

Coalfield Area Committee
ANNUAL REPORT 2011- 2012

Executive Summary by the Chair of the Coalfield Area Committee

At the beginning of this financial year Coalfield Area Committee set out its priorities for the year ahead.

Key areas where Area Committee wanted to focus work and resources and bring real benefits to the local community included heritage, local shopping centres, additional activities for children and young people, empty properties and neglected land.

Work plans were developed for each area to monitor actions against these priorities. The Committee invested £238,902, by awarding grants via area funding streams, to support these projects. External funding of £317,961 was also used to deliver projects designed to improve the quality of life for local residents.

Partnership working has been key to ensuring we get value for money and maximum benefit from our resources. Funding was allocated to organisations who helped us deliver what we said we would, and as a result of our partnership with our voluntary and community sector area network, we have involved more residents and community groups in our work than ever before.

This has encouraged more groups and organisations to get involved and we look forward to working with them in the future.

A lot of excellent work has taken place over 2011-2012. Some of the highlights are:

- 18 local groups are taking part in the Community Challenge project, to develop and deliver community based projects including production of a **heritage** calendar. Two Heritage Community Development Workers have been appointed to work on local events, heritage trails and educational projects
- Christmas events in **local shopping centres** proved extremely popular, and the format is to be repeated throughout the year. We're working with local traders to support them through difficult economic times and have assisted with establishing a trader's forum.
- We've provided funding to make sure there are **activities for young people** of all ages and during school holidays. XL youth villages and other youth work across the area have been very successful in reducing reports of anti-social behaviour and Area Committee funding has ensured that these can continue.
- Several projects have taken place to tidy up derelict **allotments** and make them suitable for rent, reducing the waiting list in the area.
- Funding was awarded to a community organisation to allow them to offer more **support for older people**, through financial and welfare advice sessions. Volunteering opportunities are being developed, and so far over 50 new people pledged to give up their time to help support others.
- **Empty properties** can have a very negative effect on communities. In the last year 90 properties in the Coalfield area have been brought back into use, and funding is being sought to enable more to be secured.
- Over 100 areas of **neglected land** were identified, which make the area unattractive and can attract crime. Work is ongoing to clean up what we can, and identify the owners of private sites.

As more of the services we deliver move to area based working, following on from the successful implementation of the Responsive Local Services teams in each area, the focus is on residents needs more than ever before. It is vital that local communities become involved, and have their say on how, where and when the City Council delivers its services in their area.

We're committed to improving on the successes and positive outcomes we have seen this year in the Coalfield, and will continue to keep local communities at the heart of everything we do.

I would like to thank all members of Area Committee, including partners, officers and residents, for their hard work and support throughout the year in helping to achieve positive results and better services for local people.

Cllr Dennis Richardson, Chair, Coalfield Area Committee



Introduction

Area Committees are appointed by the council to ensure improved service delivery at a local level in the context of best value and more efficient, transparent and accountable decision making. They deliver this role through:-

- leading on the development and delivery of Local Area Plans (which are subject to Cabinet approval) and identifying all main priorities for the improvement of an area.
- monitoring the quality and effectiveness of services delivered by the council and other main providers in the area, and
- Actively encourage local residents to become involved in decision making on matters which affect them.

Area Committees work closely with council officers, external partners, voluntary and community groups and local people in both the development and delivery of Local Area Plans and in doing so ensure that strong and consistent links are made between local and city-wide plans and the overarching commitments of the Sunderland Strategy. The plans help to develop and shape services to address need at an area level.

Community involvement and engagement is at the heart of everything Area Committees do and, throughout the year, when identifying what actions need to be taken to deliver the priorities, committees consider the needs of local neighbourhoods and residents across all of the wards in their areas. Through consultation with residents, representation from the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Networks or local people helping to deliver actions, a wide range of organisations and individuals are encouraged to support and influence the work of Area Committees.

Area Committees hold delegated budgets, Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB) and Community Chest, which are allocated to projects and initiatives that can demonstrate that their work will support the delivery of the Local Area Plans and identified priorities which will improve the quality of life in the area.

At the end of each municipal year Area Committees produce an Annual Report which reviews and evaluates the degree to which it has successfully achieved its objectives and been effective in promoting Community Leadership. It considers what the key achievements have been, as well as, the performance of all projects and initiatives that have been awarded Area Committee resources.

Coalfield Area Committee Priorities 2011/12

The next section shows priorities selected by Coalfield Area Committee for 2011/12, and how we have performed against what we set out to do. The priorities, outlined in detail below, are:

- Heritage
- Local Shopping Centres
- Activities for Young People
- Allotments and Community Gardens
- Speeding and Dangerous Traffic
- Support for Older People
- Empty and Problematic Properties
- Neglected Land
- Unadopted Roads

Heritage

The Coalfield area offers a variety of attractions, events and places of interest. The area's heritage is important to local people and the area has a dedicated community and voluntary sector consisting of many local people who have a vast knowledge of the area and its heritage.



