

**At a Meeting of the COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE held at the HETTON CENTRE, HETTON-LE-HOLE on THURSDAY, 4<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2010 at 6.30 p.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor J. Scott in the Chair

Councillors Blackburn, Ellis, A. Hall, Heron, D. Richardson, Rolph, Tate, D. Smith, Speding and Wakefield.

**Also in Attendance:-**

Angela Cousins	-	Area Community Co-ordinator
Melanie Caldwell	-	Head of Operation, Gentoo
Julie Heathcote	-	Communications Officer
Councillor Juliana Heron	-	Hetton Town Council
Jill Laverick	-	Communications Officer
Pam Lee	-	Public Health Specialist, Sunderland Teaching Primary Care Trust
Juliette Johnson	-	Area Voluntary Community Sector Representative
Tobyn Hughes	-	Director of Strategy, Nexus
Rob Mills	-	Bus Project Delivery Manager, Nexus
Andrew Perkin	-	Senior Economic Development Officer
Paul Power	-	Sports Delivery and Project Manager
Judith Quinn	-	Deputy Head, Headways
Beverley Scanlon	-	BSF Project, Sunderland Council
Dave Richardson	-	Interim Assistant Head of Environment Services, Sunderland Council
Lee Wardle	-	Area Voluntary Community Services Representative
Jeff Wilkinson	-	Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service

Members of the Coalfield Area Community

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillor F. Anderson.

## Welcome and Introductions

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked all those present to introduce themselves.

## Minutes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2010

- i) Councillor Juliana Heron's name is included in the attendance.
- ii) Councillor D. Smith had asked for further clarification regarding the current 3G camera system. Ms. Pauline Hopper, Area Officer, suggested that a further action is added to the safe theme requesting a review of the CCTV system.
- iii) Referring to page 3 of the minutes, the Chairman advised that he had written to Northumbrian Water with regard to the quality of the water supply pertaining to the landfill site at Houghton. The Chairman had received a response from Northumbrian Water and proceeded to read an extract from the letter to the Committee which stated:-

"All water undertakers have a duty of care to protect public health via water supplies and are open to prosecution if this is breached. Northumbrian Water undertakes a rigorous monitoring programme on water supply to meet all regulatory and operational needs, the sampling and analysis from which is reviewed in detail by an independent auditor (the Drinking Water Inspectorate) on behalf of Defra. Stoneygate Water Treatment Works forms part of this monitoring programme and to date, Northumbrian Water can find no evidence to indicate deterioration of the water supplied from this abstraction."

The Chairman advised that he intended to write to the Environment Agency to express ongoing concerns in relation to the landfill site.

- (iv) Pam Lee, Sunderland TPCT, requested that the fifth paragraph on page 4 be amended to read "the obesity issue had been on the health radar for 20-30 years, however, messages around alcohol had only recently been disseminated."
1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2010 (copy circulated) be confirmed and signed as a correct record subject to the above amendments.

## **Declarations of Interest**

### Financial Statements and Funding Requests

Councillor Ellis declared a personal and prejudicial interest with regard to Rectory Park Regeneration Works as the Chair of Friends of Rectory Park and withdrew from the meeting prior to consideration of the Item.

Councillors Scott, Speding and Tate declared a personal interest in the Community Leaders of the Future Project as the applicant was known to them.

Councillor Rolph declared a personal interest in the Community Leaders of the Future Project as a Governor of Houghton Kepier School.

### Consultation on Football, Play and Wellness

Councillor Speding declared a personal interest in the report as a member of the Football Association Limited.

## **Variation in the Order of Business**

The Chairman proposed and it was agreed to vary the order of business to consider Item 10 – Accessible Bus Network Design Consultation, at Item 5.

## **Accessible Bus Network Design Consultation (Local Bus Links)**

The Director of Strategy, Nexus, presented a report (copy circulated) to provide the Committee with details of the proposals for the Bus Network in the Coalfields area and to provide comments and feedback to confirm or improve the proposed design.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chairman welcomed Toby Hughes, Director of Strategy, Nexus and Rob Mills, Bus Project Delivery Manager, Nexus to the Committee and invited them to present the report.

Messrs. Hughes and Mills provided background detail to the project which was designed to better meet the aspirations of local people, in response to the Integrated Transport Authority's new Bus Strategy.

The key changes proposed for the Coalfield area related to enhancing a number of routes and increasing peak and off-peak services. The proposals as presented could be achieved within existing resources by withdrawing a small number of poorly used early morning services and link up (the Demand Responsive Service) across the district.

The detailed proposals for the network in Coalfield area were provided to the Committee and the main changes were explained. The Committee were informed about the process for wider consultation.

Councillor A. Hall was pleased to note that the 202 service, Shiney Row to Doxford International, was in place as this service had not been reliable previously. Route 79 would now pass the Health Centre at Houghton which would also be of great benefit.

Councillor Juliana Heron, Hetton Town Council, raised concerns that Hetton Downs was not covered as was presently by the 35.

Councillor Rolph applauded the service that would link Fence Houses with Dairy Lane Estate to Houghton Town Centre.

Councillor Rolph queried whether the link up service would still run until it was replaced and how early and late buses would run as timing could seriously affect young people travelling to Headway College from Fence Houses.

Rainton Bridge was a key site of employment and Councillor Rolph hoped that the service would be running as and when needed.

Councillor Rolph questioned whether consideration would be given to commuting areas across the boundary, for example links to the Park and Ride facility at Belmont, Durham. She also suggested that consultation events take place in an easily accessible public building in Fence Houses.

Councillor Richardson advised of an incident he had been made aware of where a disabled person had waited 2 hours for a bus in Houghton because none of the ramps on the bus were working. At no point was a taxi called for the individual.

Councillor Heron queried whether the link services for the City were being looked into as a whole including where people travelled to and from. A significant number of people in the Coalfields area worked in Washington.

Councillor Speding agreed that widespread public consultation should take place in venues that members of the public could easily visit, for example, health centres and libraries.

Mr. Hughes responded to the questions.

With regard to Rainton Bridge, Mr. Hughes advised that the site had been problematic from the outset as planning consent had not included the requirement for a bus service. Commercial bus operators were interested in servicing the area and were eager to work with Nexus and the Council to provide a solution.

In response to a question from Councillor Speding, Mr. Hughes advised that Sunderland's contribution to the Integrated Transport Authority (ITA) was £18 million and 60% was passed on directly for provision of concessionary travel. Mr. Hughes accepted that the 16-19 age group was a gap. A small contribution was made to the Metro, but the vast majority (95%) was government grant. £12 million in gross spend terms was used on secured bus services across Tyne and Wear and it would be difficult to provide the breakdown on an area basis, however, approximately £1.8 million was spent in Sunderland on secured services. Of that amount 50% was spent on subsidising evening and weekend services.

With regard to the incident to which Councillor Richardson referred, Mr. Hughes advised that under the revised service all vehicles in operation would be low floor and the contract would stipulate that the ramp would need to be working. Failures of service were taken every seriously and all drivers would be aware of the actions they needed to follow in the event of malfunction.

Mr. Hughes agreed to take comments on board with regard to the 35 service operating in Hetton Downs and agreed to speak to Go North East.

Mr. Hughes confirmed that the taxi bus services in Fence Houses would not be withdrawn until the replacement service was delivered.

Mr. Hughes stated that the bus link to Belmont would be looked at by commercial operators as part of the wider strategy to evaluate demand.

Referring to Councillor Heron's query regarding the need to ensure the whole City and passengers' needs were taken into consideration, Mr. Hughes stated that demand throughout the City and beyond would be taken into account.

Having thanked Mr. Hughes and Mr. Mills for their report it was:-

2. RESOLVED that:-
  - i) the Committee cascade the information about public events to organisations and individuals;
  - ii) the comments and feedback above are fed into the final recommendations.

### **Questions to Area Committee**

The Democratic Services officer, having advised Members that no questions had been submitted for consideration by the Area Committee it was:-

3. RESOLVED that the information be received and noted.

## **Coalfield: A Prosperous Area Summary**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which highlighted the following 'Prosperous Area' priorities previously identified by the Committee, key issues and their background, current activity delivered day to day by services, identified gaps in services together with options and proposals:-

- i) Note the action identified in Annex 1
  - o Business and Investment Team to provide results of the Visible Workspace Survey
- ii) Agree the proposals identified in Annex 1
  - o Explore the potential of SAFC Foundation delivering Family Learning
  - o Review FACL (Family, Adult and Community Learning) programme
  - o Review the apprenticeship opportunities available in the public sector
- iii) Note the Economic Masterplan update in Annex 2

The Chairman introduced Andrew Perkin, Senior Partnership and Policy Officer, who complimented the report with a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation detailing work being undertaken by the Council and partners to support the Committee's priorities with regard to its prosperous theme.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

In response to an enquiry from Councillor A. Hall regarding what mechanisms were in place to ensure businesses have the best support given the known failure rate, Mr. Perkin advised that a team of business advisors were in place to offer guidance. After 6 months a business would be introduced to someone from business link and assigned a business mentor.

