

COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR BARROW

Meeting date: 6 March 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 in this report*
- 3.2** *That Members consider whether they wish to commit £5,000 to fund an additional year of the Barrow People in the Lead Programme as outlined in in Paragraphs 4.12-4.14*
- 3.3** *That Members consider whether they wish to contribute £9,500 to support the development of a Festival of Activity as outlined in paragraph 4.5*
- 3.4** *That Local Committee agree to nominate a Member to serve as the Barrow Looked After Children's Champion for the year 2020/2021 as outlined in paragraph 4.4.*

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 20 January 2020 and outlines provisional and actual expenditure against Local Committee's budget as of 31 January 2020.

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 January – Members were invited to attend a joint Member workshop on the Future Highstreets Fund by the Borough Council
 - 31st January – Members received a briefing and held a discussion regarding the recent study carried out looking at Askam Station.
 - A further Member Workshop looking at the Future Highstreet Fund is scheduled for 27th February.
- 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, Ormsgill and other areas within the Borough. The Community Development Team are also working with Barrow Borough Council to provide additional support around the consultation and engagement for the Future Highstreet Fund and Towns Deal.

- 4.4 At the November 2019 Local Committee, meeting Members discussed the role of the Local Committee's Looked After Children's Champion, and the importance of this role in attending appropriate meetings. Members are asked to consider who they wish to nominate to this role for the year 2020/2021.
- 4.5 The Area Manager and Community Development Team have continued to support and lead a number of projects across the Borough for Local Committee in line with Local Committee's agreed priority areas of focus. A brief update on some of these is outlined below for Members Information:

Establish a Love Barrow Running Festival

Following on from the success of this event some local amateur running clubs have offered to take the lead on a running festival in 2020 and are hoping to focus this on Walney this year.

Members are keen to continue to build on the success of this town centre event however, and following early conversations with partners it is proposed that an inclusive Festival of Activity is developed in the town centre this year. This Festival would aim to be fully inclusive and would host a range of organisations and activities, as well as replicating the successful Health Festival.

Local Committee are therefore asked to consider whether they wish to provide £9,500 from general provisions to support this new event and an associated Festival of Walking.

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. During February some of the Council's apprentices have also been carrying out some engagement with customers (both inside the library and in other locations) to gain further customer insight. As the feedback from this is collated an update will be provided to Members.

In terms of the physical re-development of the building, work has now commenced 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 has now started 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.

The Community Development team are working closely with the community on Barrow Island, and regular partnership and residents meetings and activities are now taking place. This is alongside more targeted interventions with residents, in streets identified through data and intelligence around issues of fly-tipping, anti-social behaviour etc.

An Easter event incorporating an Easter Egg hunt and litter clean in partnership with Barrow Borough Council Streetcare, BAE Systems, Zest and the community including the School is currently being planned. Work is also being undertaken to look at the potential to develop a community hub on Barrow Island.

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.

A Tenants and Residents Association is setting up in March with support from The Well and Mind. This has developed from relationships and trust built with the partners and tenants. Many tenants were socially isolated in their flats however engaging with the Hub has brought them together to support each other hence the setting up of an Association. The Tenants & Residents Association will lead on environmental improvement works in the central area with planters to plant trees, undertaking other planting and improve the general appearance.

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. One of the initiatives that is being developed creating a pocket park / garden on some currently unused land, with the local school children which will result in a green space for the children to grow, relax and exercise

Physical Activity

As members are aware one of the Community Development officers in the team has a specific remit, focussing on physical activity, and working as part of Active Cumbria. Outlined below is an update on some of the areas of work that have been developed and are taking place as part of this work:

Activate Programme

The aim of the Activate programme is to upskill people in the community (Activators) to deliver activity sessions in their setting or community. We provide FREE equipment and training, and all sessions delivered must be FREE of charge to everyone.

