

COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR BARROW

Meeting date: 20 January 2020

From: Executive Director – Corporate, Customer and Community Services

BARROW AREA PLANNING REPORT

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 *This report brings together information from across the Community teams including Community Development, waste prevention, and libraries, and provides an update on work and agreed activity since the last meeting of the Committee.*

2.0 STRATEGIC PLANNING AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

2.1 *The County Council's vision set out in the Council Plan 2018-2022 is to be "a Council that works with residents, businesses, communities and other organisations to deliver the best services possible within the available resources." The approach and work of the Local Committee directly contributes to this, and area based working, and shaping services locally is one of the key ways of delivering this vision.*

2.2 *The work of Barrow Local Committee, through its Area Plan and projects helps to achieve the Council Plan 2018-2022 outcomes, which are:*

- *People in Cumbria are healthy and safe*
- *People in Cumbria are well connected and thriving*
- *The economy in Cumbria is thriving and benefits everyone*

2.3 *The development, operation and monitoring of the Council Plan requires a focus on the Council's performance against the identified outcomes, increasingly understood through localities. Barrow Area Plan sets out three targeted priorities for the area, which are:*

- *Improving health and well-being and tackling poverty*
- *To support Cumbria's Early Help strategy which enables support for children, families and young people*
- *Promoting sustainable economic growth and creating jobs.*

2.4 *The locally devolved funding is available for Local Committees to allocate within the area to support positive outcomes, targeted and mainstream, designed to improve outcomes for the communities of Barrow. This funding can be targeted to initiate new activity or to enhance/complement existing provision according to locally determined need.*

2.5 *Local Committee is mindful of equality issues and duly considers that its actions and decisions do not result in inequality of service provision or exclusion from participation. The work of Local Committee directly supports the Council's wider equalities agenda.*

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

3.1 *That Members Note the updates provided in this report*

3.2 *That Members consider contributing £5,000 for Barrow District Disability Association as outlined in paragraph 4.9.*

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 This report provides Members with an update of the work of Barrow Local Committee and the Community Development Team since its meeting of 18 November 2019 and outlines provisional and actual expenditure against Local Committee's budget as of 30 November 2019.

Area Working and Community Services Update

4.2 Since the last meeting of Local Committee there have been a number of meetings and workshops that some or all Members have attended, including:

- 21st November – The Chair of the CYP Working Group and Area Manager attended the Love Barrow Together Board meeting
- 22nd November – Following Grants Panel Members received an update from the Operations Manager regarding the Council's in house transport service
- 2nd December – A Planning meeting for the Barrow Health and Wellbeing Partnership was held
- 5th December – The Infrastructure Group Meeting was held
- 11th December – The Area Manager attended the quarterly meeting of the Joint Rural Committee
- 16th December – An Area Planning Session focussing on the Thriving Communities Pathfinder Connecting Communities was held with an update provided by the Area Manager, Community Development Officer, HAWC, Social Worker and Day Services Locality Manager
- 18th December – Councillor Burns and the Area Manager attended the Furness Economic Development Forum.

- 4.3 In addition to these specific briefing and workshop sessions Members have continued to meet as part of working groups to continue to progress key local committee projects including community development activity on Barrow Island and refreshing the children and young people's working group.
- 4.4 The Area Manager and Community Development Team have continued to support and lead a number of projects across the Borough for Local Committee, and a brief update on some of these is outlined below for Members Information:

Establish a Love Barrow Running Festival

This was a priority project identified by Barrow Local Committee, and aimed to build on the legacy of the Tour of Britain coming to Barrow in 2018/19.

The Festival was developed in partnership and was held on 6th October 2019 with over 600 runners taking part overall. This was complemented by a Health Festival held in the Forum, developed in partnership with Mind, Barrow ICC & University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay Trust.

This event was really successful and we are already starting to think ahead to the 2020 festival! A full report on the was provided at the November 2019 Local Committee Meeting for Members' information.

