

TOWN AREA COMMITTEE

20th NOVEMBER 2017

REPORT OF DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1. This report seeks to establish a policy direction to maximise the impact of efforts made by the Council and its partners to improve quality of life for residents living in the town of Melton Mowbray, particularly for those living in a number of defined priority neighbourhoods.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:-

- 2.1 **the priority neighbourhoods and remaining monitoring areas at Appendix A are approved.**
- 2.2 **the Proposed Melton Neighbourhood Management Model at Appendix B is approved and submitted to the Melton Community Partnership for further consideration.**
- 2.3 **the proposed growth item of £50K for the 2018/19 budget is noted.**

3.0 KEY ISSUES

Background

- 3.1 Within the town there have been a number of environmental and crime issues in recent months which have been of particular concern. In March this committee considered a report regarding dog mess and at the end of October the Council hosted a senior level meeting in relation to crime. At the meeting of this committee on 18th September the Committee considered a presentation on Neighbourhood Management and requested a report back on 20th November regarding how these key town issues might be addressed through an updated approach to Neighbourhood Management.
- 3.2 At the meeting on 18th September the Committee considered the previous approach to Neighbourhood Management that focused on a small number of priority neighbourhoods and confirmed that they wanted to re-energise this approach and develop a role for this Committee. These priority neighbourhoods covered Egerton Ward, Fairmead Estate, Town Centre Flats and Queensway Estate. We know from current data and analysis, such as the work analysing top contacts into the Council, that these will still be priority neighbourhoods for the Council which do warrant the additional focus that Neighbourhood management provides.
- 3.3 Whilst the really focussed work will be on priority neighbourhoods, it is recognised that some of the environmental issues in particular may occur outside of priority

neighbourhoods and the model of neighbourhood management proposed needs to be flexible enough to deal with this. Attached at Appendix A is a plan which identifies the priority neighbourhoods but also recognises that the whole of the town area wards outside of these will be treated as “monitoring areas” so that we can respond quickly if environmental type issues are identified. There will be an opportunity here to link into the proposed “patch walks” to be organised and carried out by Melton Matters.

- 3.4 At the meeting on 18th September the Committee considered the previous Neighbourhood Management Model that was initially developed around 10 years ago. An updated version of this model has been produced and is attached at Appendix B. At the present time this has only been discussed internally within the Council and clearly we would need to obtain support from local partners and from the Melton Community Partnership (MCP). Members are asked to consider and comment on this model prior to any considerations through MCP or with partners.

4.0 POLICY AND CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Developing strong and resilient neighbourhoods and supporting our most vulnerable people to overcome disadvantage are top priorities as is tackling the root causes of offending to create safer communities. It is likely that as people become more resilient and independent there will be reduced demand for reactive council services as well.

- 4.2 A successful approach will involve engagement with local communities and will enhance the Council’s reputation.

5.0 FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 It is anticipated that an improved focus on Neighbourhood Management can be achieved to a significant degree by ensuring that all service areas are prepared to give particular emphasis and consideration to how they better support and target people and places in priority neighbourhoods, such as reviewing our approach to Public Service Protection Orders (PSTO’s). There will also be an expectation of leveraging capacity and resources from partners and through voluntary community effort achieved through a joint approach to co-ordination of services and action.

- 5.2 In order to give this policy some real impetus it is further proposed that from 2018/19 a specific growth item of £50K is considered, partially achieved via redirection of resources, from the special expenses budget to support activity to address environmental and crime related issues in priority neighbourhoods and across the other parts of the town as required. It is anticipated that this would support a couple of neighbourhood support officer posts. Officers are working on the specifics of how this could be achieved as part of the budget process. There is already a smaller sum of £7K allocated in 2017/18 as a result of the discussion at the March Committee regarding the dog mess which will also form part of this approach. There is still £6k of this budget which is unspent.

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS/POWERS

- 6.1 There are no specific legal implications.

7.0 **COMMUNITY SAFETY**

7.1 This work will have a positive impact on community safety.

8.0 **EQUALITIES**

8.1 The proposal should contribute positively to equalities through helping more people to live their lives independently, such as people with learning difficulties or mental health issues.

9.0 **RISKS**

9.1

L I K E L I H O O D	A	Very High				
	B	High				
	C	Significant				
	D	Low			1,2,3,4	
	E	Very Low				
	F	Almost Impossible				
			Negligible 1	Marginal 2	Critical 3	Catastrophic 4

IMPACT

Risk No	Risk Description
1	Partners do not engage
2	Cultural challenges
3	Key officer availability
4	Difficult to engage community

10.0 **CLIMATE CHANGE**

10.1 No Direct Implications have been identified.

11.0 **CONSULTATION**

11.1 Management Team and some partners have been consulted.

12.0 **WARDS AFFECTED**

12.1 All Town Wards

Contact Officer: Keith Aubrey

Date: 5th November 2017

Appendices: Appendix A – Priority Neighbourhoods and Monitoring Areas
Appendix B – Proposed Neighbourhood Management Model

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