

**At a meeting of the COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE held in DUBMIRE
PRIMARY SCHOOL, FENCE HOUSES on WEDNESDAY, 3RD NOVEMBER, 2010
at 6.00 p.m.**

Present:-

Councillor D. Richardson in the Chair

Councillors F. Anderson, Blackburn, Ellis, A. Hall, Heron, Rolph, J. Scott, D. Smith,
Tate and Wakefield.

Also in Attendance:-

Ron Barrass	Member of the Public	
Susan Brown	Area Community Co-ordinator	Sunderland Council
John Chapman	Head of Neighbourhoods	Gentoo
Les Clark	Head of Street Scene	Sunderland Council
Victoria French	Sport, Wellness & Partnership Manager	Sunderland Council
Emma Hindmarsh	Democratic Services Officer	Sunderland Council
Pauline Hopper	Area Officer	Sunderland Council
Andrew Jackman	Assistant Head of Traffic	Sunderland Council
Amelia Laverick	Member of the Public	
Phil Conn	Youth Lead Officer	SNCBC
Vivienne Metcalf	Area Community Co-ordinator	Sunderland Council
Ann Owen	Voluntary Community Sector Representative	
Karen Lightfoot - Gencli	Commissioning and Inspection Officer	Youth Development Group
Allison Patterson	Area Co-ordination Manager	Sunderland Council
Annette Parr	School Improvement Service	Sunderland Council
Ian Richardson	Operations Manager	Sunderland Council
Nicky Rowland	Local Environment Manager	Sunderland Council
Beverley Scanlon	Head of Service	Sunderland Council
Sue Stanhope	Director of Human Resources & Organisational Development	Sunderland Council
Ian Warne	Station Manager	Tyne and Wear Fire Service

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Speding together with Councillor Juliana Heron, Hetton Town Council, Graham Carr, Inspector Finlay, Helen Paterson, Andrew Perkin and Lee Wardle.

Declarations of Interest

Item 3 – Community Action in Coalfield: Progress Review: (c) Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB), Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) and Community Chest – Financial Statement and Proposals for Further Allocation of Resources

Councillor Tate declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the Community Chest application in relation to Easington Lane Primary School as a close family member was the Chair of Governors and in the application in relation to Hetton School as a Governor of the School and withdrew from the meeting prior to consideration of the items.

Councillor Blackburn declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the Community Chest application in relation to Easington Lane Primary School as a Governor of the School and in the application in relation to Elemore Boys FC as a family member attended the club and withdrew from the meeting prior to consideration of the item.

Councillors Ellis, Rolph and Wakefield declared a personal interest in the SIP application towards Tithe Barn, Rectory Park as members of the Friends of Rectory Park.

Councillor Rolph declared a personal interest in the SIP application towards Outdoor Play at Newbottle School as a Council appointed Governor of Newbottle Primary School.

Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Committee held on 9th September, 2010

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 9th September, 2010 (copy circulated) be confirmed and signed as a correct record subject to amendments on page 5 that 'Keir Hardie' play area is spelt correctly and it be clarified that Councillor Tate was referring to the play park in Hetton, not Hetton Park.

Community Action in Coalfield: Identifying New Issues and Agreeing Actions (2010/2011) Work Plan

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided Members with information on the progress made in relation to its Work Plan and the priorities identified by the Area Committee for 2010/11.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms. Hopper, Area Officer, introduced the report and advised that new issues had been identified in relation to motorcycle disorder, speeding or dangerous traffic and youth disorder (anti-social behaviour).

Ms. Hopper acknowledged that motorcycle disorder could be seasonal and advised that when particular hotspots were tackled, the nuisance tended to move to a different location. She requested that the Committee identify any known hotspots and provide either Councillor Rolph (LMAPS representative), Inspector Finlay or Ms. Hopper with the information.

Councillor Anderson welcomed an overall strategy to help deal with the issue as motorcycle disorder had been an issue in the area for the last 30 years and more needed to be done.

With reference to speeding or dangerous traffic, Councillor Blackburn advised that there were a significant number of sites across the area that were problematic and an area wide strategic plan was the most beneficial way forward to inform future service delivery.

Mr. Andrew Jackman, Assistant Head of Traffic agreed that more investigation was needed into hotspot areas and agreed to provide Members with a plot of where in the area accidents were occurring.

Councillor Rolph commented that although information about accidents would be useful, it did not always give the full picture and depended from whom the statistics had been provided and how they were collated. For example, if an accident was not reported to the Police then consideration needed to be given to the records of wider services to gain a comprehensive traffic pattern.

Councillor A. Hall also stated that problem areas should not just be addressed once an accident had happened; there was a need to consider hotspots for potential accidents – prevention rather than reaction.

Councillor Wakefield advised that he had recently met with Inspector Finlay to discuss the apparent lack of Police traffic cars in the area. Speeding and dangerous driving was a Police matter that had to be enforced.

Councillor Anderson remarked that vehicles used residential areas as 'rat runs' to avoid motorway traffic and she applauded the Portfolio Holder's efforts to install pelican crossings in areas that posed a threat to pedestrians.

Discussion then ensued in relation to youth disorder. Ms. Hopper advised that the current main area of concern was Easington Lane, the disorder in Penshaw having recently reduced.

Ms. Lightfoot Gench, Youth Development Group advised that another meeting of the Excel Youth Village Steering Group would be convened to provide a partnership approach to the issue.

2. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the issue of motorcycle disorder is placed on the Work Plan for 2010/2011 and provide information regarding motorcycle disorder hotspots to LMAPS via the nominated Elected Member, the Police or the Area Officer;
- (ii) information be received regarding speeding or dangerous traffic from the Interim Head of Traffic Road Safety and agree the issue to be placed on the Work Plan for 2010/2011; and
- (iii) Committee agree to add the issue of youth disorder to the 2010/2011 Work Plan and to expand the remit and membership of the Excel Village Steering Group to include youth disorder

Community Action in Coalfield: Progress Review

(a) Work Plan 2009/10, 2010/11 and Task Group Updates

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated which provided an update on the progress against agreed actions in the current year's 2010/2011 Work Plan.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms. Hopper invited Ms. Susan Brown, Area Community Co-ordinator to provide a progress report on the Bulb Planting and Landscaping Priority.

Ms. Brown advised that over 52 local community and voluntary groups were taking part in the planting and discussions were underway to develop the project to include Christmas and Spring planting.

On behalf of the Committee, the Chairman thanked Ms. Brown, Gentoo and all the community and voluntary groups for their marvellous efforts in making the scheme such a huge success and he looked forward to seeing the hard work come to fruition with huge benefit for communities within the area.

Councillor Rolph stated that the project had fired everyone's imagination and it linked very well with the Green Space Strategy. It was important to consider how the project could be sustained and evolve in future.

With regard to Local Shopping Centres, Ms. Hopper advised that Councillor R. Heron should have been included in the list in the report detailing membership of the Task and Finish Group.

She advised that the Committee were requested to agree to fund Phase 1 of the proposed plan by approving £5,000 from the SIB allocation.

Ms. Hopper proceeded to update the Committee on progress in relation to the Heritage and Unadopted Roads respectively.

3. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the progress reports be received and noted; and
- (ii) the Committee approved £5,000 from the SIB allocation to fund Phase 1 of the proposed Local Shopping Centres Plan (subject to a fully appraised project application).

(b) Responsive Local Services

The Executive Director of City Services submitted a report (copy circulated) to inform the Committee of the current scope of Responsive Local Services covering Service areas such as litter, graffiti, refuse, grass cutting and dog fouling. It also provided the opportunity for a wider range of issues to be considered within a context of local problem solving.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr. Les Clark, Head of Street Scene advised the Committee that the Winter Maintenance Plan for 2010/2011 had been prepared and was now available on the Sunderland website which highlighted the gritting routes and locations of salt/grit bins.

In response to a query from Councillor D. Smith, with regard to salt bin criteria, Mr. Richardson advised that bins were primarily located on a significant incline providing access to a major road, or adjacent to any other incline likely to be dangerous in icy conditions and the team were currently working through requests for new sites for the bins against the policy criteria.

Mr. Ian Richardson, Operations Manager and Nicky Rowland, Local Environment Manager made reference to the problem of fly tipping in the area. Members were also advised of the new structure for Street Scene which included six Area Response Managers, one for each area of the City and one for the City Centre.

In the current climate many householders were selling unwanted wares on to scrap collectors for disposal. There had been an increase in itinerant collectors in the Coalfield area. The Committee were informed that the householder's duty of care prescribed that all householders in England had a legal responsibility to ensure that all of their waste was disposed of properly.

Furthermore, the Environmental Protection (Duty of Care) Regulations, require all householders to make sure their waste is only removed from their premises by registered waste carriers. Householders not taking reasonable measures to do so could face fines of up to £5,000.

Mr. Richardson advised that sites could be continually cleared however, through joint intervention, the enforcement of the Householders Duty of Care, specific targeting and an awareness of social responsibility much more could be done.

In response to a question from Councillor Anderson, regarding costs relating to clearing sites and how the issue is best tackled, Mr. Richardson advised that in areas such as the old Hetton Lyons Boys Club preventative measures such as a bund were useful. Resolving issues around land ownership would also help to alleviate certain issues. Effective intervention in hotspot areas in the form of patrolling was also key.

Ms. Rowland advised that the “supply and demand” of rogue persons agreeing to dispose of household rubbish (and subsequently dumping it) needed to be cut off.

Mr. Clark advised that national estimates suggested that each fly tip would cost on average £60 to clear up.

Councillor A. Hall commented that a characteristic of the Coalfield area was that it consisted of pockets of land whose ownership was unknown. This land often fell victim to fly tipping and she felt that the ownership of it warranted further investigation.

Referring to grass cutting on Newbottle Bank, Councillor Wakefield advised that the grass was extremely long but he had been told it would not be possible to cut it due to the incline being too steep. Grass cutting had ceased for the winter.

