

SOUTH STRATEGIC NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

25 October 2021

Commenced: 6.30pm

Terminated: 7.30pm

Present: Councillors P Fitzpatrick (Chair), Robinson (Vice-Chair), Affleck, Bowden, Chadwick, J Fitzpatrick, Kitchen, North and Owen.

Apologies for absence: Councillors Alam, Cooper (Official Duties) and Welsh

1. MINUTES

RESOLVED

The Minutes of the meeting of the South Strategic Neighbourhood Forum held on 22 March 2021 be approved as a correct record.

2. POLICE/COMMUNITY SAFETY

Mr Smith, Partnership Manager and Chief Inspector Broadstock, Greater Manchester Police, delivered a presentation giving details of the Greater Manchester Police Tameside South Neighbourhood Strategy 2021 – 2023.

Mr Smith began by outlining five key priorities of the Community Safety Strategy as follows:

- Building Stronger Communities;
- Preventing and reducing violent crime, knife crime & domestic abuse;
- Preventing and reducing crime & anti-social behaviour;
- Preventing and reducing the harm caused by drugs & alcohol; and
- Protecting vulnerable people and those at risk of exploitation.

Chief Inspector Broadstock then gave details of the new GMP Strategic Plan, which focused on fighting, preventing and reducing crime; keeping people safe and care for victims. Information was given in respect of public promises, including:

- Responses to incidents and emergencies;
- Prevention and reduction of crime, harm and anti-social behaviour;
- The investigation and solving of crimes;
- Delivering outstanding public service; and
- Building public trust and confidence.

Mr Smith advised Members of ongoing activity in respect of the promotion of Hate Crime awareness and Road Safety campaigns.

Information was provided in respect of Community Safety Partnership Grant Funding and the projects funded in 2021/22.

Chief Inspector Broadstock concluded by explaining that partnership working continued with the aim of creating a safer, stronger and active community, where crime and anti-social behaviour was less likely to happen.

The Chair thanked Mr Smith and Chief Inspector Broadstock for a very informative and enlightening presentation. Members sought further information in respect of resources available to deliver the new GMP Strategic Plan.

Chief Inspector Broadstock gave assurances that Police Officers were now less constrained by tasks and procedures which had prevented them from having a more visible presence in the community and that they would be able to work more flexibly in dedicated neighbourhood teams, going forward.

Following enquiries from Members, Chief Inspector Broadstock further emphasised the importance of Neighbourhood Watch schemes and the commitment for police officers to attend such meetings and would be in a position to share crime data. The Chief Inspector made further reference to Police and Communities Together (PACT) meetings, and explained that these would now recommence, having been paused due to Covid restrictions.

Chief Inspector Broadstock also responded to Members concerns in respect of road safety, speeding vehicles, off-road bikes and an increase in drug dealing in the area.

RESOVLED

That the content of the presentation be noted.

3. GROWTH PRIORITIES

Mr Stott, Assistant Director, Investment, Development and Housing, presented before Members giving details of the Place Directorate priorities going forward.

Mr Stott began by giving details of the following ongoing/future projects/initiatives:

Tameside Resilience Business Clinic - launched as part of the Covid response, offering free, bespoke advice and guidance. Businesses were matched to with a Project Manager from Economy Employment & Skills using the bank of Business Community Champions (BCC), GM Business Growth Hub provision and a catalogue of online support including webinars. BCCs were local business experts offering free support across specialisms including finance, social media and business start up. To date 63 businesses had registered and engaged with the Clinic.

In Work Progression project launching in January 2022. It was explained that Tameside had been selected by DWP to run the trial project, offering support to Tameside residents who were in work but would like to increase their earnings. Experienced staff would offer one-to-one support, tailored to the aims of each person.

Tameside Youth Employment Support - created in response to increased challenges for young people, following the pandemic, recognising the challenges many faced when trying to find employment. Employers were supported to create job opportunities matching the aspirations of a young person by offering reimbursement of first 6 months salary for apprenticeship or non-apprenticeship roles. Partnership & Engagement Officers provided one-to-one support from application through to job sustainment.

Routes to Work Supported Employment Service – A team of specialist advisors offering advice, support and practical assistance for anyone with a disability who would like to find employment. The Service provided retention advice and support to local businesses and created a network of opportunities for residents with disabilities. Currently, the Service supported 77 Tameside residents, 46 in work and 31 looking for work.

A framework for investment in Town Centres was also provided and details of activity in the Hyde Triangle were outlined, including:

- Circa 2,000 homes and new employment at Godley Green in an innovative Garden Village format;
- Supporting wider regeneration of Hyde Town Centre;
- Hattersley public private partnership delivering new retail, housing (270 homes), quality public realm and skills programmes to tackle deprivation; and

- Major transport infrastructure upgrade at A57 Link Roads scheme improving links between GM and South Yorkshire.

Hyde Town Centre challenges and future areas of focus were detailed and discussed.

Hyde Library, identified as surplus to Council requirements, was recognised as an important site/building for new sustainable uses. Members were informed that funding had been secured to progress design and feasibility work. It was intended to retain the façade and there was a requirement to identify a delivery model that addressed significant abnormal costs and secured development funding.

Dedicated, affordable housing development was detailed at Albert Road, Hyde and Organ Inn, Hollingworth and it was reported that Brownfield Homes Funding had been secured for 152 Affordable Rent units, Hattersley Road East, Mottram, including 91 Extra Care apartments and the rest covering a variety of houses and bungalows to be provided by Onward.

With regard to strategic property, the opening of Hyde Pool extension was reported and repairs/improvement works to schools in the area, were detailed. Further details were given of surplus assets, the lease break in 2022 at Hattersley Hub and decarbonisation works at Hyde Town Hall.

Further to enquiries from Members in respect of the process for disposal of sites within the Council's portfolio, the Assistant Director explained that Members and stakeholders would be consulted through the Strategic Asset Management Plan.

The Chair thanked the Assistant Director for a very informative presentation.

RESOLVED

That the content of the presentation be noted.

4. ACHIEVEMENTS/FUTURE PLANS FOR FORUM

The Director of Place explained that Members views on future items/presentations for Forum meetings were welcomed and that he would be liaising with Members and the Executive Member, Neighbourhoods, Community Safety and Environment on this matter, going forward.

CHAIR