

| Report of | Meeting | Date |
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| Director of People and Places (Introduced by the Executive Member for Places) | Executive Cabinet | 20 March 2014 |

NEIGHBOURHOOD PRIORITIES

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To update Members on the delivery of the 24 neighbourhood priorities in 2013/14 and seek approval for the new 24 neighbourhood priorities to be delivered in 2014/15.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

2. Members are asked to approve the 24 priorities and actions identified through the recent round of Neighbourhood Area meetings and for delivery in 2014/15 as listed in Appendix 1 to this report.
3. Members are asked to note the successful delivery of neighbourhood priorities in 2013/14 as listed in Appendix 2 to this report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT

4. The recent round of Neighbourhood Area meetings in January and February 2014 has determined a total of 24 priorities across the eight neighbourhood areas.
5. The table attached as Appendix 1 to this report summarises the priorities and provides an indication of actions, resource and lead service area required for each priority.
6. It is recognised that there is a diverse range priorities and that some will require further consultation to fully understand and determine community needs.
7. Funding for the delivery of the priorities will be through existing budgets, business as usual resources, leveraging in partner resources and approaching Parish Councils to release a proportion of their precept.
8. The priorities cover a range of issues, however some priorities do have similarities across neighbourhoods and some also fall within programmes of work planned for 2014/15. Where this is the case the particular programmes of work will take into account the respective priorities and seek to deliver them in those terms.
9. Appendix 2 to this report outlines the neighbourhood priorities delivered in 2013/14.

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| Confidential report Please bold as appropriate | Yes | No |
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| Key Decision? Please bold as appropriate | Yes | No |
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|---|---|--|
| Reason Please bold as appropriate | 1, a change in service provision that impacts upon the service revenue budget by £100,000 or more | 2, a contract worth £100,000 or more |
| | 3, a new or unprogrammed capital scheme of £100,000 or more | 4, Significant impact in environmental, social or physical terms in two or more wards |

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

(If the recommendations are accepted)

10. To progress the priorities determined by the neighbourhood area representatives for the benefit of the communities within their respective neighbourhood areas during 2014/15.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

11. None

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

12. This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

| | | | |
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| Involving residents in improving their local area and equality of access for all | | A strong local economy | |
| Clean, safe and healthy communities | √ | An ambitious council that does more to meet the needs of residents and the local area | √ |

BACKGROUND

13. Neighbourhood Areas were invited to submit three key priorities or actions for their areas during the round of neighbourhood area meetings in January/February 2014.
14. The 24 neighbourhood area priorities have been collated into a table and are attached as Appendix 1 to this report together with an indication of what actions might be required to deliver each priority, which service areas, partners and agencies might be involved in that delivery and an indicative cost. The table also indicates the service area best placed to lead on each priority.
15. Members will note that there is a range of priorities submitted by the neighbourhood areas from discrete work packages involving the installation of infrastructure to more developmental priorities involving engagement and support for communities. In addition some of the priorities identified are an extension of neighbourhood priority work begun on 2013/14.
16. It is believed that all the priorities are deliverable to a greater or lesser extent during 2014/15, although some will require a level of local consultation to establish exactly what the communities needs are. This may delay the ultimate delivery or even change the focus of the priority but it is anticipated that the priorities will be delivered in a phased approach during 2013/14 to ensure the best use of officer time and partner resources.
17. Participation at the neighbourhood meetings has continued to ensure engagement with parish councils, county council members and registered social landlords as well as Ward Councillors. The table below provides a summary of levels of attendance at each of the neighbourhood area meetings in Jan/Feb 2014.