Mr. Clark advised that grass cutting on banks had been stopped in recent months to allow an audit and risk assessment to be carried out as there had been some health and safety issues. There was a need to ensure the correct machinery was being used for the job.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor D. Smith as to whether Aurora’s database regarding street lighting repair was linked to the Council’s, Mr. Clark believed that it was and agreed to recheck.

Councillor R. Heron questioned the ease at which individuals could obtain a scrap metal licence and was advised by Ms. Rowland that the Police were currently looking at a protocol for “waste carriers” as it was important they carried an official transit note.

In relation to service requests for ‘animal fouling’, Councillor Rolph enquired whether the statistics included horses. Ms. Rowland advised that legislation related specifically to dogs, although reports of horse fouling were occasionally received.

In response to a question from Councillor Rolph regarding which category leaves (detritus) came under and what influence this had on the figures, Ms. Rowland advised that it came under the category of rubbish and litter.

Councillor Rolph commented that it would be useful to have sight of the statistics from the previous year to compare service request numbers.

Councillor Tate advised that Gentoo had been replacing boilers in a number of their properties in Hetton. Scrap collectors had been prolific on the estate and he questioned whether Gentoo had a policy regarding disposal of the old boilers.

Mr. Chapman, Gentoo advised that they were aware that unscrupulous scrap collectors had been combing the area, and Gentoo took full responsibility for disposing of replaced fittings and any necessary clean up.

4. RESOLVED that the contents of the report be received and noted and the Committee receive further updates regarding any issues arising from the intelligence group.

(c) Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB), Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) and Community Chest – Financial Statement and Proposals for Further Allocation of Resources

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to request the Committee's consideration of proposals for the allocation of the Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB), the Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) and Community Chest to support initiatives that will benefit the area.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms. Hopper presented the report and outlined the funding balance. With regard to SIB, Ms. Hopper advised that following the September 2010 Committee meeting £212,423 remained to be allocated during 2010/11. Since September 2010, two emergency multi area SIB application bids were approved through delegated powers. These were £1,000 to support a City wide angling competition in December 2010 delivered by the Angling Trust, and £1,675 to contribute towards Grace House North East Children's Hospice, leaving a balance of £209,748.

Referring to those applications agreed under the delegated decision process, Councillor Rolph raised concerns that the bids were City wide and the information that had been sent to Members had not made it clear how they benefited the Coalfields area. It had been agreed that no blanket bids would be approved by the Committee and would more than likely have been rejected at Committee.

Councillor A. Hall agreed that Members had not been provided with enough information on which to base a decision. Moreover, Members needed to be clearly told why the application was a delegated decision.

Members then went on to consider each application in turn.

With regard to the SIB application in relation to Ear 4 U (Impact Family Services), Ms. Hopper agreed to ascertain the upper age limit for the project.

With regard to the application in relation to Regent Street/Church Street Give Way and Parking SIP request, Councillor R. Heron felt that the proposal would make the junction inoperable.

Councillor J. Scott recommended and it was agreed that the application is deferred pending further information.

Mr. Clark agreed to undertake further consultation through Andrew Jackman.

With reference to the SIP application for Sunderland Road/High Lane Speed Limit and Gateway, Councillor Heron also suggested that the application is deferred as he was unclear what advantages the scheme would have. No other Member expressed concerns and the application was approved.

Ms. Hopper advised that there were amendments to be made to two Community Chest applications. The Moorsley Care of the Aged application should be amended to the amount of £1,000 and the Easington Lane Primary School should also be amended to the amount of £1,000.

At this juncture Councillor D. Smith proposed that an emergency Community Chest application for Market Street Traders Christmas lights of £1595.00 be considered by the Committee. Councillor Smith asked if this application could be awarded at the meeting as there would not be another opportunity to consider the matter until the next meeting in January, which was after Christmas.

Discussion ensued on the matter and in accordance with Section 100(B) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chairman agreed by reason of the special circumstances that the application could be considered at this meeting as a matter of urgency.

However, Members disagreed on the amount that should be awarded and following further discussion it was agreed that £750 would be awarded as a contribution.

5. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the application for split SIP (Shiney Row)/SIB funding of £9,723 and £10,277 respectively as a contribution towards Wensleydale Avenue Traffic Calming be approved;

- (ii) the application for split SIP (Houghton)/SIB funding of £14,000 and £20,000 respectively as a contribution towards Walking Route to Rainton Meadows be approved;
- (iii) the application for split SIP (Hetton and Copt Hill)/SIB funding of £19,221 and £10,000 respectively as a contribution towards North Road/Hazard Lane Pedestrian Safety be approved;
- (iv) the application for SIB funding of £13,200 as a contribution towards Ear 4 U (Impact Family Services) be approved subject to the condition that any young people resident in the Coalfield but attending schools outside of the area have equal access to the project;
- (v) the application for SIP funding of £3,500 as a contribution towards Fencehouses Gateway Project be approved;
- (vi) the application for SIP funding of £4,000 as a contribution towards Tithe Barn, Rectory Park be approved;
- (vii) the application for SIP funding of £2,000 as a contribution towards Community Outdoor Learning (Newbottle Primary School) be approved;
- (viii) the application for SIP funding of £10,000 as a contribution towards Regent Street/Church Street Give Way and Parking be deferred pending further information;
- (ix) the application for SIP funding of £25,000 as a contribution towards Sunderland Road/High Lane Speed Limit and Gateway be approved;
- (x) the application for SIP funding of £3,100 as a contribution towards Queensway traffic calming be approved; and
- (xi) approval be given to the 17 proposals for funding from the Community Chest totalling £9293.00 as set out in Annex 1b of the report and to the further emergency Community Chest application for £750 from the 2010/11 budget.

(d) Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB) and Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) Funded Projects - Interim Report Covering the Period April to September 2010

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide detail on how the Area Committee had allocated its resources to date (April 2010 – September 2010) and to enable consideration of how those initiatives were performing against agreed objectives.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms. Hopper introduced the report and outlined progress on areas where the progress indicator was amber or red.

With reference to South View Phase 2, Councillor John Scott advised that the £2,260 underspend will be returned to the SIP budget.

In respect of Hetton Memorial Garden Regeneration, the Committee were reminded that the project was due to be completed in November 2009 and had been delayed due to match funding. It was proposed that £3,000 from the funding be used to reinstate the memorial lights and the remainder be brought back into mainstream funding.

With regard to the additional 3G Camera, Ms. Hopper advised that delivery of the camera was expected next week.

At the request of Councillor Hall, Ms. Hopper agreed to provide an update on the battle at Hylton Castle.

6. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) £3,000 from SIP funding for Hetton Memorial Garden be used to reinstate the memorial lights. The remaining £27,000 would be returned to mainstream budget; and
- (ii) the update be received and noted.

Influencing Practice, Policy and Strategy

The City Services Directorate submitted a report (copy circulated) which offered Members the opportunity for consultation on plans and strategies relevant to the Coalfield area. It also provided information and updates to encourage Members to feed into proposals for service or policy change.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Vivienne Metcalfe, Area Community Co-ordinator (East), presented the report, advising Members of consultations with the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) on the draft Community Assets Policy in order to receive their comments on a Council policy which would have a direct impact on them.

7. RESOLVED that Members considered the draft Community Assets Policy which was subject to consultation and would participate in the consultation process to ensure that the strategy would effectively address the requirements of the Voluntary and Community Sector in the Coalfield area of the City.

The Chairman thanked Members, Officers and Partners for their attendance.

(Signed) D. RICHARDSON,
Chairman.

5 JANUARY 2011

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

COMMUNITY ACTION IN COALFIELD AREA: IDENTIFYING NEW ISSUES AND AGREEING ACTIONS (2010/11 WORK PLAN)

1. Why has it come to Committee?

- 1.1 To enable the future development of area based working, the Area Committee requires detailed information to be freely available from a number of different sources. An "intelligence hub" has been established that will act as a repository for information available. Officers will have access to relevant up-to-date information required to make effective decisions at an area level, and provide Area Committee with the detailed analysis required to identify key priorities.
- 1.2 Information is collected from a range of sources such as other Committee meetings, Community Leadership Programme, Responsive Local Services, the Customer Service Network, the Area Co-ordination Team, Members Query Management System, Safer Communities Team, the Consultation Team and the Area Network.
- 1.3 Using this information, new issues have been identified and are outlined below for Committee to consider.

2. Sunderland 'The Place'

- 2.1 This year the Environment and Attractive City Scrutiny Committee is carrying out a policy review into Sunderland 'the Place', with the overall aim of understanding the concept of Sunderland as a place and the associated issues around its identity and image, as well as the perceptions people have of Sunderland. Attached at **Appendix 1**, for information, is the Terms of Reference for the policy review.
- 2.2 At its meeting of 18 October 2010 the Environment and Attractive City Scrutiny Committee agreed the approach to be taken in regard to gathering the evidence for the Policy Review and is particularly keen to receive a contribution from each of the Area Committees to understand more about the individual areas that make up the city and the perceptions and experiences of residents living in each area. This evidence will be one part of a much wider policy review.
- 2.3 It is proposed that any members wishing to take part in this phase of evidence gathering are offered the opportunity to take part in an informal discussion in order to feed in key messages to the Area Chair who will attend a facilitated discussion group with the other Area Chairs and members of the Environment and Attractive City Scrutiny Committee. The discussion will be facilitated by the lead officers for the policy review.
- 2.4 The proposal for the discussion will be focused around:
What is Sunderland's 'story'?
 - What makes residents passionate about their area?
 - What are the unique elements of each area and how does each area contribute to the city?
 - What role do Area Committees play in developing the city's sense of place?
 - What can be done to recognise the unique contributions of each area to the overall city?A strong sense of 'place' for Sunderland is crucial for our economic viability and the ongoing improvement of the city. This opportunity to feed in to the process is one element of a wider policy review into Sunderland as a place.

Recommendation

- Note the information and agree to hold an informal discussion for those Coalfield members who wish to participate, before 20 January 2011.