Councillor D. Smith referred to the increasing problem of corporate identity theft where companies hide behind the Companies Act to hijack other businesses and questioned whether this problem had been experienced in Sunderland.

Mr Perkin advised that work was carried out with local businesses to ensure they were not exposed to such activity.

Councillor Speding stated that over the last 20 years thousands of jobs had been lost in the area and the attitude at the time was to replace with transient jobs. There needed to be a focus on increasing business unit development to encourage new enterprise.

Mr Perkin stated that the issue centred on demand from the private sector. The Coalfields contained a diverse range of industrial and commercial properties yet there was a gap in the provision of small business premises

and a project was being set up to look into accommodation for small businesses.

Councillor Rolph advised that a priority appeared to be missing from the Prosperous theme which related to support for local shopping areas.

Ms. Hopper apologised for the oversight and agreed to reinstate the priority and address the actions within it.

Councillor Rolph welcomed the Markets Feasibility Study, the research project looking at the potential to hold markets, including Houghton, Shiney Row and Hetton which had been suggested some time ago.

Councillor Rolph commented that the proposal for FACL to identify and support the development of new providers of family learning was for 'review' and therefore not an identifiable action.

Ms. Hopper stated that a number of the actions required a whole system review from which specific actions would follow and would subsequently be fed into the action plan.

Councillor Heron reiterated the comments made by Councillor Speding that there was a need for cheap starter units particularly in the Sedgeleth area. He stated that colleges and universities needed to be involved in entrepreneurship and encourage young people to remain in the area.

Councillor Heron also stated that retailers should be encouraged to trade in the area through council tax and business tax relief.

The Chairman having thanked Mr. Perkin for his report it was:-

4. RESOLVED that the report and presentation be received and noted and that the following actions as identified in the report and its annexes be endorsed:-

- Business and Investment Team to provide the results of the Visible Workspace survey
- Explore the potential of SAFC Foundation delivering Family Learning in the Coalfield area. This may involve providing funding to tailor provision to the needs of the area.
- Review (also addressed in the Learning theme) - FACL to identify and support the development of new providers of family learning
- Escalate to LSP - review apprenticeship opportunities. Greater public sector commitment to the creation of more full apprenticeships is required - Either by providing apprenticeships within statutory sector organisations or providing financial incentives to other employers.

- Support for local shopping areas be included as a priority.

### **Thematic Feedback Report – Coalfield Area Action Plans**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided the Committee with an opportunity to discuss feedback on actions taken to date with regard to its priorities in relation to its Safe, Attractive and Inclusive Healthy and Learning Action Plans.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Pauline Hopper, Area Co-ordinator, presented the report and advised that she would endeavour to answer any comments or questions that Members may have.

In relation to the Safe theme, Ms. Hopper informed Members that she had received two potential area for consideration for the Youth Offending Service to establish a Community Payback Scheme. She advised that the suggestion of fence painting at the Kirk Lee Playing Field was not feasible due to health and safety considerations. The second suggestion related to a clean up of the rubbish in Herrington Burn.

Councillor Rolph advised that she had also suggested a clean up of the tree belt running along the B1284 at Fence Houses.

Members agreed to select the Herrington Burn location for litter removal.

Ms. Hopper advised that an Action Plan was being formulated under the Healthy theme.

Councillor Rolph requested that the Committee receive an update at the next Committee in relation to unadopted roads as this had been promised on a regular basis.

Ms. Hopper agreed to try to provide Members with an update.

5. RESOLVED that the updates, activities and actions in respect of the Safe, Attractive and Inclusive, Healthy and Learning Area Action Plans as detailed in the report be received and noted.

### **Financial Statement and Funding Requests**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) in respect of the above matter which sought Committee approval for the following recommendations:-

- i) to approve 5 proposals for funding from the Community Chest;



- ii) to approve the following proposal for SIB funding:-
  - Monument View Workshop/Classroom
  - Herrington Burn YMCA Feasibility
  - Rectory Park Regeneration Works
  - Community Leaders of the Future
  - Hetton Town Community Festival
  - River Wear Trail
- iii) to approve the following proposal for SIP funding:-
  - (Hetton) Pedestrian Guardrail
  - (Shiney Row) McLaren Way Lighting
  - (Shiney Row) South View
  - (Houghton) Gilpin Wood
- iv) to note the financial statement for Area Committee funding for 2009/10;
- (v) that consideration be given to Citywide Community Chest applications at the final meeting of each municipal year;
- (vi) the use of SIB funding to meet the infrastructure costs of managing events and processions on the highway at an area level, in view of the statutory changes made in the safety management of such events.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

6. RESOLVED that:-

- i) the financial statement for 2009/10 be received and noted;
- ii) approval be given to all 5 Community Chest proposals recommended for support from the 2009/10 budget as detailed in Annex 1 of the report;
- iii) consideration be given to Citywide Community Chest applications at the final meeting of each year; and
- iv) approval be given to the use of SIB funding to meet the infrastructure costs of managing events and processions on the highway at an area level, in view of the statutory changes made in the safety management of such events.
- v) The following proposals for SIB funding are approved:-
  - Monument View Workshop/Classroom, £25,000
  - Herrington Burn YMCA Feasibility, £20,000
  - Rectory Park Regeneration Works, £50,000

- Community Leaders of the Future, £11,543
- Hetton Town Community Festival, £6,000
- River Wear Trail, £19,500

vi) The following proposal for SIP funding are approved:-

- (Hetton) Pedestrian Guardrail, £11,200
- (Shiney Row) McLaren Way Lighting, £10,000
- (Shiney Row) South View, £3,500
- (Houghton) Gilpin Wood, £30,000

### **Consultation on Football, Play & Wellness**

The Executive Director of City Services submitted a report (copy circulated) to consult with the Area Committee on the Football Investment Strategy (FIS) and the proposed priorities for investment, the Play and Urban Games Strategy for identification of priorities for future investment and also to provide an overview of Wellness programmes.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Mr. Paul Power, Sports Development Delivery Manager was in attendance to present the report and answer Members' questions.

Mr Power requested Members comments in relation to the Football Investment Strategy, to provide feedback on locations that would benefit from future investment in play provision and possible locations for the Active Bus to visit.

Councillor Rolph referred to Members suggestions in relation to possible next steps for play development and she advised that the suggestion of Chilton Moor was inaccurate as the proposal had been to include the whole of Fence Houses.

Councillor A. Hall also commented that play development at Barnwell was underway and she was unsure whether the report should be referring to a different area.

Mr Power requested that Members forward to him any additional venues for the Walking Programme.

Councillor Rolph stated that she did not feel the Coalfields area had been treated equitably during Phase 1 of the 'Walk in the Park' programme as the Coalfield was a large geographical area with only 2 identified routes.

In considering suitable locations for the Active Bus, Councillor Rolph advised that it was important to access different areas as opposed to visiting the same main sites.

The Chairman having thanked Mr Powers for his report, it was:-

7. RESOLVED that the content of the report be noted and Members comments on the proposals outlined in the report be fed back into the consultation process.

### **Responsive Local Services**

The Executive Director of City Services and Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide the Area Committee with the 'Responsive Local Services' project update for the period of November 2009 to January 2010.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Dave Richardson, Interim Assistant Head of Environmental Services, presented the report and advised that the level of detailed information coming from the system would build up over time and extend to cover other services which would help to tailor services to meet the demands of the Area Committee.

Mr. Richardson provided Members with highlights of the work that was being undertaken in relation to service performance analysis and presented a snapshot of performance information focussed on litter for the area using the GIS mapping tool.

Members agreed that the GIS map should include a new colour for Member referrals.

Councillor A. Hall advised that a characteristic of the Coalfield area was that pockets of unsightly land existed and it was uncertain who owned them.

Mr. Richardson advised that the Council did have powers regarding enforcement but the problem was finding people who owned the land.

Councillor Smith advised that determining who owned land boundaries was exacerbated by the problem that they were not marked on the Land Registry.

Norma Johnston, Assistant Head of Environmental Services, advised that the Council were exploring a new range of powers under Section 92 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 which gives local authorities the power to serve a litter abatement notice. As the Council now had the available resources this piece of legislation could now be enforced.

Mr. Richardson advised that there was the facility to drill down to ward level with a team in each area; hopefully this would result in smaller teams in each ward. The system would target problem areas for response.