The redevelopment of Barrow Central Library

As has been reported to Members previously the project to further open up existing space within Barrow Central Library and develop it into a key customer hub has continued to progress. Work has now begun on the redevelopment and updates will continue be provided to Members through both Local Committee Meetings and also Area Planning and workshop sessions.

Ormsgill Community Hub

The redevelopment of the children's centre into a community hub is due to start in January with works scheduled for completion in April. In the meanwhile as Members are aware the Community Skills and Learning team are now running classes from the Family Centre, and the library has also relocated to this building, in preparation for all services moving into the Community Hub in late spring.

Outdoor Opportunities

As has previously been reported to Local Committee, as part of the Love Barrow Together work a suggestion was raised about exploring potential opportunities to support outdoor activities and families to go camping / take a break in the local area. A small working group has been pulled together to look at this further and to develop options for how this could be achieved. This work has continued to develop with potential ideas and opportunities being explored.

Supporting Children and Families and community development on Barrow Island

Members identified Barrow Island as one of the priority areas they wished to focus on, building on existing partnership working, and focussing on challenges and opportunities for the community.

Following the Barrow Island Residents meeting in June, the Barrow Island Partnership Group has been established. Regular partnership and residents meetings and activities to engage the community are now taking place, along with targeted intervention work. Most recently a Christmas classical coffee morning was held and attended by a number of residents and partners. A co-produced action plan has also been developed and the Community Development Team, working with residents, businesses and partners to develop a programme of activity for the coming year. Opportunities to provide a more joined up service provision around a hub model are also being explored.

Egerton Court Wellbeing Hub

As Members are aware, the Egerton Court Wellbeing Hub partners continue to engage tenants on Egerton Court in the Wellbeing Hub. Whilst much of this has consisted of crisis management however this approach has ensured the prevention of issues escalating.

The next phase of supporting tenants has resulted in an information sharing agreement being developed ensuring that the most vulnerable receive targeted intervention and support, with partners identifying who is best placed to support the tenants holistically.

From early in the new year, the group will be looking to support the development of a tenants and residents association and look to undertake environmental improvements.

Supporting Children and Families in the Greengate area of the town

This priority area of focus was originally identified by the Children and Young People's Working Group and has arisen from the discussions around developing a pre early help model of working. This work has been superseded however by a wider "Barrow Conversation" where a number of partners including the police, schools, Womens Community Matters and Love Barrow Families came together to begin to explore a more joined up approach across all sectors to working to support our communities and families to thrive.

This initial work has led to the establishment of the "Love Barrow Together" approach, and Councillor Burns and the Area Manager have been invited to sit on the Board for this group and will continue to report back to Local Committee.

The Community Development Team are now supporting the Greengate Residents Group and are working with partners to support this community.

School Governors

- 4.5 As Members are aware there have been a number of vacancies for Local Authority nominated School Governors in the Borough. The list below outlines for information those schools with vacancies and the nominations that have been put forward by Members since the last meeting of Local Committee.

School	Nominee
Dowdales School	Nick Perie
Greengate Junior School	Helen Wall
Holy Family Catholic Primary School	Vacancy
Lindal and Marton Primary School	Sue Bennett
St Columba's Catholic Primary School	Mr McTigue
St Paul's CE Junior School	Jo Pooley
Vickerstown School	Vacancy
Victoria Infant and Nursery School	Serena Kyle
South Walney Junior School	Les Hall

Barrow Libraries and Archives

- 4.6 The library and archive team have continued to be busy on the run up to Christmas with a wide range of activities taking place, including:

Reminiscence Session

On 9th December one of our Community Services Officers and an apprentice ran a reminiscence session at Risedale residential home on Abbey Road, the theme was shopping. We had 12 residents and 3 members of staff taking part and talked about the way shopping has changed and about rationing. These topics led onto lots of different discussions, with plenty of swapping of stories and lots of laughter. Everyone said that they had really enjoyed the session and have asked the team to go back on a monthly basis, and also to look at running a craft session tying into the theme of the reminiscence boxes where possible.