3. Review of Byelaws

- 3.1 Law and Governance are leading on a review of City Byelaws. A team of Officers from across the Authority have formed a task and finish group which is undertaking a review of sites covered by old and dated byelaws. In addition, sites that are not currently covered by byelaws will also be considered in the review. Areas included are cemeteries, resorts and foreshores, countryside, parks and rights of way, enforcement and disorder. The same group is also reviewing the regulations relating to dogs and considering the introduction of appropriate Dog Control Orders.
- 3.2 Common issues raised are owners not cleaning up after their dogs have fouled, dogs not being kept under control, trade waste and licensing, balloon or lantern releases, exercising birds of prey, abandoned/burnt out vehicles, shooting, hunting and fishing, off road cycles and quad bikes, beach surfing, beach karting and jet skiing, bird's breeding season and bait digging on beaches.
- 3.3 There are a variety of issues to consider. The review is to establish a standard. As an example, parks across the City have different signs for dog owners, ranging from 'keep dogs under control' to 'dogs must be kept on leads'. The aim is to agree one sign for all parks, therefore bringing clarity and reducing confusion for both residents and Council employees. The review will be presented to Cabinet for approval.

Recommendation

- Note the byelaw review and agree to receive an update on the outcomes affecting the Coalfield area's cemeteries, beaches, countryside and parks via the ward bulletin service.

Contact Officer: Pauline Hopper, Coalfield Area Officer
Tel: 0191 561 7912 e-mail: pauline.hopper@sunderland.gov.uk

Sunderland 'the Place' Policy Review: 2010/11

Aim of the Review

The aim of the review is;

To understand the concept of Sunderland 'the Place' and the associated issues around its identity and image, as well as the perceptions people have of Sunderland.

Terms of Reference

The review will consider the following issues related to Sunderland 'the Place':

- (a) To explore what it means to have a strong sense of place, how important this is for Sunderland, and what benefits this may bring;
- (b) To gain an understanding of the current activity being undertaken within the City Council and across partner organisations with regard to developing a sense of place;
- (c) To examine the role and responsibilities of the City Council and partners in developing and implementing a strong sense of place for the city;
- (d) To understand Sunderland's 'story', where the city is positioned now and the image and identity the City Council and partners are aspiring to and working towards;
- (e) To investigate how people who live, work and study in the city view Sunderland, the place;
- (f) To investigate the approaches taken by other local authorities where there is evidence of success and progress; and
- (g) To gain an understanding of Sunderland's position both regionally and nationally, and ensure that the city is being represented appropriately by external bodies including the media.

COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE
5 January 2011
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I

Title of Report:

Strategic Initiative Budget (SIB), Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) and Community Chest, - Financial Statement and Proposals for further allocation of Resources

Author(s):

Chief Executive

Purpose of Report:

This report requests Area Committee consideration of proposals for the allocation of the Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB), the Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) and Community Chest to support initiatives that will benefit the area.

Description of Decision:

The Committee is requested to approve the following from the 2010/11 budget:

1. Annex 1a: Approve three SIB proposals from the 2010-11 budget to the following projects: £32,394 for the Underground youth and music project, £10,000 for the Kepier Hall car park, £1,000 towards road resurfacing at South View, Shiney Row.
2. Main report: Approve a nominal budget of £80,000 to develop projects against the Local Shopping Centres priority.
3. Main report: Approve a nominal budget of £40,000 to develop projects against the Heritage priority.
4. Annex 1a: Approve four SIP proposals from the 2010-11 budget: South View road resurfacing £5,100, Lake Road underpass steps £1,185, Lake Road footpath £10,500, Vehicle Activated Signs £11,500
5. Annex 1b: Approve 12 proposals for support from the 2010/11 Community Chest, all projects total £6,701.

Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework?

Yes

Suggested reason(s) for Decision:

SIB is a budget delegated to Areas Committee and can be used to commission activity that delivers actions against the key strategic priorities identified in the Coalfield LAP. Its main purpose is to benefit the local community and to attract other funding into the area.

The Area Committee has a budget of £241,514 for 2010-11, with a further £62,422 carried over from 2009-10. During 2010-11, £33,207 has been returned to budget providing a new balance of £337,143 for SIB 2010-11.

The Community Chest forms part of the SIB and £250,000 is available for the scheme in 2010/2011, £10,000 for each of the Copt Hill, Hetton, Houghton and Shiney Row wards.

SIP was approved at Cabinet in March 2008. Included within the plan was as a one-off allocation of £1.426m delegated to Area Committees. The amount allocated to the Coalfield Committee was £237,142 (which must be allocated by March 2011). SIP can only be used to deliver capital projects which are aligned to the key priorities identified in the Coalfield Local Area Plan (LAP). Its main purpose to attract other funding into the area.

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

Relevant Scrutiny Committees:

Is it included in the Forward Plan? No

COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE

5 JANUARY 2011

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

COMMUNITY ACTION IN COALFIELD – PROGRESS REVIEW Workplan 2009/2010, Workplan 2010/11 and Task Group Updates.

Coalfield in Bloom

1. Why has it come to Committee?

The report provides an update of outstanding issues from the 2009/10 work plan and shows progress against agreed actions in the current year's (2010/11) work plan (**Annex 1**).

2 Progress report on 2010/11 priority: Bulb Planting and Landscaping

The Coalfield in Bloom project has two elements to it – machine planting and community planting. Both elements have been successfully implemented and the project is now ready to move to Phase 2. This next phase will encourage and support the local community and voluntary groups involved to date (over 60 including schools and residents' groups) to further develop their capacity in order to undertake a wider range of partnership projects within their own neighbourhoods. The Coalfield Community Co-ordinator, the VCS Network and Gentoo are providing support and guidance to the VCS groups/residents to prepare joint funding bids with BBC Children in Need, Big Lottery, Play Grant and Aspire to further develop projects that have evolved from the Coalfield in Bloom Community Project. Plans have also been drawn up for a Community Garden at the Hetton Centre which is a partnership project with Groundwork, local residents and the VCS.

Phase 2 of the project will also include joint working with relevant officers and partners to research opportunities to develop community gardens and improve allotment sites. The results and action plan of the allotment review carried out by the Environment and Attractive City Scrutiny Committee will be considered as part of this work to avoid duplication and support work already being implemented.

In December 2010 a meeting was held with the Coalfield Area Officer, City Allotments Officer and Parks Development Manager to investigate the options for refurbishment and bringing back into use sites identified in the Allotment Review as unlettable. It was suggested that a pilot (2 allotment sites in the Coalfield area) programme be implemented offering individuals on the relevant waiting list up to two years free rent and a small amount of financial support for items such as equipment hire, fencing etc.. if they take on a plot deemed as unlettable. Officers and partners (Northumbria Police, Gentoo, VCS Network) will help to identify two sites which would most benefit from this initial pilot. The Allotment Watch scheme was also discussed and this will be further explored with Northumbria Police and the Allotment Officer for the City.

Recommendation

Members are requested to:

Note the update and agree to Phase 2 of the project including development of allotment and community garden facilities

Contact Officer: Pauline Hopper, Coalfield Area Officer 0191 5617912 or
Susan Brown, Coalfield Community Co-ordinator 0191 5616664

COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE

5 JANUARY 2011

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

COMMUNITY ACTION IN COALFIELD – PROGRESS REVIEW Workplan 2009/2010, Workplan 2010/11 and Task Group Updates.

Heritage

1. Why has it come to Committee?

The report provides an update of outstanding issues from the 2009/10 work plan and shows progress against agreed actions in the current year's (2010/11) work plan (**Annex 1**).

2. Progress report on 2010/11 Priority: Heritage

A consultant has now been appointed to carry out an audit and develop an action plan for delivery of projects against the heritage priority. The Task and Result group nominated a small steering group to ensure effective delivery of this work and to monitor performance. The steering group held an inception meeting with the consultants in December to ensure they have the relevant information they need to commence the work. The Task and Result group met in December 2010 to begin to plot heritage sites and groups in order to support the work of the consultants. The consultants will liaise with members of the Task and Result group during January 2011 to ensure that they are aware of all relevant information gathering opportunities across the area. This will form the basis of the first part of their programmed work plan which will include community consultation in each of the four wards of the Coalfield area.

3. Next Steps

Due to the extent of the work covered by the Heritage theme, the Task and Result group recommended that the scoping exercise as described above be carried out before any further resources are approved against Heritage projects. However, it is recognised that funding for 2010/11 should be allocated against the priorities selected for 2010/11. Therefore it is recommended that Committee consider allocating a nominal budget of £40,000 to the Heritage theme, as described in the finance Item 3b.

Recommendation

Members are requested to:

- Note the update and agree to receiving recommendations from the Task and Result Group with regards to next steps
- Consider allocating £40,000 to the Heritage priority (as set out in Item 3b of this report)

Contact Officer: Vicki Medhurst, Cultural Heritage Manager 0191 5618411
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COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE

5 JANUARY 2011

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

COMMUNITY ACTION IN COALFIELD – PROGRESS REVIEW Workplan 2009/2010, Workplan 2010/11 and Task Group Updates.

Local Shopping Centres

1. Why has it come to Committee?

The report provides an update of outstanding issues from the 2009/10 work plan and shows progress against agreed actions in the current year's (2010/11) work plan (**Annex 1**).

2. Progress report on 2010/11 priority: Local Shopping Centres

At the November 2010 meeting of Coalfield Area Committee, it was agreed that £5,000 SIB would be provided to carry out an audit of the three shopping centres identified as the focus of this piece of work (Hetton, Houghton and Shiney Row). The audit will include a 'headcount' of each unit, what each shop provides (what sector it is in), who owns the properties and will also take account of the vacant units. Existing traders will be interviewed. It will also consider access to the centres (walking, driving and public transport) and what brings local shoppers to the area (or prevents them from shopping in the area).

The audit will use a range of methods including face to face interviews with shoppers and a 'walk round' of each area by the Business Investment Team and Street Scene officers. The audit will allow the next steps, including support for existing businesses, attracting new businesses, environmental and public realm improvements and identification of some easily implemented projects to be progressed.