Councillor Rolph stated that fly tipping on allotment sites was a huge issue and needed a strategic approach.

Mr. Richardson advised that a number of allotments had been inherited from the Coal Board and the budget of £35,000 was not enough to cover the amount of maintenance required for the upkeep given the increasing demand.

Members stated that fly tipping on unadopted highways was also an issue.

In response to a question from Councillor Blackburn, Helen Patterson, Area Lead Executive advised that the GIS system would be available for Members to view, although the date for this was unclear at present.

Having thanked Mr. Richardson for his report, it was:-

8. RESOLVED that the contents of the report be received and noted.

The Chairman then closed the meeting having thanked everyone for their attendance.

(Signed) J. Scott,  
Chairman.

## **Coalfield Area Committee**

**14 April 2010**

### **Report of the Chief Executive**

## **Coalfield Annual Report 2009/10**

It was agreed in June 2009 that the April 2010 Area Committee would be dedicated to reflect on the work delivered, via the Local Area Plans, during 2009-10. To support this process the annual report has been produced focusing on the following areas:-

- The Area
- Safe
- Attractive and Inclusive
- Learning
- Healthy
- Prosperous
- Meetings and Governance
- Finance

Under the thematic headings a summary is provided outlining the achievements delivered and influenced by Area Committee, using practical examples.

### **The Area**

The Coalfield area comprises the four electoral wards of Shiney Row, Houghton, Copt Hill and Hetton. There are 12 Councillors who represent the Coalfield area of Sunderland.

The Coalfield has its roots deep in the mining industry, with coal being mined in the area since Roman times. Coal continued to be the lifeblood of the area until the 1970s and 80s, with 4,645 jobs lost between 1971 and 1999, the majority disappearing in the 1980s. The area is rich in heritage containing Penshaw Monument, the City's most prominent landmark, and the prehistoric burial site of Copt Hill.

The area contains a number of distinct communities based mainly on former pit villages. These include 23 villages such as Easington Lane, Fencehouses, Hetton, Houghton, Newbottle, Philadelphia, New Herrington, Penshaw and Shiney Row. The area is the most rural part of the City, and includes Herrington and Hetton Downs Country Parks as well as nature reserves including Hetton Bogs and Rainton Meadows. There are 19,500 homes housing a population of around 47,000 (16.7% of the City's population). The area has a predominantly white ethnic group. Older people make up 20.2% of the population and children under 16 make up 18.8%

The Coalfield area is unique in the fact it contains the only Town Council in the City. Hetton Town Council and the City Council have a charter which sets out how they work together for the benefit of local people in the communities of Easington Lane, Moorsley, East Rainton, Eppleton and Hetton le Hole.

There are a number of local neighbourhoods in the Coalfield Area. You can find out more about what services are available in the area, such as the nearest library to your home, by visiting [www.sunderland.gov.uk](http://www.sunderland.gov.uk) and using Sunderland directory.

## 1. Coalfield: Safe Area 2009-2010

### Key statistics

Ward	All Crimes (per 1,000 pop)	% change from previous year	Burglary Dwelling	Burglary Non-dwelling	Theft of Vehicles	Theft from Vehicles	Criminal Damage	Drug Offences
Copt Hill Ward	65.5	-9.29	12.3	5.9	1.7	5.7	18.5	3.1
Hetton Ward	71.4	-16.12	12.3	4.4	2.3	4.3	23.8	5.8
Houghton Ward	62.3	-4.12	5.3	5.4	1.0	4.8	16.5	3.6
Shiney Row Ward	53.9	3.77	6.9	4.0	2.7	2.9	20.7	1.9
Sunderland	82.5	-3.30	8.9	5.0	2.5	5.8	22.0	4.2

The rates for each ward have been compared with the City average and highlighted as Green – better than the City, Amber – equivalent to the City, and Red, worse than the City. The overall crime rate for each of the four wards is considerably lower than the City average. Although Hetton ward has the highest rate in the Coalfield area, there has been a reduction of 16.12% from the previous year. Shiney Row ward has shown a slight increase from the previous year, however still has the lowest crime rate in the Coalfield and one of the lowest in the City, with only five wards having a lower rate.

### What we set out to do

The overall objectives identified were to reduce anti-social behaviour, including tighter control on sale and access to alcohol and to provide more police or community support officers (CSOs) on the street. At the July 2009 meeting the Area Committee discussed five specific priorities and allocated actions against them. Progress is monitored on all actions and reported at each meeting of the Committee.

### You Said

Raise the profile and presence of police on the streets.

### We Did

We promoted and encouraged attendance at the PACT (Police and Communities Together) meetings. The number of officers in the Neighbourhood Police teams has increased and there are named sergeants, PCs and CSOs for each area. Each Neighbourhood Team has first hand knowledge of the issues and challenges in their local area. The police have a base in a number of community venues making them more accessible and responsive to the local community.

### You Said

Improve intelligence sharing between partners, officers and councillors.

### We Did

The Local Multi Area Problem Solving (LMAPS) group provides the forum for information sharing and problem solving regarding 'safe' issues. Issues from Area Committee are represented at the LMAPS meetings by a nominated elected member. Joint meetings of the Neighbourhood Policing Team and Area Committee Members have been set up to further assist with information sharing and intelligence gathering

### You Said

Target hotspots around illegal sales of alcohol and underage drinking.

### We Did

A Youth Alcohol Operation by the Police in September 2009 to target underage drinking resulted in a 21.7% decrease in Anti Social Behaviour from the previous year

## You Said

Use local intelligence to redeploy CCTV cameras to areas of need.

## We Did

The rapid deployment of the 3G CCTV cameras has resulted in a number of successes, such as a number arrests and prevention of further disorder in Easington Lane High Street. The cameras have helped achieve a reduction in Anti Social Behaviour incidents and provided reassurance to residents. The Area Committee have requested a review of the Citywide 3G CCTV system to ensure it has the capacity to meet the needs of all areas.

## You Said

Ensure that young people in the Coalfield area have equity of access to youth provision.

## We Did

With the support and involvement of Coalfield Area Committee members, the commissioning procedure for allocating youth provider contracts has been reviewed. Now each ward has a guarantee of a minimum of three sessions of youth provision each week. An additional £300,000 has been secured from mainstream budgets to deliver mobile youth villages on Friday or Saturday evening in each area of the City. An operational group, consisting of agencies and elected members, oversees the planning of the mobile villages.

## Other Achievements Delivered

- Area Committee provided £13,500 of SIB funding to deliver the Phoenix Project which is delivered by the Fire & Rescue Service and aimed at young offenders or young people at risk of offending
- A Community Payback Scheme has been developed with the Youth Offending Service. Area Committee will identify locations for clean up programmes.

## 2. Coalfield: Attractive & Inclusive Area 2009-2010

### Key Statistics

Ward	Average House Price	% of residents who feel the Council is making the area cleaner and greener	% of residents satisfied with public transport	% of residents satisfied with how well land is kept clear of litter and refuse	Empty Properties (private sector)	Empty Properties (social rented sector)
Copt Hill Ward	£87,554				210	134
Hetton Ward	£86,143				159	27
Houghton Ward	£102,724				148	32
Shiney Row Ward	£139,888				178	19
Coalfield		70	59	57		
Sunderland	£116,866	66	66	54		

## What we set out to do

The key aims of the Attractive and Inclusive priority areas were to make the streets and environment more attractive, address issues around accessibility of public transport and to improve housing and residential areas. At the Area Committee in September 2009, eight specific priorities were discussed and an action plan was developed. Community engagement and awareness raising of the work of the Committee was also an area for development.

**You Said**

Make services more relevant to the local area. Where possible tailor services to address the needs of the community.

**We Did**

The “Responsive Local Services” Project has been developed. The first phase of the project will focus on tailoring five key service areas relating to crime and grime. Area Committees will be involved in identifying the level of services required for graffiti removal, refuse collection, litter, dog fouling and grass cutting services.

**You Said**

In addition to essential highways maintenance, carry out work to make our streets and estates more attractive.

**We Did**

SIB funding of over £44,000 for non essential Street Scene improvements has been provided to make the area more visually attractive. Together with £49,670 of highways mainstream budget this will enable physical improvements to be made to areas which were not deemed as priority. Road markings, pedestrian guardrails, carriageway patching and street name plates are included in the programme of works, which will be completed by June 2010.

**You Said**

Provide us with more information regarding empty properties and the powers of the Local Authority over private landlords. Explore the feasibility of increasing the number of Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) officers and private sector officers in relation to housing and empty homes.

**We Did**

The Housing Team presented information to Area Committee regarding legislative powers. The Empty Property Strategy is currently being reviewed with the aim of introducing area based action plans. Funds to support this work have been increased as part of the 2010/11 budget settlement.

