 for the financial year 2023-24. The Board noted that approximately £114,093 had so far been agreed for the 23/24 financial year and that £140,907 was yet to be allocated. Councillors noted that 25% of each neighbourhood board budget could be carried into 2024/25.

It was noted that so far in the 23/24 financial year, neighbourhood funding had been used for:

- Community garden project – Bringing a range of partners together to enable volunteers to take responsibility for a community centre green space.
- Warm welcome Spaces – Neighbourhood Board funding has been used across the city to both expand the reach of existing spaces and support the development of new spaces.
- Community Group development – Supporting the development of a Friends of Nottingham Road Cemetery Group, from the idea through to forming a constituted group and applying for joint board funding.
- Supporting Street Champions - Litter picking, grit bins etc.
- Supporting with the costs of defibrillators in community settings.

Councillors asked whether it would be possible for neighbourhood funding to be divided between councillors within an individual ward. It was noted that there hadn't been a reason to do this so far but that this would be possible in the future if it became necessary.

The Board resolved:

29/23 Work Programme 2023/24

The Board considered a report setting out the Terms of Reference and Remit of the Board.

The report provided Members of the Board with the opportunity to consider its terms of reference and remit for the forthcoming municipal year, its work programme for 2023/24 and any topic reviews.

The Board resolved:

- 1. to note the information provided within the report.**
- 2. to request a monthly update on the Council's PPO recruitment.**

Minutes End.