The audit will commence in January 2011 and the initial survey work will be completed by the end of February. This information will then be presented to the Task and Result Group with some suggested actions which will be presented to Area Committee for consideration.

3. Next Steps

Due to the extent of the work covered by the Local Shopping Centres priority, the Task and Result group recommended that the scoping exercise as described above be carried out before any further resources are approved against Shopping Centre projects. However, it is recognised that funding for 2010/11 should be allocated against the priorities selected for 2010/11. Therefore it is recommended that Committee consider allocating a nominal budget of £80,000 to the Local Shopping Centres priority, as described in the finance Item 3b.

Recommendation

Members are requested to:

- Note the update and agree to receive the results of the audit and a suggested action plan
- Consider allocating £80,000 to the Shopping Centres priority (as set out in Item 3b of this report)

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COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE

5 JANUARY 2011

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

COMMUNITY ACTION IN COALFIELD – PROGRESS REVIEW

Workplan 2009/2010, Workplan 2010/11 and Task Group Updates.

Child Poverty

1. Why has it come to Committee?

The report provides an update of outstanding issues from the 2009/10 work plan and shows progress against agreed actions in the current year's (2010/11) work plan (**Annex 1**).

2. Progress report on 2010/11 priority: Child Poverty

The Sunderland Partnership has agreed to lead on reducing child and family poverty in Sunderland. An important aspect of the partnership working necessary to take this agenda forward is to have an agreed strategy in place which will provide a single focus across the city.

The first phase (2010-11) of Sunderland's strategic approach to reducing child and family poverty has produced the following products:

- A Sunderland three phased model to tackling child and family poverty
- A Governance structure in place with the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) as lead, supported by the Child Poverty Board.
- Committed 'buy-in' from all strategic partners
- A greater level of understanding of child and family poverty issues in Sunderland
- A Child and Family Poverty Strategy that was developed in partnership, with a wide range of partners actively engaged and then consulted
- Engagement of young people in the planning process (including the development of a DVD)
- An initial high-level Action Plan which covered the scope of the actions across the partnership to tackle child and family poverty
- Senior Management support within Sunderland City Council and partners
- A Child and Family Poverty Needs Assessment completed
- A regional profile on an innovative and progressive approach
- A national profile with the Child Poverty Unit (CPU)
- Performance Framework in place with Partners signed up

In order to provide a partnership response to the challenges that child and family poverty present to the city, a comprehensive Child and Family Poverty Needs Assessment was carried out.

From this Needs Assessment, Phase 2 of the Child and Family Poverty Strategy has been developed, which will support the Council and its partners to work towards the aim of eradicating child and family poverty in the city and improve the life chances of Sunderland's children and young people.

3. Next Steps

The findings of the Sunderland Child and Family Poverty Needs Assessment 2010 provide the basis of the revised Sunderland Child and Family Poverty Strategy. The

Phase 2 Strategy also takes into account the outcome of the consultation process, the national evidence base and a Development Workshop held on 10 November 2010. This timely review will enable Partners to take account of the Strategies Priorities in the re-shaping of services following the Comprehensive Spending Review.

Initial consideration by the Child Poverty Board and Working Group has identified the following priorities for consideration:

- **Employment**: focussing on the long-term unemployed, training opportunities and engaging local businesses in the agenda
- **Children's Services and Education**: focussing on access to childcare and Children's Centres by our poorest families, narrowing the attainment gap and reducing the number of NEETS
- **Health and Quality of Life**: a focus on reducing teenage conceptions, child obesity, mental health, drug and alcohol abuse, smoking related disease, improved lifestyles through physical activity and safer communities.
- **Housing**: with a focus on supporting the socially excluded, the provision for homeless families, improvements to unfit housing and tackling fuel poverty
- **Financial Inclusion**: focussing on increasing financial capability, improved advice and reducing indebtedness.

The overarching priority for the child and family poverty strategy in Sunderland would therefore be to focus on the five priorities and:

- **Make child and family poverty everybody's business through adopting an approach to 'child and family poverty proof' Strategic Plans of all Partners as routine practice.**
- **To develop integrated neighbourhood models of service to retarget and deliver Early Years and Early Intervention.**

The strategy was approved by Cabinet on 1 December 2010.

Recommendation

Members are requested to:

- Note the update and agree to receive a further report in March/April 2011

Contact Officer: Raj Singh, Children's Services
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COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE

5 JANUARY 2011

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

COMMUNITY ACTION IN COALFIELD – PROGRESS REVIEW

Review of Greenspace Strategy

1. Why has it come to Committee?

1.1 The report provides of one of the outstanding issues from the 2009/10 work plan and shows progress against agreed actions in the current year's (2010/11) work plan, **Annex 1a**.

2. Report on the CoalfieldArea Workshop:

2.1 Elected members, partners, residents and officers attended the workshop, held at The Hetton Centre in October 2010. The purpose of the workshop was to:

- 1) Help identify greenspace sites missing from the register
- 2) Scrutinise existing sites on the register and check their suitability for inclusion
- 3) Consider whether the primary purpose identified for each site was correct and suggest alternatives where necessary.

2.2 During the workshop ward maps were examined by participants, with over 50 comments received on land usage and proposed future projects, all of which are all being investigated by lead Officers within the Council. These include:

- Consideration of the vast amounts of farm land and woodland in the area
- The condition of some of the allotment sites
- Potential play and sports site development

2.3 In addition partners from The Woodland Trust, Durham Wildlife Trust, Natural England, Gentoo, University of Sunderland and Taylor Wimpey expressed an interest in becoming involved and have all received electronic copies of the maps to comment on.

2.4 In December 2010, the Area Co-ordination Team and Planning Policy met up to discuss the next workshop. The second workshop will be held during the afternoon of 27 January 2011 and will be used to feedback on queries raised at the first workshop and present new updated maps. The appraisals of the sites are complete and the results will be shared asking delegates key questions, for instance: What would you like to see more of in your area? How far would you be prepared to travel for specific amenities? The findings of the workshop will then inform a survey which will be posted on the Council's website for residents to complete. The results will shape the Greenspace Topic Paper which will be presented to Cabinet.

Recommendation:

Area Committee are requested to

- Note the information regarding the second workshop and receive further updates regarding the outcome of the workshop and future actions

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COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE

5 JANUARY 2011

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CITY SERVICES

COMMUNITY ACTION IN COALFIELD – PROGRESS REVIEW

Responsive Local Services (RLS)

1 Why has it come to Committee?

The report provides an update of outstanding issues from the 2009/10 work plan and shows progress against agreed actions in the current year's (2010/11) work plan (**Annex 1**).

2 Progress report on 2010/11 priority RLS

RLS is a method of area working designed to:

- Increase levels of resident satisfaction through providing services that are responsive to community needs and effectively communicating improvements
- Tailor services in recognition of differing area/locality circumstances either through local problem solving or adapting service standards
- Recognise and enhance the community leadership role of elected members.

The current scope of RLS covers the service areas of Litter, Graffiti, Refuse, Grass Cutting, Dumping of Waste and Dog Fouling. It also provides the opportunity for a wider range of issues to be considered within a context of local problem solving.

The Street Lighting service requests – as noted within the November committee report are to be addressed via the Intelligence Group. The PFI Contract Monitoring Officer receives the Street Lighting issues and addresses them as required.

The Noise service requests – as noted within the November committee report are to be addressed via an Out of Hours Noise Service pilot. Details of which can be found within the body of this report.

Service Requests

The tables below provide a view of the volume of service requests for the services in scope for October and November 2010.

Service Area – Oct 2010	North	East	West	Washington	Coalfield
Animal Fouling	22	13	16	17	15
Grass Cutting	2	0	2	4	10
Graffiti	1	14	3	7	12
Rubbish and Litter	107	92	94	93	91
Refuse and recycling	201	218	247	223	208
Dumping of Waste	211	281	154	124	96

Service Area – Nov 2010	North	East	West	Washington	Coalfield
Animal Fouling	24	12	14	4	7
Grass Cutting	0	0	0	0	0
Graffiti	5	14	6	3	5
Rubbish and Litter	51	75	70	77	47
Refuse and recycling	189	233	265	257	262
Dumping of Waste	220	264	142	146	81

3 What does the analysis tell us and what action are we taking?

- 3.1 **Refuse and Recycling** - In relation to the number of refuse and recycling service requests – analysis has highlighted that the increase in service requests is linked to the transitional arrangements for the new dry recycling scheme
- 3.2 **Grass Cutting** - service requests have increased within the Coalfield Area – in relation to the cutting of bank sides. Currently health and safety concerns prevented the service from being able to fully undertake this task until safer working practices were implemented.
- 3.3 **Animal fouling** – Borrowdale Street, Peat Carr – link path between Station Avenue and Rose Avenue at Fence Houses and Meadow Street East Rainton. Street Cleansing Staff are working with the Environmental Enforcement Officers to alert them to dog fouling issues in these areas.
- 3.4 **Graffiti** - The Graffiti Service is addressing service requests more efficiently due to the introduction of mobile technology. Calls from residents asking the Council to carry out clean-ups have fallen over the last year since Sunderland City Council issued 250 frontline staff with mobile telephones and some with handheld computers.

This new way of working means that in many cases staff are able to nip problems in the bud, resulting in quicker and more efficient service for residents. In some cases graffiti is being removed within minutes of being identified.

- 3.5 **Dumping of Waste** - Some specific examples of enforcement activity in the Coalfield area to address the dumping of waste are detailed below:

Thrunton Court – Complaints re household waste dumped. No evidence available – area being monitored.

Front Street, Fencehouses – rubbish and litter in lane. – Area being monitored.

Ongoing dog fouling complaints – monitoring activity

Buckland Close, Lumley Street – Grasswell, Dorset Road - Easington Lane, South View Terrace, South Hetton Road – Hetton, Herrington Country Park, East Herrington Park, Hetton Lyons Park, Elemore Playing fields, Elemore Golf Club, Houghton Cemetery, Newbottle Street, Penshaw, Durham Road playing field.