| <u>Neighbourhood Area</u> | <u>Ward Members</u> | <u>Parish Councils</u> | <u>County Councillors</u> | <u>Others</u> |
|----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| Chorley Town East | 8 of 9 | n/a | 2 of 2 | CCH |
| Chorley Town West | 5 of 6 | n/a | 1 of 2 | CCH |
| Southern Parishes | 4 of 5 | 0 of 3 | none | CCH |
| Eastern Parishes | 1 of 4 | 3 of 6 | none | CCH |
| Western Parishes | 3 of 5 | 2 of 5 | 1 of 1 | CCH |
| Southeast Parishes | 3 of 4 | 2 of 4 | 1 of 1 | CCH |
| Clayton and Whittle | 6 of 8 | 1 of 3 | 1 of 2 | none |
| Euxton Astley and Buckshaw | 5 of 6 | 2 of 2 | 1 of 2 | CCH |
| | | | | |
| Totals | 35 of 47 | 10 of 23 | | |

18. Officers will continue to work to encourage the widest engagement from these groups to ensure full representation.

DELIVERY OF 2014/15 PRIORITIES

19. Each neighbourhood area meeting has a nominated chairperson for the meetings and each priority has a lead service assigned to it. For a number of priorities the lead service will need to liaise closely with the chairperson of the neighbourhood area in order to properly scope the priority.
20. Each priority will be managed through the Councils internal project management process with a set of objectives and tasks against which the successful delivery of the priority can be measured.
21. There is currently a base budget of £50K in the Neighbourhoods budget to contribute to delivery.
22. Members will note that there are similarities and themes emerging across neighbourhood areas with respect to the 24 priorities as follows:
23. Alley gate provision – 3 schemes across 3 neighbourhood areas.
24. Allotments and community food schemes – figures in 5 priorities identified across 3 neighbourhood areas.
25. Footpaths and walks – figures in 6 priorities across 5 neighbourhood areas.
26. Play provision – figures in 3 priorities across 3 neighbourhood areas.
27. Car parking – figures in 3 priorities across 2 neighbourhood areas.
28. Enhanced planting schemes – figures in 4 priorities across 3 neighbourhood areas.

2013/14 NEIGHBOURHOOD PRIORITIES

29. Appendix 2 to this report tabulates the 24 neighbourhood priorities determined by the neighbourhood area meetings in January 2013 and agreed by the Executive Cabinet in March 2013.

30. Delivery of these priorities commenced in April 2013 with a lead office nominated to take the priority forward.
31. Of the original twenty four priorities twenty one have been delivered to the satisfaction of the neighbourhood area meetings held in January/February 2014.
32. One priority relating to the provision of a Youth Shelter in Whittle le Woods has not been delivered due to an apparent lack of demand by youths identified in the area. However at the recent Clayton and Whittle neighbourhood area meeting it was agreed that the Communities Team would explore the delivery of targeted activities for young people in the area as part of business as usual service delivery in 2014/15.
33. One priority expressed by Eastern Parishes neighbourhood area related to the repair and upgrade of a cobbled walkway in the Wheelton area. This priority was amended part way through the year to the repair and upgrade of infrastructure around a play/picnic area in Wheelton. This will be delivered within the 2013/14 priorities and the original cobbled walkway priority has been deferred to a future neighbourhood priority year.
34. A further priority relating to enhancement of land to create a public open space in Hoghton has been delayed whilst agreement with landowners is reached. This priority will continue to be pursued to the satisfaction of the Eastern neighbourhood area group.

IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

35. This report has implications in the following areas and the relevant Directors' comments are included:

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| Finance | √ | Customer Services | |
| Human Resources | | Equality and Diversity | |
| Legal | √ | Integrated Impact Assessment required? | |
| No significant implications in this area | | Policy and Communications | |

COMMENTS OF THE STATUTORY FINANCE OFFICER

36. The programme listed within Appendix 1 can be financed from the base budget provision in 2014/15 plus underspend carried over from 2013/14 estimated to be circa. £40k. Should this programme of spend continue after 2014/15 then budget virements from other existing budgetary resources will need to be identified.

COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

37. The statutory authority to proceed with these scheme rests within the General Wellbeing Powers and General Power of Competence provided by legislation

DIRECTOR JAMIE CARSON
DIRECTOR OF PEOPLE AND PLACES

There are no background papers to this report.

| Report Author | Ext | Date | Doc ID |
|----------------------|------------|-------------|------------------------|
| Simon Clark | 5732 | 21 Feb 2014 | N'hood Priorities 2014 |