

## **Area East End of Year Report 2015/16 - Presentation**

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### **Purpose of the Report**

To provide Members with an overview of Area East progress and achievements during 2015/16 from the Area Development Plan (ADP)

### **Public Interest**

This report gives a summary of work undertaken over the year in response to local priorities raised by local communities and Councillors. The Committee's priorities form a work programme to support local communities and to run complementary programmes of activities to address the particular needs of this rural area.

### **Recommendation**

That members comment on and note the report and presentation

### **Background**

The Area East Committee focuses its resources to address local needs in order to promote improved quality of life in Area East. A priorities workshop was held with the newly elected Committee in July 2015 to assess available resources, agree priorities and enable a plan and work programme to be prepared for 2015/16. A ward profile was updated and circulated for each ward. The ADP for 2015/16 contains a set of local priorities, a work programme with targets, to carry these forward throughout the year.

### **Delivering Priority Work**

A presentation will be given at the Committee highlighting the work taken forward in the ADP 2015/16. The Plan and the end of year position in summary is set out in the attached schedule (Appendix 1). The Committee has received regular reports of specific work in themes – youth, customer support and Local Information Centres, marketing, Retail Support Initiative – or focused on delivery of schemes in the main towns throughout the year.

In addition to the proactive activities in the ADP, the team deals with a wide range of queries and funding requests from Parishes, businesses and community groups. Over the course of the year there have been over of 230 community, parish and business enquiries dealt with mainly by the Neighbourhood Development Officers. Some have been relatively straightforward enquiries requiring on the spot advice and signposting. Others have led to involved work around issues such as registering an Asset of Community Value, designing a project to address a problem, funding advice, support to set up a new group etc. An overview of projects by Ward is contained in the A3 Area ward map, which will be handed out at the Committee.

At the time of writing this report a total of 22 capital and small grants have been awarded in 2015/16 totalling £67,242. This has supported investment of £370,934 giving a leverage

ratio of nearly 1:6. A fuller report on these awards will be presented with the use of resources overview when this has been compiled.

The Chairman and ADM have maintained a programme of visits to key businesses, social enterprises and charities across the Area, with a view to establishing a working understanding and making practical linkages - both with SSDCs work & town regeneration - and between the enterprises themselves, as appropriate.

An updated ADP work programme for 2016/17 will be brought to AEC for approval in May 2016.

### **Financial Implications**

There are no new financial implications arising directly from this report. A separate report on use of resources in 2015/16 will be presented to AEC with the target date of June in the forward plan

### **Corporate Priority Implications**

The priorities have been developed taking into account the SSDC Corporate plan.

In particular the work of the ADT contributes towards:

- Enhance the vitality of town centres and discourage large scale out of town retail development that has a negative impact on local centres
- Work with and lobby partners to help communities to develop transport schemes and local solutions to reduce rural isolation and inequalities to meet existing needs of those communities
- Evaluate the overall requirements of the Government's 'Localism' legislation and work with communities to develop plans for their community
- Assist Queen Camel to complete their Neighbourhood Development Plan and use the lessons from this pilot scheme to help other communities to develop their plans in the future

### **Carbon Emissions & Adapting to Climate Change Implications (NI188)**

This is considered on an individual project and programme basis as appropriate. The overall priority is to seek to create more balanced communities where people can live, work and get access to the services and facilities they need on a daily basis

### **Equality and Diversity Implications**

This is considered on an individual project and programme basis as appropriate. All Area Development teams have done an Equality Impact Assessment and have an improvement plan in place.

**Background Papers:** ADP 2015/16;