Shiney Row Shops – unlawful waste deposit. Advice given by Environmental Enforcement Officer - area being monitored.

Gillas Lane – Cars advertised for sale on highway. Environmental Enforcement Officer currently working with the Police. A working group is being established to consider wider approach to nuisance vehicles and nuisance parking.

Hazard Lane –fly-tip – Household waste fly-tipped on private land. Investigations ongoing.

Hetton Lyons Park – fly-tip – bulky household items. Witness statements are currently being compiled. Evidence is available from 3 fly-tip incidents. Fly-tip prosecution pending.

4 Intelligence Group

The Intelligence Group which meets on a monthly basis – attended by Sunderland City Council, Gentoo and the Police, discussed local issues using various information tools including service requests, staff reporting line, estate walkabouts and councillor and community group enquiries. Voluntary and community sector (VCS) groups in the area have welcomed this opportunity to share information and intelligence.

- 4.1 **Allotments** – the service requests relating to Allotments continues to rise, as local people aspire to grow their own. Environment Scrutiny Committee is currently reviewing the Allotments Service and the potential to expand the service offered across the City. The committee are also looking at alternative ways to fund allotments. A pilot is currently running within the North Area, working with Groundworks to deliver new community allotments and community gardens. The Sunderland.gov.uk website has been updated, enabling residents to request an allotment online as well as post general enquiries.
- 4.2 **Traffic and Highways** – Large number of service requests have been received in relation to traffic and highway issues. Streetscene are currently restructuring and improving processes to ensure a more timely response to service requests. The service is also developing a system to prioritise service requests, which will be of increased importance in light of anticipated further reductions in LTP funding.
- 4.3 **Issues identified by the VCS** – Friends of Hetton Bogs have identified an ongoing issue with litter at the entrance to Hetton Lyons Country Park, which will be monitored. A local residents group has identified the need for bins in the Burnside School area in order to minimise dog fouling along the footpath. The Coalfield Area Community Coordinator has been working with the Sunderland Volunteer Centre to organise a Team Challenge to address the issue of graffiti at Flatts Youth Centre and the issue of litter around the Penshaw Community Centre. (A Team Challenge involves a team of employees working together to achieve a specific project for a community group, usually, although not always, within one working day).

5 City Services – Area Response Managers

- 5.1 All of the new Area Response Managers for Streetscene should be appointed by the date of the Area Committee.
- 5.2 The Area Response Manager for the Coalfield Area will attend each Area Committee.
- 5.3 The Area Response Manager will introduce him/her self known to each of the Committee members and will also promote their role within each ward, holding drop-in sessions for local residents to talk to them about any issues they may have. The Area Response Manager will ensure local councillors are aware of any issues raised and address issues as appropriate, directing resources and coordinating activity, as required within the local area.

6 Locally Targeted Communication Messages: Recognition for Action

- 6.1 It is important that feedback is given to residents to ensure they understand what services have been delivered within their area and how Sunderland Council is developing its service offer to ensure value for money.
- 6.2 The Area Response Manager and Area Officer, alongside the area Communications Team representative, who attend each Area Committee, will work together to ensure local news stories, relating to services delivered, are shared with the media and within the Area Newsletters – which will have a dedicated Responsive Local Services page within each issue.

6.3 This approach will be supported by a targeted campaign to promote the appointment of the Area Response Manager and the local response team. Postcards will also be used to promote local activity, encouraging residents to get involved in the improvement of their city.

6.4 Due to the number of service requests relating to the dumping of waste, it is proposed to develop a campaign to promote the services available from the council to remove white goods for free throughout the year, the bulky collection service as well as the recycling sites across the city.

7 Out Of Hours Noise Service – Pilot Approach

7.1 Evidence suggests that noise nuisance affects all areas of the city to some degree and as such it is proposed to provide a pilot Out of Hours Noise Response Team to all areas of the City.

7.2 The pilot involves collaborative working with Northumbria Police in support of the Noisy Party Pilot Scheme. The scheme was in place from 25th October and continued until December 19th, across the City as an initial response to noise complaints.

7.3 The results of the pilot are being used to consider how the noise services should operate in future in terms of the most effective means to deliver the service and improve customer satisfaction.

8 Working Together With Gentoo

8.1 The Area Response Managers are now meeting with their counterpart within Gentoo on a bi-monthly basis to share information and to ensure close working arrangements. The purpose of the meeting is to address day-to-day service issues and to work together to support service delivery alignment where possible – sharing work programmes in particular. Training has been delivered to Gentoo front line staff explaining Sunderland City Council's service delivery methodology and to communicate staffing structures.

8.2 The Customer Services section from Sunderland City Council is also working together with their counterparts at Gentoo to share customer intelligence to support service delivery – particularly sharing messages and improving response times to address service requests.

9 Strategic Land Management (SLM)

9.1 Phase 2 of the Strategic Land Management Project is well underway. All council owned land has been inspected and work has begun with Land & Property Services to carry out the data cleansing with help of 2 Officers from the SWITCH Team.

9.2 The next step is to use the gathered data to prepare the GIS information layers that will populate the initial SLM viewer. This will include layers showing land maintenance costs, Gentoo land ownership, leasehold and Customer Service data. The completed SLM viewer will be tested and then presented to area committees in March 2011.

Recommendation

Members are requested to:

- Note the report and receive further updates regarding any issues arising from the intelligence group.

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Community Action: Outstanding Issues Log from 2009/10

Priority	Issue/Action	Action taken and next steps	Funding request	Progress
Improve local shopping centres	Receive update/progress report regarding the Hetton Memorial Garden	At the November 2010 meeting, Area Committee agreed to fund the repair of the ornamental standard lights in the memorial park from the existing SIB allocation. The lead agent is unable to attract match funding for the project so the remaining balance of the approved funding will be returned to the budget (£27,000).	£30,000 March 2009	Complete
Improve local shopping centres	Provide update on the provision of public toilets in Houghton Town Centre	The head of Street Scene is now taking this forward in conjunction with Scrutiny Committee. The feasibility of developing a Community Toilet Scheme is being explored including consultation with potential providers and members of the public.	NO	
Bring empty properties back into use	Area Committee receive update on Empty Homes strategy and targets	A Private Sector Housing Officer (empty properties) has been in post since 1 November 2010. To date this year, a total of 54 properties have been brought back into use – the target is 83 by March 2011. The Officer is working proactively towards achieving this target. All owners of long term empty properties will be contacted during December 2011 to enable the officer to establish what the current situation is and what the owners intentions are for the property. Following discussions, the best course of action for the empty property will be agreed upon. The property will be monitored regularly until it is reoccupied and progress will be reported to area committee when appropriate.	NO	
Adequate youth provision to be available for all wards	Explore the opportunities for cross border working with Durham County Council (e.g. Fencehouses crosses boundaries)	Cross border working on 14-19 provision is in place with Headways Sixth Form (Seaham and Hetton). Kath Butchert has met with Paul Hebron, Head of Positive Activities in Durham to discuss the possibilities of cross working in Fencehouses regarding the youth mobile resources. This item will now form part of the agenda at future Youth Provision meetings.	NO	Complete
Prepare young people for adult life through encouragement and building of confidence	Review anti bullying provision in schools and explore the need to extend anti-bullying programmes in primary schools.	Sunderland has set up an Anti-Bullying group which is part of the Regional Anti-Bullying Alliance. The Group look at provision, policies in schools and anti-bullying initiatives across the City. The Anti-Bullying Co-ordinator will work with schools and their representatives. The Area Officer will monitor the Ear 4 U project funded via SIB.	YES – £13,200 SIB for Ear 4 U project	Complete
Raise aspirations of children/young people and their families	Review FACL (Family, Adult and Community Learning) Programme	A review has begun and an initial report to committee is envisaged in March 2011, which will propose piloting area based delivery. Agreement on new ways to procure learning is in place. A meeting has been arranged with the FACL Manager to try and resolve the issue of 'full cost recovery', which is a barrier to many VCS organisations' participation. The matter will be raised with the Exec Director of Children's Services, should there be a need for a policy change. Once agreed, the review can be broadened to include the wider VCS	NO	
Address issues around lack of public transport in some areas	Nexus to ensure full consultation with the Committee and local residents on the Secured Services Network	Nexus will attend future Area Committee meetings and provide information when required. A consultation exercise was carried out at the March 2010 meeting. The Secured Services Network is due to be discussed by Cabinet in January 2011.	NO	