Since January we have been working with Tarn House on Walney and also the 'Living Well Centre' on Duke Street and staff in both venues have now received training and equipment and have already started delivering sessions which are going very well.



Walking for Health – ‘Feet First In Furness’

We have trained 18 Walk Leaders in the Barrow borough and they are now leading the FREE weekly walks as listed below. The walks aim to not only help people to get out and explore their local area but to also support loneliness, isolation, gentle exercise, social aspects and improve mental well-being.

- **Monday Walks with Walney Wind Cheetahs** - Every Monday, meet at 9.30am at the Dunes Hotel, Barrow-in-Furness
- **Monday Tudor Square Walk** - Every Monday, meet at 10.30am at Tudor Square, Dalton-in-Furness
- **Monday Living Well Centre Walks** - 2nd and 4th Monday of the month, meet at 10.30am at the Living Well Centre, Duke Street, Barrow
- **Tuesday HAWC Walk for Health** - Every Tuesday, meet at 1.00pm at Life Leisure Barrow Park.

- **Wednesday Walney Walk** - Every Wednesday, meet at 10.30am at The Round House, Biggar Bank, Walney.
- **Thursday Barrow Park Walk** - Every Thursday, meet at 10.30am at Life Leisure Barrow Park Foyer.
- **Friday Walk** - Every Friday, meet at 11.00am in Age UK Lakeland House, Abbey Road.

Starting in March will also be the **Ramble with The Raiders** as Barrow Rugby players start their own weekly walks.

All walks are FREE of charge and open to all, we hope that by training leaders from different communities and backgrounds this creates a diverse workforce which people can connect with.



Ormsgill Euro 2020 Legacy Project

We have secured £10,000 of Sport England funding to create FREE weekly fun-friendly football sessions open to all in the heart of the Ormsgill estate.

Euro 2020 is the largest football celebrations so will receive huge media coverage, this can drive residents to get active. These weekly sessions, can build to the Euros and create an exciting environment and bring together everyone in the community.

Supported by various partners including Police, local Headteachers & more, we will engage with participants creating positive relationships.

Supported by Barrow AFC Community Team, we will signpost people to grassroot clubs & bring that love of football to the estate.

Sport England Satellite Club Funding

Satellite clubs are extensions of community based sports clubs who deliver their particular sport in local venues where young people already meet.

Satellite clubs have an informal structure with young people not being required to be a member they are open to everyone in the local community and take place outside curriculum time. The hub club is encouraged to adapt their delivery to meet the needs of young people, to engage inactive young people, to be fully inclusive and to try and deliver the club at time and location where young people want to receive it.

The following investment has come to the projects below since January 2020;

Islanders Dance Troupe – Cavendish Park - £1000
For Central, Hindpool & Barrow Island - £15,725

We are currently working with Dropzone & Barrow AFC Community Team to consult with young people from these areas to find out what activities they would like to be part of. The project will begin in April 2020.

Barrow Libraries and Archives

- 4.6 The library and archive team have continued to be busy running a wide range of activities including:

The January Challenge where we created weekly challenges for all our borrowers to have a go at. Small quick activities that boost mood and encouraged us all to try something new for the New Year. We encouraged borrowers to participate and to sign up to daily challenges if they would like. We delivered creative activities in our Story Tots and Rhyme Time groups. Every week had a different theme, from making and throwing paper airplanes to coloring in butterflies. During this month 171 children and 96 adults took part.

Holocaust Memorial Flame - Barrow Library displayed Barrow's Memorial Flame, created by our community in response to the poem *The Butterfly* by Pavel Friedmann. We welcomed our community to drop into the library from Monday 9th December – Saturday 1st February to explore our display. They read testimonies and life stories of survivors from around the world. Created their own butterfly and added pledges to our Stand Together Wall.

Christmas Piano and coffee morning - This event took place for the community of Barrow Island. One of the Library's Community Service Officers has liaised well with the community and The Royal, a local pub on the island and secured a function room available to us when needed. He had a volunteer play Christmas songs and the pub provided refreshments.