**You Said**

Address issues of lack of accessible public transport in some areas.

**We Did**

A representative from Nexus is now a key partner at Committee and attends each meeting to ensure transport issues form part of thematic discussions. Nexus recently consulted with the Area Committee regarding the secured services network in the area. This consultation will now be extended to local residents using venues and methods suggested by Area Committee.

**You Said**

Develop a communications strategy for the area to include issues relevant to members, partners and residents in the Coalfield area.

**We Did**

Named Communication Link Officers from Corporate Communications attend Area Committee and help identify key news stories and information at an Area and ward level. Items from meetings have been fed into the Coalfield Area Newsletter currently being piloted. The newsletters also promote the work of Area Committees and encourage public involvement.



## Other Achievements Delivered

- SIB funding of £3,134 for restoration work at Kepier Hall has been used as match funding to lever in an additional £28,197 from Biffaward.
- SIP funding has provided street lighting schemes in Shiney Row and New Herrington.
- In conjunction with the Friends of Rectory Park, an ambitious masterplan has been drawn up for Rectory Park. Area Committee have provided £50,000 to deliver Phase 1 of the scheme which will be used to secure additional funding to deliver further phases.
- Area Committee has allocated £30,000 towards a £48,000 improvement scheme for Gilpin Wood. This is as a result of numerous requests from local residents, to their local ward councillors, and users of the popular walking route.
- SIP funding has enabled improvements to the road surface around Shiney Row Primary School, enabling easier access for pupils, parents and teachers.
- In a joint programme with Washington Area Committee, an accessible River Wear Trail walking route will be developed. Coalfield Area Committee have provided £19,500 in order for the work to be carried out.
- £12,000 has been spent on the Eco Schools project. The project is working with St Michael's, Dubmire, Hetton Lyons, Hetton and Houghton Kepier schools to work towards Green Flag status, the national award for parks and green spaces.

## 3. Coalfield: Learning Area 2009-2010

### Key statistics

Ward	Percentage of 11 year olds achieving Level 4+ in both English and Maths			Percentage of 16 year olds achieving 5 or more GCSEs or equivalent at grades A*-C, including English and maths		
	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009
Copt Hill Ward	76	67	62	40	51	52
Hetton Ward	73	73	75	37	45	47
Houghton Ward	74	70	62	45	33	49
Shiney Row Ward	71	81	71	44	39	40
Sunderland	70	72	70	39	43	45

The attainment levels of 11 year olds has decreased substantially in Copt Hill and Houghton Wards over the past two years. However, the attainment levels of 16 year olds has increased in three of the four wards over the past two years.

### What we set out to do

The key objective identified was to provide better support for children and young people, focusing on raising aspirations, providing non academic support and youth provision. At the November 2009 meeting, Area Committee discussed a number of specific actions, including providing family and adult learning, which are being taken forward by the relevant lead officers. Progress is being monitored on all actions.

### You Said

Develop youth provision to meet local need.

### We Did

Members of the Committee took part in the development of ward based contracts for youth provision. The new contracts will be implemented from April 2010 and will be more needs led. The XL Youth Village was delivered at Easington Lane Flatts from January 2010.

**You Said**

Review anti-bullying provision in schools.

**We Did**

An anti-bullying strategy group has now been established to look at provision, policies in school and initiatives across the Area. A pilot programme will be developed based on information gathered.

**You Said**

Adult learning is important to the area. We need provision which is accessible and relevant to local residents.

**We Did**

A review of Family Adult and Community Learning (FACL) was requested to explore new ways of identifying and appointing providers of family learning to meet the needs of local communities. Procurement systems are now being reviewed to ensure the provision meets local demand

**You Said**

Review apprenticeship opportunities.

**We Did**

The 14-19 Partnership are undertaking a review of the current approach and exploring the role of the City Council to increase opportunities. Feedback will be given via the Learning representative

**Other Achievements Delivered**

- A contribution of £25,000 SIB funding has been approved towards a £50,000 project to create a workshop/classroom on the site of Monument View children's home at Penshaw. The new facility will allow a range of maintenance related NVQs to be developed and delivered on site.
- Funding of £11,543 was granted to the Community Leaders of the Future project which will work with Houghton Kepier School to develop employability skills, work readiness and entrepreneurship through volunteering opportunities. The project will work with 30 young people who will undertake a locally based volunteering programme over a two year period.
- As requested by Area Committee, cross boundary working with Durham County Council is in place via the Headways 6<sup>th</sup> Form and related work. Further opportunities for joint working is being explored by the Learning Partnership.

## 4. Coalfield: Healthy Area 2009-2010

### Key statistics

Ward	Residents claiming incapacity benefits	Life expectancy	Mortality rates from circulatory disease	Mortality rates from cancer	% of residents smoking	NHS Stop Smoking service users successfully quitting at 4 weeks	Residents self reporting obesity BMI 30+
Copt Hill Ward	11.3	76	120.89	99.9	27	53	15-18
Hetton Ward	15.9	76.7	107.76	160.22	27	56	11-15
Houghton Ward	11	76.5	126.7	143.69	23	51	15-18
Shiney Row Ward	11	75.7	122.73	148.31	23	50	15-18
Sunderland	10.9%	76.4 years	108 per 100,000 population	136.15 per 100,000 population	25%	42%	18%

### What we set out to do

The key focus for the Healthy theme was to provide better support for older people and make it easier for them to access health services. Easier access to GPs, hospitals and sporting/exercise facilities were among the objectives identified by Committee.

### You Said

Health services need to be accessible to meet the needs of patients. More information is required, in terms of opening hours and availability of public transport.

### We Did

We provided Area Committee with information on the extended opening times of GP surgeries in the Coalfield Area. We gathered information on times and routes of local bus services and invited Nexus to be part of the Area Committee. Consultation has taken place regarding future provision of commercial and secured bus services.

### You Said

We need more accessible exercise and wellness opportunities.

### We Did

The Sunderland Active Bus is a mobile exercise provision available to those areas which are not served by wellness or fitness centres. The Active bus has provided the service in five areas across the Coalfield and Area Committee has been asked to suggest other venues.

### You Said

We need more detailed and meaningful information to ensure that resources are being directed to the right services/neighbourhoods.

### We Did

A nominated Health representative from the Healthy Cities Partnership is now part of the Area Committee core partnership and has provided some suggestions of where there were needs or gaps in provision. A detailed report will be presented to Area Committee in the new municipal year to ensure best use of resources.

### Other Achievements Delivered

- A contribution of £12,000 (SIB) has been made to enhance a new £93,000 play development at Easington Lane Flatts.

## 5. Coalfield: Prosperous Area 2009-2010

### Key statistics

Ward	% claiming out of work benefits	% claiming incapacity benefits	Unemployment rate	% of children living in poverty
Copt Hill Ward	18.54	11.51	6.6	26.1
Hetton Ward	24.12	15.88	7.8	30.6
Houghton Ward	17.44	10.85	6.4	20.1
Shiney Row Ward	19.35	11.47	6.6	20.3
Sunderland	19.4	10.9	8.4	26.5

### What we set out to do

The main objective within the prosperous theme was around educational provision for adults to raise skills and aspirations and improve employment opportunities. Support for local business in order to increase employment opportunities was also identified as a priority within the area, along with improvements to local shopping/town centres.

### You Said

We need to provide relevant community learning opportunities for adults to improve their skills and employment opportunities.

### We Did

A review of locally based adult learning is being undertaken via the Learning theme. The Economic Prosperity Group representative will also escalate the issue via the Prosperous theme.

### You Said

We need more apprenticeships to give young people an opportunity in the labour market.

### We Did

A review is being undertaken by the Sunderland Learning Partnership and the Economic Prosperity Group.

### You Said

We need a more detailed action plan and to review our priorities to focus on areas where the Area Committee can make a difference.

### We Did

The Economic Prosperity representative has provided more detailed employment related data and an analysis of what support is already in place. This information will be presented to Area Committee at the work planning meeting in June 2010 to inform the reviewed priorities.

### Other Achievements Delivered

- Funding was provided to appoint experienced consultants to carry out a feasibility study for New Herrington club in order to develop a business plan that would secure a focus for the future use of the facility, including potential income generation.
- Approved funding to appoint a consultant to review the provision at Herrington Burn YMCA and develop a business plan, which will enable the organisation to provide more effective use of their resources by developing a sustainable trading arm for future developments.

- The Hetton Festival Organising Committee has been awarded £6,000 as a contribution to the 2010 Hetton Town Festival which will take place in July 2010. The event provides a week of activities and events for local people to participate and volunteer in; promoting the area and engaging key partners such as Gentoo, Job Linkage and Age Concern.