Community Action: Work Plan for 2010/11

Priority	Issue/Action	Date raised	Evidence and/or Data Source	Action taken/next steps	Funding request	Lead Agent(s)	R A G
Bulb planting and landscaping	Community planting scheme	June 2010	Area Committee VCS Network Gentoo customer panel	Both elements (machine planting and community planting) have been successfully implemented and the project is now ready to move to Phase 2. This next phase will encourage and support the local community and voluntary groups involved to date (over 60 including schools and residents' groups) to further develop their capacity in order to undertake a wider range of partnership projects within their own neighbourhoods.	Funded by SIB and Gentoo	Les Clark, Head of Street Scene. Phase 2 to be led by Susan Brown, Community Co-ordinator	
Heritage	Audit of current provision	June 2010	Area Committee VCS Network Local Area Plan	A consultant has now been appointed to carry out an audit and develop an action plan for delivery of projects against the heritage priority.	Yes – £10,000 agreed at September 2010 meeting An application for £10,000 SIB for Kepier Hall is presented to this meeting	Vicki Medhurst, City Services	
Local Shopping Centres	Decline of local shopping centres, Lack of adequate provision.	June 2010	Local Development Framework Retail needs assessment	An audit will commence in January 2011 and the initial survey work will be completed by mid February. This information will then be presented to the Task and Result Group with some suggested actions which can be implemented. Area Committee will be updated at the next meeting.	Yes – £5,000 agreed at November 2010 meeting	Andrew Perkin, Business and Investment Team	
Child Poverty (CP)	High levels of children in families with low income	June 2010	Area Committee Draft Child Poverty strategy Child Poverty Area Profile Income data' Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2007	The Sunderland Partnership has agreed to lead on reducing child and family poverty in Sunderland. An important aspect of the partnership working necessary to take this agenda forward is to have an agreed strategy in place which will provide a single focus across the city. In order to provide a partnership response to the challenges that child and family poverty present to the city, a	No	Raj Singh, Children's Services	

				comprehensive Child and Family Poverty Needs Assessment was carried out. From this Needs Assessment, Phase 2 of the Child and Family Poverty Strategy has been developed, which will support the Council and its partners to work towards the aim of eradicating child and family poverty in the city and improve the life chances of Sunderland's children and young people.			
Unadopted Roads	Review the current policy and alternative options regarding unadopted roads	<i>September 2009</i>	Cabinet report LAP Area Committee	A significant amount of work has been carried out to determine a baseline position in regard to private streets. An extensive desktop study together with on site photography exercise to identifying all the unadopted streets in the Coalfield Area and across the city has been undertaken. An update report is being prepared and will be presented to the next Area Committee meeting.	No	Stephen Pickering/ Graham Carr, City Services	
Play Provision	Review Play and Urban Games Strategy	<i>July 2010</i>	Play and Urban Games Strategy (PUGS) strategy Community Consultation LAP	At the September 2010 meeting of Area Committee an update on the PUGS Review was given by an Officer from City Services. Members agreed the recommendations in the report but raised a number of queries which have now received a response. The results of the review are to be considered by Committee before any further actions are taken against this priority.	Possibly to a future Area Committee	Julie Gray, Head of Community Services	
	Receive more information on play provision services and activities in the Coalfield area	<i>July 2010</i>	Area Committee	An exercise to collect information on the types of play activities and services available is underway and will be further explored using local knowledge via the VCS network. An update will be provided at the March 2011 meeting.	No	Pauline Hopper, Area Officer Susan Brown, Community Co-ordinator	
Review of the Greenspace Strategy	Planning for open space, sport and recreation	<i>September 2010</i>	Local Development Framework	Initial workshops to identify open spaces were carried out in the Coalfield area in November 2010. Phase two of this exercise will be follow up workshops during January 2011 to assess what value to the community these areas are.	No	Clive Greenwood, Senior Planner	
Motor Cycle disorder	Provide information regarding	<i>November 2010</i>	LMAPS VCS Network Local Councillors	Information has been provided which has informed discussions with the Community Safety team within the Council, who have	No	LMAPs	

	'hotspots' to Inspector Finlay, Councillor Rolph or the Area Officer in order to prepare a strategy to tackle the issue across the Coalfield area		Residents Area Committee	agreed to refer this issue to the Business Support Group (BSG) of the Safer Sunderland Partnership. Once discussed by the BSG, a response will be provided to the Area Committee for consideration.			
Speeding or dangerous traffic	A co-ordinated approach/ response is required to dealing with traffic issues	<i>November 2010</i>	SIP/SIB applications Place survey LMAPS Area Committee	The interim Assistant Head of Traffic will provide information regarding a strategic approach to traffic related issues. Information on accident hotspots will form part of the information gathering exercise to inform next steps	Yes – a number of SIP and SIB applications approved or pending	Les Clark, Head of Street Scene	
Youth Disorder	The XL Youth village steering group will refocus and expand in order to take this issue forward. An initial meeting to be set up to identify and address key areas where youth disorder has been identified as a problem	<i>November 2010</i>	LMAPS Police/Councillor meetings Crime statistics	The XL youth village steering group will now have a wider remit and a more flexible agenda to include youth disorder hotspots. The next meeting will take place mid January 2011. Youth disorder in Easington Lane has been the focus since the last meeting and there is now mobile provision in place to engage young people in positive activity. The provision has been funded by Gentoo, Hetton Town Council, the Safer Sunderland Partnership, Diversity and Inclusion team and Phase 2 of the community planting project. Next steps for continuing to engage young people to be discussed in January 2011.	Short term funding provided by partners. A longer term solution is being explored by the steering group. An application for SIB funding for the Underground project is presented to this meeting	Kath Butchert, Youth Development Group	

5 JANUARY 2011

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE BUDGET (SIB), STRATEGIC INVESTMENT PLAN (SIP) AND COMMUNITY CHEST- FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND PROPOSALS FOR FURTHER ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES

1. Why has it come to Committee?

Area Committee has delegated budgets to allocate to specific strategic priorities identified in the Local Area Plan, with the overall aim to benefit the wider community and to attract other funding into the area. The report provides a financial statement as an up date position on progress in relation to allocating SIB, SIP and Community Chest, and proposes a number of projects for approval from each funding stream.

2. Financial Statement Coalfield Committee

* £241,514 was allocated for 2010-11, £62,422 was carried over from 2009 -10: Balance £303,936				
	Committee Date	Main SIB Fund Approvals	Opportunities Approvals	Total 100%
Available Funding 2010/11 *	-	-	-	£303,936
Project Name	-	-	-	-
Coalfields 3G Camera Addition	14.07.10	£5,500	-	£298,436
Eppleton Cricket Club Practice Facilities	14.07.10	-	£13,162	£285,274
Philadelphia Cricket Club Practice Facilities	14.07.10	-	£9,000	£276,274
Houghton Feast Opening Ceremony	14.07.10	-	£10,000	£266,274
Coalfield in Bloom - bulb planting project	14.07.10	£50,000	-	£216,274
Heritage Feasibility Study	09.09.10	£10,000	-	£206,274
Sunderland Angling Festival	08.10.10	-	£1,000	£205,274
Grace House North East	08.10.10	-	£1,675	£203,599
Wensleydale Avenue Traffic Calming	03.11.10	£10,277	-	£193,322
Walking Route to Rainton Meadows	03.11.10	£20,000	-	£173,322
North Rd/Hazard Ln pedestrian safety	03.11.10	£10,000	-	£163,322
Ear 4 U	03.11.10	-	£13,200	£150,122
Shopping Centres scoping exercise	03.11.10	£5,000	-	£145,122
Parade Traffic Management Support	11.11.10 (Delegated Decision)	-	£2,343	£142,779
Total allocated		£110,777	£50,380	
NB:- £6,149 was recouped from The Hive Project (included in remaining balance) £27,000 was recouped from Hetton Memorial Garden project (included in remaining balance) £58 was recouped from New Herrington Study project (included in remaining balance)				
Remaining balance	-	-	-	£175,986

3. Strategic Initiatives Budget

Following the November 2010 Committee meeting £175,986 remained to be allocated during 2010/11. This amount includes £27,000 brought back to the budget with regard to the Hetton Memorial Garden Project and £58 with regard to the New Herrington study.

There are three projects detailed in **Annex 1a** recommended for approval as follows:

Project	SIB requested	Recommendation
• The Underground	£32,394	Approve
• Kepier Hall Car Park	£10,000	Approve
• South View Phase 3	£1,000	Approve

Projects recommended for approval from the 2010/11 budget total £43,394. Should Committee approve this proposal the remaining balance for the 2010/11 allocation would be £132,592 with one meeting remaining.

As identified in Report 3a, the priorities of 'Local Shopping Centres' and 'Heritage' are still in the scoping stage and therefore have not had SIB allocated to specific projects to address these priorities. Initial discussions at the Task and Result groups and updates to Area Committee suggest that the outcome of the scoping/audit exercises will identify a range of costed projects which could be implemented at the next stage. It is therefore recommended that Committee allocate a proportion of the remaining SIB to each priority in order to ensure that 2010/11 funding is targeted on selected 2010/11 area priorities.

Based on indicative costs identified at Task and Result group meetings it is recommended that an amount of £80,000 be 'earmarked' from this year's budget for the Local Shopping Centres priority, and £40,000 be 'earmarked' for the Heritage priority. This would leave a balance of £12,592 with one meeting remaining.

If Committee agree to the recommendation, SIB applications will still be submitted and processed in the usual way and presented to Committee for approval before any specific projects are implemented.

4. Strategic Investment Plan (SIP)

Following the November 2010 Committee meeting, £29,070 remained to be allocated during 2010/11. There are 4 projects detailed in **Annex 1a** which are recommended for approval, as follows:

Project	SIP requested	Recommendation
• South View Phase 3	£5,100	Approve
• Lake Road underpass steps	£1,185	Approve
• Lake Road footpath	£10,500	Approve
• Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS)	£11,500	Approve

The projects recommended for approval from the 2010/11 budget total £28,285. Should Committee approve this proposal the remaining balance for the 2010/11 allocation would be £785 (Houghton ward).

5. Community Chest

The table below details balances remaining to be allocated following the last meeting in November, project proposals received as detailed in **Annex 1b**, and balance remaining should those proposals be approved.

Ward	Balance at November 2010	Project proposals	Community Chest Balance
Copt Hill	£5138	£3392	£1746
Hetton	£77	£0	£77
Houghton	£4610	£3309	£1301
Shiney Row	£1868	£0	£1868

Recommendations

Committee are requested to:

- Note the financial statement set out in Section 2 of this report
- Agree the SIB recommendations set out in Annex 1a
- Agree to allocate a nominal budget of £80,000 to the Local Shopping Centres priority
- Agree to allocate a nominal budget of £40,000 to the Heritage priority
- Agree the SIP recommendations set out in Annex 1a
- Approve the 12 proposals for support 2010/11 Community Chest set out in Annex 1b

Appendices

Annex 1a: Summary of SIP and SIB funding applications

Annex 1b: Summary of Community Chest Applications

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SIB and SIP Funding Applications

1	The Underground Project	SIB
2	Kepier Hall Car Park	SIB
3	South View Phase 3	SIB/SIP Shiney Row
4	Lake Road underpass steps	SIP Copt Hill
5	Lake Road footpath	SIP Copt Hill
6	Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS)	SIP Copt Hill

Application No1 – The Underground Project

Total cost of Project	Total SIB	Total match funding
£54, 836	£32, 394	£22,442
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
12 months	April 2011	March 2012

The Project

The purpose of this project is to provide a music project to young people and to employ a full time worker to develop The Underground through a transition to a sustainable voluntary project. Match funding has been secured from the Youth Opportunities Fund (YOF).