Some of the feedback received included *'One woman thanked me for the event saying she'd brought her elderly father out of a residential home for it. She said he was often nervous going along to events, but he met someone he knew and spent time reminiscing about his time on Barrow Island. The gentlemen have agreed to meet up again.'*

- 4.7 During this period the library also hosted a range of groups and events including

Time to Talk- Various organisations attended the event at the library including Mind and First steps. This was a drop in session so the organisations could provide information and advice to anybody that required

How to Compost- The library hosted a free home composting workshop for local residents - the group wanted to pick up new volunteers as well as encouraging people to compost. This event was highly attended and very successful. We had a school attend so they tailored the session for younger people with activities and more interaction with the audience.

- 4.8 The Archive Centre also continues to be busy, both hosting and running events and activities, and also undertaking outreach. Activities since Christmas include:

- **Black History Month:** talk by Peter Foley of AWAZ Cumbria about his experiences as a black footballer in Workington. Attended by students from the Sports Department of Furness College and members of the public.

- **Lost Barrow Book launch:** Gill Jepson
- **Rusland Horizons Mapped History event:** A number of volunteers have visited the Archive Centre researching the names of fields in the Rusland area. A book launch was organised at Graythwaite hall, the home of the Sandys as they have a very large plan of Graythwaite estate. Susan took archives along to the event.
- **Explore Your Archive events:** 2 drop in sessions for STEM and Arts, Literature and Culture.
- **Talk to Furness Family History Society** on 150 Years of barrow and the Docks
- **Talk to Tea and Chat, Dalton Methodist Church:** work of the Archive Centre with items relating to the history of Dalton.

4.9 There have also been a number of archive school visits:

- Dane Ghyll School Year 6 - Victorian Barrow (25 children)
- Cambridge Primary School Years 3 and 4 - Victorian Barrow (43 children)
- South Walney Junior School Year Six - brief talk about the Barrow Blitz and then a walk around Hindpool and then up to the Cenotaph via the station (60 children)

Local Committee Budget

- 4.10 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.
- 4.11 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 January 2020.
- 4.12 Over the previous 3 years Local Committee has provided £5,000 funding to CVS as part of the Barrow People in the Lead project which was co-funded by the Lottery and Borough Council. The project was originally identified by partners to support small and emerging groups in the Barrow area primarily to put together funding bids, but also to offer support with governance, project development and training.
- 4.13 The project has proved to be very positive with support being provided to a wide range of groups. A progress update report is attached at Appendix 2 for Members information.
- 4.14 Given the benefits of this work and the capacity that the post has provided to support groups within the community, Local Committee are asked whether they wish to extend their funding and provide a further £5,000 towards an extending the programme. (The remainder of the funding is currently being sought from other funders).

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 January for the Community budget devolved to Local Committee are as set out in Appendix 1.

6.2 There are currently £14,507 of uncommitted funds in the General Provision budget. If Local Committee decide agree the grants in recommendations 3.2 and 3.3 totalling £14,500 there would be £7 remaining in the General Provision allocation available for future commitment.

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

24 February 2020

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Local Committee Budget

Appendix 2 – People in the Lead Year 3 Progress Report

Electoral Divisions: All Barrow

Executive Decision

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| Yes | |
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Key Decision

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| | No |
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If a Key Decision, is the proposal published in the current Forward Plan?

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| | | N/A |
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Is the decision exempt from call-in on grounds of urgency?

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|--|----|
| | No |
|--|----|

If exempt from call-in, has the agreement of the Chair of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee been sought or obtained?

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| | | N/A |
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Has this matter been considered by Overview and Scrutiny?
If so, give details below.

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| | No |
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Has an environmental or sustainability impact assessment been undertaken?

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| | | N/A |
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Has an equality impact assessment been undertaken?

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| | | N/A |
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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

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