## 6. Area Committee meetings and Governance

### **Membership**

The meetings are chaired by Councillor John Scott and Councillor David Tate is the Vice Chair.

Each Area Committee has a Sunderland City Council Executive Director as its Area Lead Executive (ALE). The ALE reinforces the strategic importance of the area dimension to the Council's policy and planning framework, and in particular will reinforce the importance the Council places on enhancing community governance, aligning resources and activity and improving public service delivery at a local level. The ALE for the Coalfield Area is Dr Helen Paterson (Director of Children's Services).

There are named representatives from each of the Local Strategic Partnership Delivery Boards. This is to ensure a consistent, two way flow of information between Citywide and Area based working under each of the five thematic areas.

Partner organisations represented at the Coalfield Area Committee are:

Northumbria Police  
 Tyne & Wear Fire and Rescue Service  
 Gentoo  
 Sunderland Teaching Primary Care Trust  
 Nexus  
 Hetton Town Council  
 City of Sunderland College

A Coalfield Area Network has been established to represent the Voluntary and Community Sector in area working. Three nominated representatives from the Network attend Area Committee.

There are a number of nominated officers from Council Directorates who attend meetings to give input and carry out actions relevant to their own area of work within the Council and act as a link between Area Committee and their Directorate.

### **Meetings**

The Committee met six times during 2009-10, this being the seventh. Attendance levels of elected members have been consistently high throughout the year with an average of 10 out of 12 members attending each meeting. Officer attendance has fluctuated depending on the agenda, partner attendance has increased steadily throughout the year from three at the June 2009 meeting, to nine at the March 2010 meeting. Attendance from the public has been poor. However, three members of the public attended the March 2010 meeting.

Area Committee now has a standard agenda for each meeting to ensure that only issues which are of importance to the Coalfield area come forward for discussion.

- Questions to Area Committee have been introduced at the beginning of meetings. There have been no Questions to Area Committee at the Coalfield meetings. The process is being reviewed by Democratic Services.

- At each of the usual business meetings, one of the five strategic themes has been the main agenda item for discussion and action. This agenda item has therefore been given priority and more time allocated to it.
- A thematic feedback report is presented to give updates on themes previously discussed. Performance updates are reported during this part of the meeting. However, this has been an area of weakness and work is ongoing with the Performance Improvement Team to introduce a more meaningful performance framework in the new municipal year.
- Financial reports include applications for Strategic Initiative Budget (SIB), Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) and Community Chest funding. Area Committee receives a summary of each project with a recommendation whether to approve, defer or reject the application. Extensive consultation is carried out outside of Area Committee in order to inform recommendations. This has reduced time taken to discuss this item at meetings.
- Consultation items, of relevance and interest to the area, are presented to gain feedback and information from a local perspective. There have been nine items for consultation, allowing the opportunity for the Committee to shape services.
- Information only items are not formally presented and do not form part of discussions.

Standards for Area Committees have been developed and a set of guidelines are available for those presenting reports or carrying out consultation. As a result there are fewer pages and reports are tailored to reflect information at an area level. The average numbers of committee papers this year was 48, compared with 113 for last year.

The average duration of Area Committee meetings during the last year is 2 hours 37 minutes, with the longest meeting lasting 3 hours 14 minutes. Although the time management of agenda items has improved there is still a need to be more focused and reduce the amount of issues discussed at each meeting.

SIB, Community Chest and SIP Governance and application processes have been revised to ensure funding applications are specific to the area and meet priorities identified by Area Committee.

### **Building the Infrastructure of Meetings**

An Area Committee Handbook has been developed to outline the aims and objectives of the Committee, and also individual roles and responsibilities. The Handbook will be published in June 2010.

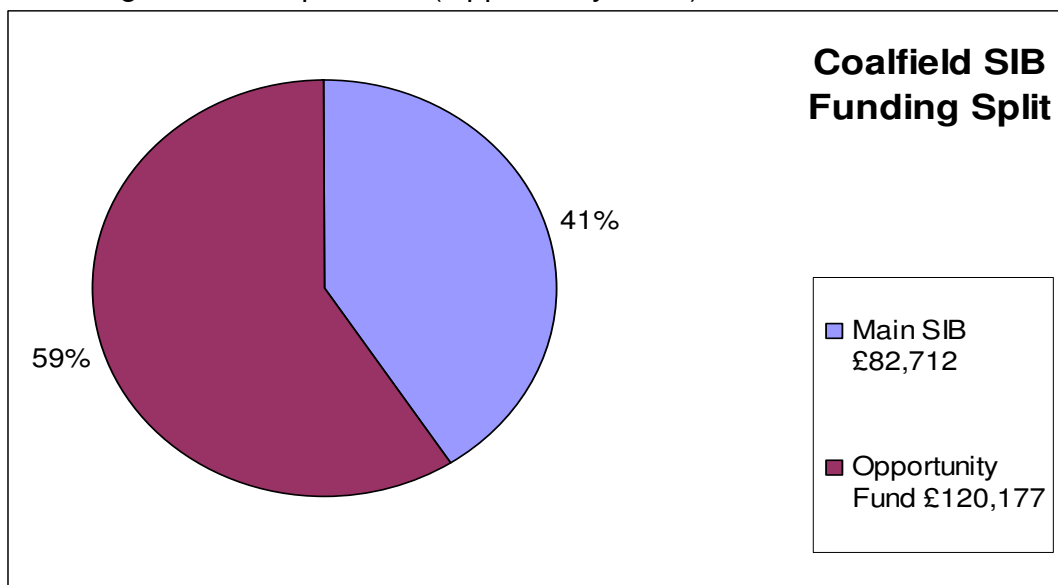
The 'Councillor Call for Action' mechanism came into force on 1 April 2009 namely through the Police and Justice Act 2006 and the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. Such provisions provide Members with the opportunity to ask for discussions on issues where local problems have arisen and where other methods of resolution have been exhausted. At the same time work was also being undertaken to develop the Area Committees links with both Scrutiny Committees and the Sunderland Partnership, one of which was the ability to signpost and escalate local issues to the most appropriate body for resolution where appropriate as referred to in the current Area Review process. On a practical level a 'referral and criteria' mechanism will be considered by Cabinet for implementation in the new municipal year. This will enable escalation / re-direction of issues of local concern either raised by an Elected Member/Committee, member of the public or external partner to the appropriate body namely the Area Committees, the City Council's Scrutiny and Sunderland Partnership

In addition to the support of the ALE, an area team has been established to support the work of the Area Committee. The Area Officer, Community Co-ordinator, Communications Officer, Diversity & Inclusion Officer and Democratic Services Officer work together as an area team to ensure the Coalfield area has dedicated support to achieve their objectives.

## 7. Finance

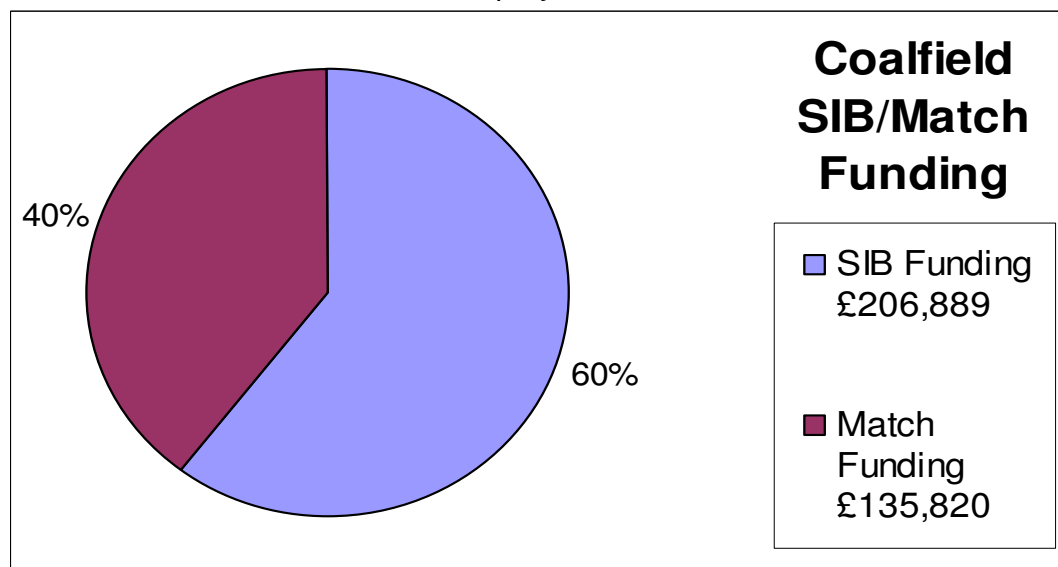
### SIB (Strategic Initiative Budget) Proactive Allocation of Funds