The project will work with other agencies such as Connexions, Gentoo and SNCBC to provide affordable premises in a central location for them to deliver their work including generic youth work. The contracted youth provider for the Coalfield area (SNCBC) currently deliver one session a week and Connexions use the premises to meet with a closed group of young people.

Over the last 6 months, The Underground has developed a constitution, opened a bank account and is applying for charitable status. A young people's committee is in place with a steering group to support the development of the project and mentoring and training of the young people. Monies are also being generated through letting the premises to other agencies for a minimal fee.

The project will contribute to the Local Area Plan (LAP) and Coalfield area priorities as follows:
Learning Theme: The worker will staff music sessions, ensuring that the minimum provision continues to be offered whilst The Underground is developing, enabling young people to have access to adequate youth provision.

Prosperous Theme: The Underground is based in a shop unit on Newbottle Street in Houghton, ensuring that this shop unit is leased and open to provide a service to young people in the area including the management of the unit as a safe environment.

Safe: The Underground provides young people with music opportunities as well as a place that they can socialise with friends. Young people will have a safe place to go where they can have access to information, advice and guidance and participate in learning opportunities to support their personal and social development, evidenced by recorded and accredited outcomes, in line with the Youth Development Group Youth Work Curriculum, with access to a variety of resources and activities with support from qualified youth workers.

The Underground has become a COMPACT member and has joined the Area Voluntary and Community Sector Network which will support networking with other community groups that will foster a number of opportunities for partnership work. There are strong links with the Area Co-ordinator and an opportunity has already been identified to develop young people's involvement in Coalfields in Bloom through composing a theme tune. Discussion has also initiated an idea to hold a Coalfields in Bloom Festival and Music event in spring to celebrate the bulbs blooming, alongside a replant of summer bulbs involving community groups including

The Underground who have £5000 allocated in their YOF budget to stage a music event in the area. Another example being explored with Gentoo is intergenerational work with older members of the community supporting young people in learning to play musical instruments.

Outputs of the Project

Output Code	Description	Number
L7	Number of additional youth sessions delivered	48
L8	Number of additional young people engaged and participating in youth provision	105
S5	Number of young people benefiting from youth inclusion/diversionary projects	650
S6	Number of additional young people engaged in youth activities	64

Key Milestones for the Project

Achieve Charitable Status	May 2011
Submit Big Lottery Reaching Community Bid	May 2011
Develop and deliver Coalfield in Bloom Festival	June 2011
Develop and adopt relevant policies and procedures	March 2012
Funding and staff in place to maintain project in the voluntary sector	March 2012

Recommendation: Approve

The project will contribute to three of the main objectives in the Local Area Plan and also to the recently added priority of reducing youth disorder in the Coalfield area. The project will provide a valuable resource for young people and an alternative activity which will complement generic youth provision available.

Application No 2 – Kepier Hall Car Park

Total cost of Project	Total SIB requested	Total match funding
£15,040	£10,000	£5,040
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
3 months	February 2011	April 2011

The Project

The purpose of The Kepier Project has been to renovate The Kepier Hall, a grade 2* listed building in a conservation area, so that it can accommodate a broad range of community groups and their many differing activities. In addition the project will contribute to the regeneration of Houghton-le-Spring.

This application for funding is to provide remedial works to the car park to reduce flooding and provide an improved facility for community groups and their clients. The work will also prevent further damage to the ground floor of the Kepier Hall which has been caused by standing water.

Recent completion of ground floor alterations to provide additional space for community groups has been justified by an increase in applications for accommodation. Currently the car parking area becomes flooded which restricts parking because of the depth of the surface water. It is intended to install three soakaway pits at separate positions around the building.

Outputs of the Project

Output Code	Description	Number
A1	Number of improved community facilities	1
A2	Number of people using improved community facilities	24 groups

Key Milestones for the Project

Work on car park commences	February 2011
Soakways installed and work complete	April 2011

Recommendation:

Approve: In addition to providing a valuable community resource which is used by a wide range of groups including the Friends of Rectory Park, 50+ health group, brownies and guides, Ladies Fellowship, Gilpin WI, New Residents group (asylum seekers) and toddler groups, the project will contribute to the identified priority of 'promote local heritage'. The Kepier Hall is a valuable asset to the heritage of Houghton and the wider Coalfield area.

Application No 3 – South View Phase 3

Total cost of Project	Total SIP	Total SIB
£6,100	£5,100	£1,000
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
3 months	January 2011	March 2011

The Project

Henry Street back is an unmade unadopted highway, the condition of which makes it unsafe and unattractive for residents and allotment holders to negotiate. The project will carry out environmental improvements to Henry Street back by grading the existing surface and then laying recycled road planings through a road paving machine to provide an even and compacted road surface to improve the roadway and access to the local allotments. The existing footpath/roadway is very uneven and in a poor state of repair and prevents disabled access to the site. More people would have easy access to the street and allotment site and there would be access for disabled people using motorised scooters. There would be easier access for older people and families to gain access to the area.

Phase 1 was completed in April 2010 and has proved to be of great benefit to local residents and pupils/parents/staff accessing the school. Phase 2 was completed July 2010 and has also proved beneficial to local residents and users of the allotments. The proposed project as described above is phase 3.

Outputs of the Project

Output Code	Description	Number
A1	Number of new or improved community facilities	1

Key Milestones for the Project

Work commences	January 2011
Work complete	March 2011

Recommendation: Approve

The project meets the objectives set out in the Local Area Plan and the priorities set for 2010/2011

Application No 4 – Lake Road underpass steps

Total cost of Project	Total SIP requested	
£1,185	£1,185	
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
4 months	March 2011	June 2011

The Project

Removal of redundant steps adjacent to the underpass leading up to the pedestrian bridge on the south side of the A690 near to Lake Road, within the Copt Hill ward. This project will form part of a larger scheme to provide a surface crossing facility to reduce the need to use the subway.

Outputs of the Project

Output Code	Description	Number
A1	Number of new or improved community facilities	1

Key Milestones for the Project

Work commences	April 2011
Work complete	May 2011

Recommendation: Approve

The project meets the objectives set out in the Local Area Plan and the priorities set for 2010/2011. The project will be carried out by the Highways Team within the City Council, and as such will adhere to any relevant consultation or procedures.

Application No 5 – Lake Road footpath

Total cost of Project	Total SIP requested	
£10,500	£10,500	
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
4 months	February 2011	May 2011

The Project

Construction of a footway along the north side of Lake Road between Elizabeth Street and Gravel Walks within the Copt Hill ward.

Outputs of the Project

Output Code	Description	Number
A1	Number of new or improved community facilities	1

Key Milestones for the Project

Work commences	March 2011
Work complete	May 2011

Recommendation: Approve

The project meets the objectives set out in the Local Area Plan and the priorities set for 2010/2011. The project will be carried out by the Highways Team within the City Council, and as such will adhere to any relevant consultation or procedures.

Application No 6 – Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS)

Total cost of Project	Total SIP requested	
£11,500	£11,500	
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
4 months	February 2011	May 2011

The Project

Installation of vehicle activated speed signs on Seaham Road, High Lane, and Hetton Road within the Copt Hill ward.

Outputs of the Project

Output Code	Description	Number
S3	Number of CCTV or monitoring equipment installed	3

Key Milestones for the Project

Sign bases installed	March 2011
Signs installed and operational	May 2011

Recommendation: Approve

The project meets the objectives set out in the Local Area Plan and the priorities set for 2010/2011. The project will be carried out by the Highways Team within the City Council, and as such will adhere to any relevant consultation or procedures.

COMMUNITY CHEST 2010/2011 COALFIELD AREA - PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR APPROVAL

Ward	Project	Amount	Allocation 2010/2011	Project Proposals	Previous Approvals	Balance Remaining
Copt Hill	Friends of Copt Hill Website – Contribution towards setting up costs for the website.	250				
	The Kepier Trust – Purchase of round tables.	595				
	Early Years Play – Gillas Lane Primary School – Purchase of outdoor clothing.	400				
	Houghton le Spring Methodist Church – Contribution towards refurbishment of disabled toilets, tiling of floors and walls.	647				
	Houghton & District Fitness & Youth Boxing Club – Purchase of equipment.	1000				
	Gillas Lane Neighbourhood Watch Scheme – Contribution towards stationery etc.,	250				
	Friends of Hetton Bogs LNR – Contribution towards promotion of the local nature reserve.	250				
	Totals		11,744	3,392	6,606	1,746
Houghton	The Kepier Trust – Purchase of round tables.	595				
	St. John's Methodist Church – Purchase of new notice board.	360				
	Hawthorn Street Green Space – Provision of goal posts.	707				
	Houghton le Spring Methodist Church – Contribution towards refurbishment of disabled toilets, tiling of floors and walls.	647				
	Houghton & District Fitness & Youth Boxing Club – Purchase of equipment.	1000				
	Totals		11,940	3,309	7,330	1,301
TOTALS			23,684	6,701	13,936	3,047

COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE

5 JANUARY 2011

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

INFLUENCING PRACTICE, POLICY AND STRATEGY

Refreshing Coalfield Local Area Plan (LAP)

1. Why has it come to Committee?

- 1.1 It was agreed at the beginning of the municipal year that Committee would lead on refreshing their LAP between January 2011 and March 2011. To support Committee throughout this process information has been provided on four main elements; what people are telling us, developments to be considered, proposed framework for managing the refresh and recommendations, including terms of reference.
- 1.2 The Area Committee, over the last 3 years, has been provided with significant citywide and local strategic information. In addition, partners including the community and voluntary sector have fed information into the Committee process that has resulted in the development of the Coalfield Local Area Plan and the Committee's annual work plans. The Plans have not only identified key priorities, but through the establishment of task and result groups supported the Committee in influencing the provision of public sector service delivery at a local level and focused the allocation of its delegated budgets to deliver actions to address those priorities.