Christmas at the Library

Barrow Libraries at Christmas is a magical place. The reader development team worked their socks off transforming the library with no less than eight different Christmas displays promoting our festive stock and activities at Barrow Library as well as lovely displays in all our branches. Askam Libraries did a fantastic snowman door.

We were delighted with this year's theme for the children's library based on Tom Fletchers The Christmasurus and the Winter Witch. We collaborated with The Forum for our colouring competition to win tickets to this year's pantomime. Every day throughout December we offered the first child in the library the chance to open the book of the day from our book advent. We promoted reading together as we know that it is vital for children to thrive.

This year we held Christmas themed sessions in every Story Tots and Rhyme Time session in December. The children made beautiful Christmas cards and crafts to take home. Our 0-5 sessions promote reading for pleasure and offer positive bonding and socializing experiences for parents with young children. We shared pictures of our book monster on the shelf across social media.



Christmas celebration coffee mornings were held at Walney and Roose Libraries and were very successful. We had great fun with our book craft sessions, the first with a The Night Before Christmas theme the seconded was all about The Christmasaurus and the Winter Witch. We encouraged children to take part in this digital challenge run by The Reading Agency where they could unlock rewards as they upload book reviews to their reading profile. We had drop in eye spy quizzes for adults and children as well as drop in crafts and treasure trails throughout the Christmas period. Roose library were lucky enough to have a visit from the fantastic local author Ruth Sutton. Ruth told us all about her new book and her process as a writer. A great time was had by all

Local Committee Budget

- 4.7 The monitoring report is intended to summarise the most up to date position with regards to the Communities Budget, taking into account previous decisions taken by Local Committee.
- 4.8 The discretionary budget delegated to Local Committee is detailed in Appendix 1, providing the latest financial position including the committee expenditure and the remaining unallocated resources up to 31 December 2019.
- 4.9 At the July Meeting of Local Committee Members received a presentation from Margaret Burrow, Honorary Chief Executive Officer, Barrow & District Disability Association, and as part of the discussions agreed in principle to make a contribution to the 'Buy a Brick' campaign with an amount of £5000 proposed. Members are therefore asked to consider whether they wish to agree to provide £5,000 or another amount to this campaign from General Provisions.

5.0 OPTIONS

- 5.1 Local Committee can choose to support the recommendations outlined in this report, amend them and choose to commit different levels of funding within their delegated budget, or not to accept the recommendations.

6.0 RESOURCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The position as at the end of August for budgets other than Highways allocated to Local Committee are as set out in Appendix 1 (paragraphs 4.7 and 4.8).

6.2 There are currently £19,507 of unallocated funds in the General Provision allocation available for future commitment. If Local Committee decide agree a contribution of £5,000 for Barrow District Disability Association there would be £14,507 in unallocated funds remaining in the General Provision allocation available for future commitment (recommendation 3.2).

7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

8.0 CONCLUSION

8.1 This report provides the Local Committee with a comprehensive update on its Communities budgets and related matters delegated to the Committee.

Dawn Roberts

Executive Director - Corporate, Customer and Community Services

2nd January 2020

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Local Committee Budget

Electoral Divisions: All Barrow

Executive Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If a Key Decision, is the proposal published in the current Forward Plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the decision exempt from call-in on grounds of urgency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If exempt from call-in, has the agreement of the Chair of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee been sought or obtained?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has this matter been considered by Overview and Scrutiny? If so, give details below.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has an environmental or sustainability impact assessment been undertaken?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has an equality impact assessment been undertaken?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

N.B. *If an executive decision is made, then a decision cannot be implemented until the expiry of the eighth working day after the date of the meeting – unless the decision is urgent and exempt from call-in and necessary approvals have been obtained.*

PREVIOUS RELEVANT COUNCIL OR EXECUTIVE DECISIONS
[including Local Committees]

No previous relevant decisions

CONSIDERATION BY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

Not considered by Overview and Scrutiny

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers

REPORT AUTHOR

Contact: Tracey Ingham 0790 1884620, tracey.ingham@cumbria.gov.uk