A budget of £268,311 was available for 2009/10. A total of £202,889 has been allocated, leaving a balance of £65,422 to be carried over to 2010/11. Under the revised governance arrangements for SIB, resources are allocated against the priorities outlined in the Local Area Plan. At the beginning of the municipal year, Area Committee set out to allocate a proportion of SIB funding by proactively identifying projects to deliver against agreed priorities and commission services to meet local need (main SIB budget). The need to be flexible and responsive was also important and therefore Committee were receptive to organisations also identifying need and gaps in line with the priorities in the LAP and applying for funding to deliver against these priorities (Opportunity Fund). The breakdown is shown below:



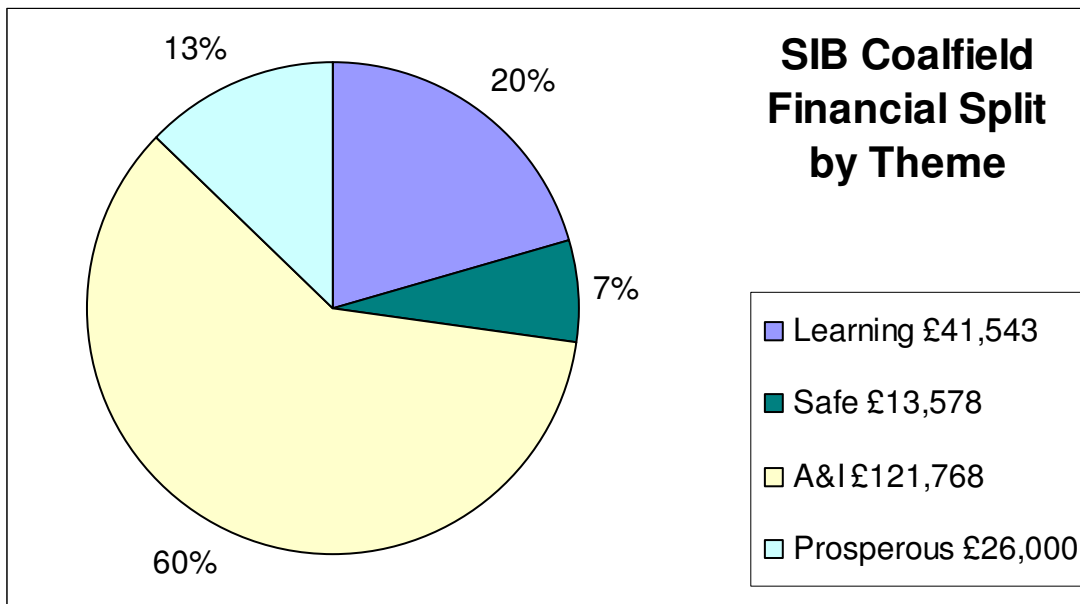
### SIB Match Funding

One of the aims of SIB funding is to attract match funding from other sources in order to maximise the benefits to local projects and communities. The £202,889 SIB allocated has attracted a total of £135,820 to the projects it has funded. See below:



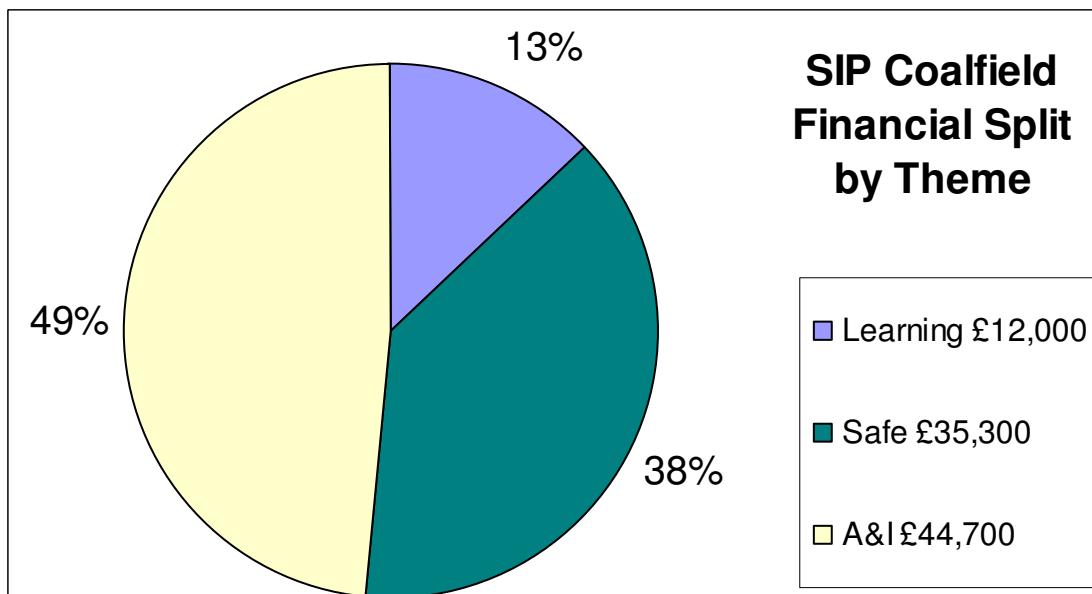
### SIB Thematic Breakdown

Each project funded must deliver priorities against one of the five themes in the Local Area Plan. The thematic breakdown is as follows:



### Strategic Investment Plan

A one off budget of £237,142 SIP was available for 2009/10. A total of £92,002 has been allocated, leaving a balance of 145,140 to be carried over to 2010/11. The remaining SIP budget must be fully expended by 31 March 2011. As identified in SIP criteria, this budget is available to make physical improvements to the area and therefore the majority of this spend has been allocated within the Attractive & Inclusive and Safe themes.

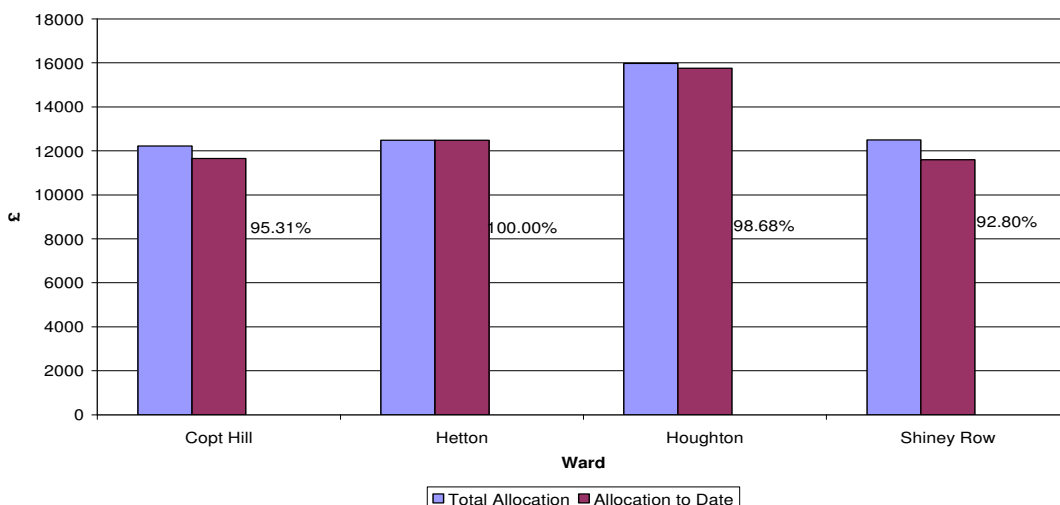




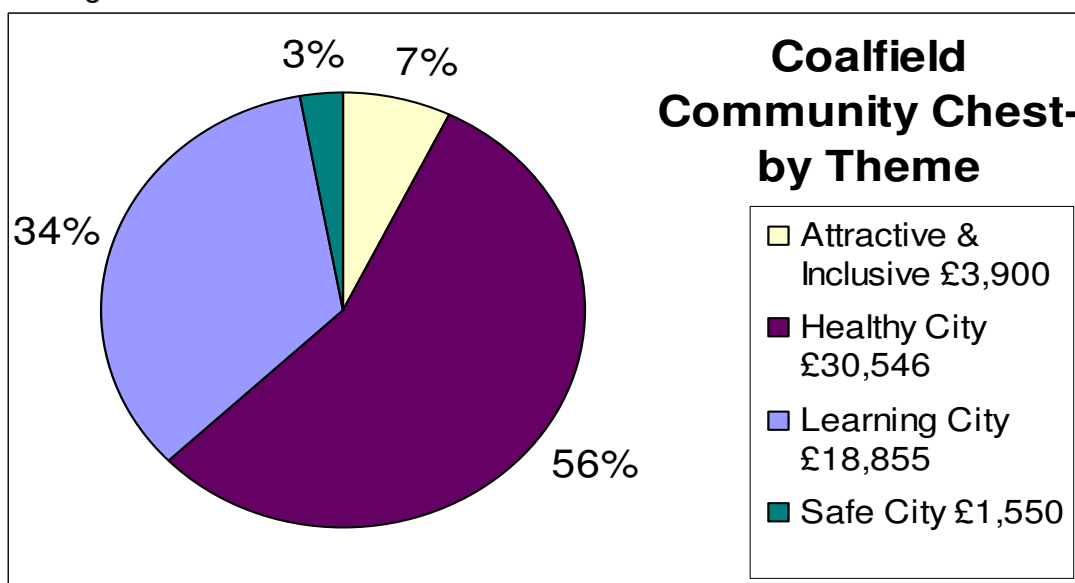
## Community Chest

A budget of £53,186 was available for 2009/10. A total of £51,501 has been allocated, leaving a balance of £1,685 to be carried over to 2010/11. Allocation by ward is shown below:

Community Chest Spend by Ward



There were 88 projects funded by Community Chest during 2009-10. All projects are assessed against the thematic priorities in the Local Area Plan. The proportion of the total funding allocated to each theme is shown below:



## 8. Summary

The Annual Report and supporting information will be used to analyse and reflect on the work that has taken place throughout the past year and help to inform the June meeting as the committee moves towards a new work plan.

## 9. Background papers

- Sunderland Strategy Delivery Plans
- Local Area Agreement Delivery Plans
- Coalfield Local Area Plan
- Coalfield Area Committee papers

**10. Contact Officer:** Pauline Hopper, Coalfield Area Officer  
 Tel: 0191 561 7912 e-mail: [pauline.hopper@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:pauline.hopper@sunderland.gov.uk)

## **Coalfield Area Committee**

**14<sup>th</sup> April 2010**

### **Report of the Chief Executive**

#### **Coalfield: Towards a new work plan**

##### **1. Why has it come to Committee?**

**1.1** At its meeting in July 2009, the Committee agreed its work plan for the 2009/10. It was agreed that the April 2010 meeting would consider the committee's 'Annual Report' and also begin the process of identifying work streams for 2010/11 year. These work streams will then be finalised by committee into a new work plan for the year.

**1.2** The next committee meeting in June will decide on the work plan for the next municipal year. This report will highlight possible options for consideration at the June meeting.

##### **2. Description of Decision (Recommendations)**

###### **2.1 Area Committee is recommended to:**

- Examine Local Area Plan priorities and to focus the efforts of the Area Committee on areas where they can make a real difference;
- Agree to the principle of a limited number of priorities (suggest up to six), to include Responsive Local Services, to form the 2010/11 work plan, which will be agreed at the June work plan meeting;
- Examine the governance processes to ensure they can deliver the committee's programme and priorities.

##### **3. Background**

**3.1** The Annual Report provides a snapshot of the committee's work over the 2009/10 municipal year. Whilst there are a number of major achievements, it has become increasingly clear that changing some of the ways the committee operates will lead to greater alignment with priorities and a clearer focus on delivery.

**3.2** The improvements suggested for consideration have arisen through the collection of information throughout the year via the Thematic Reports, Area Action Plan developments, issues raised through the Leader's Ward Visits and feedback from members and partners.

##### **4. Refreshing Local Area Plans and priorities**

**4.1** The suggestions below can form the basis of discussion at June's meeting and assist the committee in deciding upon the areas and actions its work plan should focus on.

- Safe:
  - Antisocial behaviour
  - Drugs Education and Enforcement
- Attractive and Inclusive
  - Responsive Local Services project
  - Community engagement
  - Environmental and streetscene improvements
- Learning
  - Ensure that Family, Adult and Community Learning (FACL) provision is delivered in line with local need;
  - Identify and address gaps in youth and play services for all ages
- Healthy
  - Tobacco (quitting and preventing take up)

- Obesity (healthy eating and physical exercise)
- Risk Taking Behaviour (teenage pregnancies, alcohol consumption)
- Prosperous:
  - Support enterprise and entrepreneurship
  - Support for local shopping centres

## **5. Process**

**5.1** It is proposed that Area Committee discuss and agree a limited number of priorities (suggest up to 6), where they can make a difference, to address in 2010/11. Members will receive information that will build a picture of key facts and current services on priorities currently identified in the LAP. As well as June's Area Committee agreeing priorities, Lead Agents will be named against each priority. Lead Agents will ensure that the project is delivered, actions are allocated and measurable, monitored and fed back into Area Committee, linking into the Area Officer throughout the process, ensuring a central point of collection of information.

**5.2** It is proposed that a series of 'Task and Finish' groups be established per priority action and should include elected members and partners. These groups will support the Lead Agent in delivering against the priority using problem solving techniques as necessary.

**5.3** Actions identified and agreed during 2009/10 will also be progressed until all actions are resolved/complete. Feedback will be given to Area Committee as part of the performance and feedback reports.

## **6. Committee Governance**

**6.1** It is proposed to reduce the length of reports presented to Area Committee. Additional or supporting papers will be sent separately via e-bulletin.

**6.2** Recommendations in reports will be replaced with a list of options, along with key strengths and weaknesses against each option. Committee will be asked to discuss options, with all members (including partners and officers) asking questions, informing debate and agreeing the preferred option to implement.

**6.3** It is proposed that agenda items on which Committee do not have to make a decision will be classified as 'information only' and not discussed at Committee; instead these updates will be circulated with the planned e-bulletin.

**6.4** The above measures to be discussed at the June meeting are designed to focus the work of the committee on deliverable actions, ensure meetings last a maximum of two hours and help towards encouraging residents to become involved in influencing decision making.

## **7. Funding Governance**

**7.1** To further the process of greater focus on actions that deliver the objectives of the LAP, it is proposed that funding governance for SIB should be adjusted. Consideration could be given to the following:

- Aligning a percentage of funding against priorities;
- Re-design the application form to reflect the area's priorities;
- Authenticating internal applications, via seeking approval from the Executive Director and relevant Portfolio holder before approaching Area Committee's budgets.

## **8. Background papers**

- Sunderland Strategy Delivery Plans
- Local Area Agreements Delivery Plans
- Coalfield Local Area Plan

**9. Contact Officer:** Pauline Hopper, Coalfield Area Officer  
0191 5617912 [pauline.hopper@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:pauline.hopper@sunderland.gov.uk)



**Coalfield Area Committee meeting  
14th April, 2010  
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I**

**Title of Report:**

Financial Statements and Funding Request

**Author(s):**

Office of the Chief Executive

**Purpose of Report:**

This report outlines current expenditure from the Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB), Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) and Community Chest and applications for funding from these budgets in order to support new initiatives, which will benefit the area and the delivery of the Local Area Plans.

**Description of Decision:**

The Committee is requested to consider 1 project for support from the 2009/10 SIB, as detailed in Annex 1. The recommendation is to **reject** this proposal.

Note the financial statement for 2009/10 in Annex 2.

**Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework?**

**Yes**

**Suggested reason(s) for Decision:**

SIB and SIP was established to promote action on key priorities identified in the relevant Local Area Plan, and to attract other funding into the area. Applications for SIB/SIP funding should demonstrate the potential benefits to local communities the proposed project would bring, and subsequently be able to provide evidence and statistics that can illustrate these benefits.

Community Chest support is given to projects which clearly demonstrate that they will address identified local needs, provide genuine community benefit and which can subsequently provide evidence/measurement of success in this respect.

**Alternative options to be considered and recommended to be rejected:**

The circumstances are such that there are no realistic alternatives that could be considered.

**Is this a “Key Decision” as defined in the Constitution?**

No

**Is it included in the Forward Plan?**

No

**Relevant Review Committee:**

**Management Scrutiny Committee**

# Coalfield Area Committee

14<sup>th</sup> April 2010

## Report of Chief Executive

### Financial Statements and Funding Request

#### 1.0 Purpose of The Report

1.1 This report outlines current expenditure from the Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB), Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) and Community Chest and applications for funding from these budgets in order to support new initiatives, which will benefit the area and the delivery of the Local Area Plans.

#### 2.0 Description of Decision (Recommendation)

2.1 The Committee is requested to consider 1 project for support from the 2009/10 SIB as below and detailed in Annex 1.

#### Recommend Rejection

Project	Amount Requested	
• Hylton Castle Battle Re-enactment	£3,000	Recommend rejection

2.2 Note the financial statement for 2009/10 in Annex 2.

#### 3.0 Background

3.1 The Council has reduced the amount of Regeneration Frameworks across the City from six to five. This has resulted in a new calculation of SIB funding to be awarded to the Coalfield Area Committee of £241,514 to be allocated up until March 2010. All allocations of funding should be matched against the criteria outlined in delivering the key priorities of the area, identified within the Local Area Plan(LAP).