2. What residents are telling us

- 2.1 Feedback from residents has now been collected over the last year, and this information will be used to provide a focus on what improvements need to be made, at an area level, from a resident's perspective.
- 2.2 Area Committee have the opportunity of using this information when refreshing their LAP and establishing their work plan for 2011-12. The work of the Committee could then significantly address residents' perspectives of their neighbourhoods and provide for an understanding of the outcomes of the Area Committee's actions.
- 2.3 What Does This Mean to Coalfield?
By understanding what residents are saying we can start to build a picture of what really matters to people living in the neighbourhoods and communities within the Coalfield Area. We can then use this information to help inform decisions and meet local people's needs when deciding on Area priorities. As a starting point, the information provided from residents' feedback in the 2009 Place Survey has been cross referenced with a number of other sources (see background info below) to identify emerging priority issues. The initial findings would indicate that the priorities for Coalfield residents are:
 - Activities for teenagers
 - Job prospects
 - Level of crime and Anti Social Behaviour (ASB)
 - Speeding and/or dangerous traffic

It should be noted that this is the very first stage of the process and actual priorities selected by Committee may not reflect the initial findings.

2.4 Activities for teenagers

By analysing information available, the Committee will be better able to understand what elements of activity for teenagers need to be considered if this is chosen as a priority.

Issues to consider at this stage:

- Rating for satisfaction with children's facilities is lower than City average
- There is a high perception of young people 'hanging around'
- Teenagers hanging about on the streets is a top priority for residents
- The issue has already been highlighted by the Coalfield Area Committee as part of the 2010/11 workplan

2.5 Job Prospects

By analysing information available, the Committee will be better able to understand what elements of job prospects need to be considered if this is chosen as a priority. Issues to consider at this stage:

- Residents citing job prospects as the most important factor in making somewhere a good place to live has increased in the past year
- 18-24 year olds are more likely to feel job prospects are in need of improvement
- Work, employment and careers are important to young people

2.6 Level of Crime

By analysing information available, the Committee will be better able to understand what elements of crime need to be considered if this is chosen as a priority. Issues to consider at this stage:

- The perception of high levels of Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) is high in the Coalfield area
- The Coalfield area has the highest level in the City of residents feeling there is more crime in their local area than the country as a whole
- Fewer Coalfield residents feel that the Police and Local Authority are dealing with ASB in the area
- Fewer residents feel they are well informed about the work the Police and Local Authority do to make the area safe
- Youth disorder has been identified by Coalfield Area Committee as an issue for the 2010/11 workplan

2.7 Speeding and/or Dangerous Traffic

By analysing information available, the Committee will be better able to understand what traffic issues need to be considered if this is chosen as a priority. Issues to consider at this stage:

- Speeding/dangerous driving is highlighted as a problem more often in the Coalfield area than elsewhere in Sunderland
- The Coalfield Area Committee have raised this issue as part of the 2010/11 workplan

3. Other Factors for Consideration

3.1 There are a number of strategic and service developments that need to be taken into consideration when developing the LAP, such as;

- Community Strategy
- Corporate Improvement Plan
- Environment and Attractive City Scrutiny Committee: Sunderland 'The Place' Policy Review 10/11
- Child and Family Poverty Strategy
- Economic Masterplan

- Budget Framework
- Local Development Framework
- Coalfield Area Committee's Work Plan 2010-11

Such documents will both inform and be informed of the LAP and be strategically aligned to the work of the Area Committee.

4. Proposed Consultation Framework

- 4.1 Consultation is a key part of developing a well informed LAP. It is recognised that the whole community should have an opportunity to participate in the consultation process, with elected members, receiving support from partners to drive the consultation process forward.
- 4.2 Consultation and community engagement are therefore fundamental foundations in developing LAPs, which will inform the refreshed Sunderland Strategy. During November, the Area Co-ordination Team concentrated on analysing resident surveys, requests for services, feedback from Community Spirit, outcomes from the State of the City Debate and Youth State of the City, VCS Area Networks and key facts and performance data as gathered through our Area Regeneration Framework Profiles, the findings of which are shown in Section two of this report. In order to ensure an inclusive approach a consultation framework will be applied.
- 4.3 Stage One: 10 January 2011
Present desk top research to Coalfield Committee, building a picture of what people are telling us needs improving and their top priorities to address.
- 4.4 Stage Two: January-March 2011
Committee agree to establish a Task and Finish group made up of elected members and partners (see Annex 1). The group, if agreed, will commit to actively working outside of the Committee cycle between January and March 2011 to consider what people are telling us. They will bring information forward, relevant to the area, about key strategies and Partner/ Directorate delivery plans for the forthcoming year; raise the profile of any local research, project interventions or initiatives being delivered, quality control information supplied and propose suitable performance measures to enable the production of the first draft of LAP. This will include key priorities that will be provided for the Area Committee to agree.
- 4.5 Stage Three: March-April 2011
The Draft LAP, including key priorities, will be provided to the Area Committee for agreement. There will be a commitment to consult with a wide mix of residents, for example, young and old, from different communities, and interests, to ensure the information collected is unbiased. Groups to be consulted could include, for example, those active in the Coalfield area highlighted in Annex 2. Committee also have an opportunity to add further groups, for example, Local Multi Agency Problem Solving Groups (LMAPs). All elected members will receive notification of meetings held within the Coalfield area.
- 4.6 Stage Four: April 2011-May 2011
The Task and Finish Group will capture feedback, refine the LAP and develop an action plan, including performance measures, reporting their findings to Area Committee for agreement.
- 4.7 Stage Five: May 2011

The final design to be provided to Elected Members prior to the release to local partners and residents. The LAP will then be widely communicated with two versions produced, one version being a special edition of Community News for residents. The second being a working document for Committee to deliver against throughout 2011/12.

4.8 Stage Six: October – November 2011

Bi-annual performance report presented to Committee, to advise Committee on progress on activity.

5. Recommendation(s)

Committee are asked to agree the following:

- Establish a LAP Task and Finish Group and note the terms of reference for the group, outlined in Annex 1
- Nominate membership of the group
- Agree the proposed consultation framework outlined in Section 4
- Note the findings of the report and agree to receive a further report in March 2011
- Consider the list attached at Annex 2 and suggest other groups to be included

Annex 1: Terms of Reference

Annex 2: Community/resident groups in the Coalfield

Background papers

- Place Survey 2009
- Safer Sunderland Partnership: Confidence Survey 2010
- Community Spirit Panel: Sustainable Communities
- State of the City Debate 2010
- Youth State of the City Debate 2010
- Mini Youth Inc Events 2009
- VCS Area Network 2010 meetings
- Customer Service Requests
- Area Regeneration Frameworks 2010

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Item 4: Annex 1: Local Area Plan (LAP) Task and Finish Groups: Guidance Notes

Membership

The LAP Task and Finish group will be chaired by the Area Chair, or nominee, and will include Councillors, LSP representatives, officers, and experts. Sub groups and advisors may be appointed, if necessary, and their terms of reference will be agreed by the Task and Finish group.

Frequency of Meetings

The group will agree the frequency and duration of its meetings in order to achieve its purpose and specific duties within the timescale agreed by the Area Committee.

Purpose of group

- Consider what local people are telling us about improvements, priorities and satisfaction levels of service delivery.
- Commit to actively work outside of Area Committee between January 2011 and March 2011.
- Act as a hub of area information and intelligence relating to strategies, delivery plans, research, interventions and initiatives being delivered in the area.
- Quality control information supplied.
- Propose suitable performance measures against future priorities.
- Present draft priorities and LAP to Area Committee to agree before further consultation takes place.
- Consult on draft priorities and LAP with residents and partners.
- Capture feedback from consultation exercise and refine LAP.
- Present final LAP to Committee for consideration.

Budgetary responsibility

No budget is assigned to the Task and Finish group. Individual Area Committees may agree to align a percentage of their SIB budget to a Task and Finish group established to address any of the priorities identified in the final work plan. However requests for funding would need to be endorsed by Area Committee, or through the emergency protocol.

Communication by the Group

- The group shall be responsible for keeping the Area Committee updated on progress via the Area Officer using the following mechanisms:
 - Sunderland website and Area Action Plans
 - Ward e-bulletin and Coalfield Community Newsletter
 - Update reports at Area Committee meetings.
- Any other appropriate means identified by the task and finish group
- A schedule of action, identifying Lead and deadline dates will be produced within 7 working days of any meeting and circulated for action, with regular updates.

Limits of group

The task and finish group have no decision making powers. Recommendations of the task and finish group will be discussed and endorsed by the Area Committee.

Item 4: Annex 2:

Community and Residents Groups within the Coalfield Area

Many local groups share a common goal to improve their neighbourhood or area. By working with these groups Area Committee can gather further insight into what is important to local people. The following information provides an overview of some of the groups Committee may wish to include in the consultation process.

- Easington Lane Community Access Point (ELCAP)
- Houghton Racecourse Community Access Point (HRCAP)
- Fellowship of Churches (Faith Groups)
- Hope - (Luncheon Club)
- Age UK Coalfields
- SunnyBurn Residents Group
- Moorsley Residents Group
- Peat Carr Residents Group
- Hetton Town Trust
- Friends of Hetton Centre
- Shiney Row Childcare
- SOAP – Harbour
- Penshaw CA
- Hetton Ladies Club
- Friends of Hetton Bogs
- New Dawn
- Groundwork
- 1st Eppleton Brownies
- St Matthews Youth and Community Centre
- Burnside Community Development group
- Eppleton Cricket Club
- Easington Lane and Hetton Club for Disabled
- Newbottle CA
- 1st Herrington Scout Group
- Durham Wildlife Trust
- Shiney Row CA
- Springboard
- Boundary CA
- Inner Wheel Project
- St Oswalds
- Gentoo Residents Groups
- Schools (via cluster managers)
- CEED