3.2 SIP was approved at Cabinet in March 2008. Included within the plan was an additional one-off allocation of £1.426m to Area Committees. The amount allocated to each Area Committee was the same as SIB allocation for 2008-09. This equates to £237,142 for the Coalfield. It was agreed by Committee in September 2009 that SIP be split across the four identified wards of the area, totalling £59,285 per ward, with local ward Councillors and service delivers being responsible and accountable for its expenditure against the LAP priorities, with proposed projects being presented to Area Committee for a final decision.

3.3 The Committee will be aware that the Community Chest forms part of the Strategic Initiatives Budget and that £250,000 is available for the scheme in 2009/2010, £10,000 for each Ward, plus any unclaimed allocations identified from previous years. This scheme is operated under Section 137 of the Local Government Act.

#### 4.0 Current Position SIB

4.1 Following the March 2010 Committee meeting, a total of £185,599 has been allocated this financial year to date.

- 4.2 There are no projects recommended for approval at this meeting. Recommendations are based on the independent appraisal and results of consultation with all elected members of the committee and relevant Council Directorates and Partners.
- 4.3 Members should note that the £65,422 uncommitted expenditure from this financial year (2009/10) will be carried forward to next year's (2010/11) budget. This has been confirmed by the Director of Finance.
- 4.4 As part of the ongoing review of SIB procedures and governance, the SIB application form and guidance has been amended to ensure that funding is allocated on an area basis only. This is to ensure projects are tailored to meet the needs of that particular area. From May 2010, area specific application forms will be available and, therefore, organisations wishing to apply for funds to deliver a project in more than one area of the City must complete an application for each area. Projects should be evidence based and must ensure they meet the needs of the area to which they are applying.

## **5. Current position SIP**

Following the March 2010 Committee meeting, £145,142 remains to be allocated and fully expended by March 2011.

## **6 Current Position Community Chest**

The remaining balance, including the unclaimed allocations identified from previous years, is £1,685. The remaining balance for each ward is:

Copt Hill	£574
Hetton	£0000
Houghton	£211
Shiney Row	£900

## **7.0 Reasons for the Decision**

- 7.1 SIB and SIP was established to promote action on key priorities identified in the relevant Local Area Plan, and to attract other funding into the area. Applications for SIB/SIP funding should demonstrate the potential benefits to local communities the proposed project would bring, and subsequently be able to provide evidence and statistics that can illustrate these benefits.
- 7.2 Community Chest support is given to projects which clearly demonstrate that they will address identified local needs, provide genuine community benefit and which can subsequently provide evidence/measurement of success in this respect.

## **8.0 Alternative Options**

- 8.1 Each project is required to indicate what alternative options they have considered during the application business process.

## **9.0 Relevant Consultations**

- 9.1 Financial Implications

The Director of Financial Resources has been consulted on this report and all costs associated with developing SIB, SIP and Community Chest applications.

## 9.2 Implications for Other Services

Each project is required to indicate what implications there may be for other services in the application business process.

## 9.3 The Public

Each project is required to indicate what consultation it has undertaken and other documentary evidence it has to support its proposal in during the application business process. Residents have been consulted about the priorities in the Local Area Plans and bids support these identified priorities.

## 9.4 The Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 and the Councils Race Equality Scheme.

Each project is required to indicate whether it has an equal opportunities policy, or what measures it employs to address equal opportunity issues, during the application business process.

## 9.5 Public Relations and Publicity

Each project is required to indicate how it will promote funding awarded from Area Committee.

## 9.6 Councillors

Members have been consulted on all applications for SIB, SIP and Community Chest support and the implementation of the review.

## 10.0 List of Appendices

10.1 Annex 1 SIB: Proposed projects

10.2 Annex 2 Financial statement

## 11.0 Background Papers

11.1 The following background papers were used:

- Reports to previous Area Committees
- Coalfield Local Area Plan



### SIB Application – Hylton Caste Re-enactment

Total Cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total SIB Requested
£40,000	£15,000 North Area Committee, £10,000 Heritage Lottery Fund, £3,000 core budget	<b>£3,000 per area (excluding North)</b>
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
6 months	April 2010	September 2010

#### The Project

Following requests from Local Residents and the Castle in the Community, to stimulate interest in Hylton Castle and the surrounding area, as a City visitor attraction, and to raise awareness of the area's rich and diverse heritage, investigations have been ongoing to look at the delivery of a large scale re-enactment based on the Battle of Boldon Hill, which took place during the English Civil War.

The event will be carried out over a two day period (proposed dates 14/15 August 2010), and will deliver a number of living history displays, as well as offering a range of family orientated learning activities interpreting the life and times of the period. The re-enactment will take place on and around Hylton Castle, with an identified camp site at Seaburn to accommodate the visiting re-enactors which will be in the region of 500 – 1000 people.

The event aims to encourage visitors to the City and the local area, therefore raising awareness of the Castle and its wider area, as well as raising the profile of the City as a visitor destination, with a wide and varied programme of events. The main battle of the day will include a minimum of 15 artillery pieces, pike, musket and horse. Re-enactors are anticipated to be in the region of 500 or more.

Prior to the event the education outreach element will involve working with four young person groups (yet to be identified) which will give insight into the lives, choices and beliefs of the key figures and ordinary people who shaped the countryside, towns, and cities we now live in. For KS3, sessions support pupils' study of the changing relationship between the crown and parliament, the nature and motives of protest and the development of democracy.

#### The Need for the Project

The project builds upon the work currently ongoing through the Castle in the Community, who are working with a number of partners, including English Heritage, Sunderland City Council and local voluntary and community groups to enable the future development of Hylton Castle.

#### The Outputs for the Project

Output Code	Description	Target 2010/11
A6	Number of community or educations events held:	5 (total for the city)
S5	Number of young people benefiting from youth inclusion/diversionary projects	100 (total for the city)

#### Recommendation: Reject

- Although the project is supported by the City Services Directorate, and meets the City priority to attract more visitors to Sunderland, **it does not meet the priorities of the Coalfield area. There is no reference in the application to how it will engage young people from the Coalfield area, or how the event will include Coalfield residents.** The application does refer to providing informal learning opportunities but it is not clear how attending the event will meet this priority.

## Annex 2 : Financial Statement for 2009-10

### SIB: Coalfield SIB Statement 14th April 2010

\* £241,514 was allocated for 2009-10, £26,797 was carried over from 2008-09: Balance £268,311

	Committee Date	Main SIB Fund Approvals	Opportunities Approvals	Total 100%
<b>Available Funding 2009/10 *</b>	29.06.09	£268,311	-	£268,311
Project Name	-	-	-	-
Eco Schools	03.09.08	£5,000	-	£263,311
Phoenix Project	05.11.09	£13,578	-	£249,733
Street Scene Improvements	03.02.10	£44,134	-	£205,599
Miners Memorial	03.02.10	-	£5,000	£200,599
Kepier Hall	03.02.10	-	£3,134	£197,465
Monument View Workshop/Classroom	04.03.10	-	£25,000	£172,465
Herrington Burn YMCA Feasibility Study	04.03.10	£20,000	-	£152,465
Rectory Park Regeneration Works	04.03.10	-	£50,000	£102,465
Community Leaders of the Future	04.03.10	-	£11,543	£90,922
Hetton Town Festival 2010	04.03.10	-	£6,000	£84,922
River Wear Trail	04.03.10	-	£19,500	£65,422
<b>Balance</b>	-	<b>£185,599</b>	<b>£120,177</b>	<b>£65,422</b>

### SIP: Coalfield Statement 14th April 2010

	SIP Budget	Approvals	Balance
<b>Available Funding 2009/10</b>	<b>£237,142</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£237,142</b>
Copt Hill	£59,285	£0	£59,285
Houghton	£59,285	£30,000	£29,285
Hetton	£59,285	£23,200	£36,085
Shiney Row	£59,285	£38,800	£20,485
<b>Balance</b>	<b>£237,142</b>	<b>£92,000</b>	<b>£145,142</b>

### Community Chest: Coalfield Statement 14th April 2010

\* £10,000 was allocated per ward from 2009-10, Budget includes carry over from 2008-09 of £13,186

	Community Chest Budget	Approvals	Balance
<b>Available Funding 2009/10</b>			
Copt Hill	£12,231	£11,657	£574
Houghton	£15,968	£15,757	£211
Hetton	£12,487	£12,487	£0
Shiney Row	£12,500	£11,600	£900
<b>Total</b>	<b>£53,186</b>	<b>£51,501</b>	<b>£1,685</b>