What we set out to achieve

- To promote the local heritage of the area
- To support local community and voluntary groups to engage with residents to deliver heritage activities
- To increase the interest and participation of schools and young people
- To capture the wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm amongst local people
- To carry out an audit of local attractions, sites and places of interest
- To work with local and regional partners to develop the heritage priority

What was achieved

- A Task and Result group was set up to develop and monitor the work within this priority. A number of key partners and advisers attend meetings. Through the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Network a local history 'steering group' has also been set up to encourage collaborative working and sharing of knowledge and best practice between history groups and local historians
- Two Heritage Community Development Officers have been appointed for a 12 month period. The officers have been working with local groups in the development of their work to build capacity and ensure sustainability
- A Community Challenge project has enabled 18 local groups to develop and deliver community based projects including production of a heritage calendar. Local history and art groups worked together to identify and photograph sites of local interest. The calendar was sold to raise further funds for the community groups involved.
- Sample work has been carried out at Houghton war memorial. Work will now begin to raise funding to restore and re-cut all of the names.
- A draft gazetteer of groups, collections, attractions and information relating to history and heritage has been produced. This will be further developed to ensure it can be maintained and kept updated
- Learning materials for schools have been developed. In partnership with education providers, a programme of learning is being delivered
- Collections management training has been delivered locally to those who wish to find out more about how to catalogue, store and display items of historic interest
- A number of publications and maps of local walks and trails have been developed over the years. An audit of all of the available documentation has been undertaken and will be used to deliver community based walking activities in partnership with the Wellness team
- A village atlas is being produced for Old Peshaw. Local people and groups will be involved in shaping the atlas which will include an in-depth archaeological and historic study. It is intended that the atlas will also be used to inform the potential future designation of Old Peshaw as a conservation area and thus as a document to be referred

to in the consideration of planning applications in the village in future. A similar atlas for Hetton is also planned for 2012/13.

- As part of the Love Where you Live campaign, two ancient stone horse troughs on the B124 at Rainton were cleared of debris and weeds. Pupils from Dubmire Primary School, assisted by young people from the Princes Trust, planted shrubs and flowers in order to make a feature of the troughs

We have many local people who are now taking up training opportunities around the Heritage offer such as collections management training to Community Heritage Champions. Use of ICT has developed, and the community groups have “hubs” such as Shiney Row Action and Resource Project (ShARP) in the Shiney Row Ward and Easington Lane Community Action Point (ELCAP) in the Hetton Ward where equipment is placed to allow development of skills for photographs and information to be catalogued. Libraries and community venues also have such equipment to further support the community. Heritage event planning and other training packages to meet individual needs of residents and community groups are offered, thus strengthening the capacity of the sector. In partnership with Gentoo we also identified that there was a barrier to some of the events and community activity around transport and we have trained 15 local people on MIDAS enabling Easington Lane Community Access Point to allow the wider community access to the two buses at evenings and weekends. Collaboration and sharing of information and resources has improved and local historians from the VCS Network are now going into local schools as role models extending the cross generation skills.

Budget allocated to priority area

A total of £11,500 (5% of the area budget) has been allocated to this priority from the current year’s budget.

Local Shopping Centres

Area Committee identified a need to support local shopping centres, both in terms of their environmental appearance and economic activity.



What we set out to achieve

- To improve the appearance of local shopping centres
- To offer support to local traders
- To encourage new shoppers to the area
- To consult and engage with existing shoppers
- To promote local shops and involve the retail sector in community activities

What was achieved

- Local street scene services have targeted their resources to areas of need. Frequency and timing of street cleaning, emptying of bins and cleaning of pavements is carried out in line with local requirements

- A business support programme has been developed and will provide advice and support to approximately 20 local businesses over the coming year.
- The three main shopping areas of Hetton, Houghton and Shiney Row have been promoted in local publications and media.
- A 'Shop Local at Christmas' campaign in the three shopping centres as above was delivered throughout November and December 2011. Over 150 volunteers supported family fun and activities and asked over 900 local people for their views on local shopping. This information will be used to develop support and action in the area.
- Twelve local retailers actively took part in our Shop Local campaign and as a result a 'Traders' Forum' is being established. The first phase of this has begun with Houghton Traders meeting with local Councillors and Council officers at the end of March 2012.
- A marketing and promotion project is underway and will be delivered in conjunction with the VCS Network. The project is developing a calendar of events and will link with key dates such as Easter, the Diamond Jubilee and Sunderland 2012 Olympic programme. Local traders will be consulted and involved.
- The Love Where you Live Campaign is being delivered across the area to improve the environment and visual appearance of local communities. Local shopping centres will be included in all phases of this ongoing campaign.

The VCS Network and volunteers, in partnership with The Friends of Rectory Park, have used the Christmas Marketing model to look at an "Easter Day Out" utilising the Houghton Rectory Park with links to the Shop Local Campaign. A programme of activity around family fun will take place over the Easter weekend to encourage people to use the local shopping centre. The Coalfield Community Challenge project has allowed us to proceed immediately with such programmes when required, this "quick turn around pace" keeps the momentum and interest of volunteers. The opportunity for organisations to take up training such as risk assessment and how to plan events has also benefited such groups. This will be ongoing. The links between the Area Team has coordinated activity that crosses over into other priority areas e.g the family fun day at the park will promote 'shop local' and support the "Love Where You Live" and heritage themes. Young people from the area and VCS Groups such as the Underground and Kepier School Eco Club will also be involved.

Budget allocated to priority area

No funding from this year's budget has been allocated to this priority. However, current project are being developed and delivered utilising the funding allocated last year.

Activities for Young People

Activities for young people is identified as important to local people. In addition to providing positive and rewarding activity for all young people, the need to provide targeted, responsive activity in areas of high youth disorder was identified. A need for more specialist services was also suggested, with feedback from children and young people saying that there is a need to provide more health related information, advice and support, particularly around the sexual and mental health of young people.





What we set out to achieve

- Celebrate positive achievements of young people
- Tackle hotspots of youth disorder and provide meaningful activities for young people
- Ensure there is relevant and adequate youth provision for 13-19 year olds
- Provide junior activities for 8-12 year olds
- Provide activities during school holidays
- Promote and make better use of play areas

What was achieved

- A 22 week detached youth work project at the Burnside Skate Park at Houghton delivered by Groundwork North East engaged over 570 young people. This has proved successful and with additional funding from Area Committee is now extended until December 2012.
- XL outreach provision has delivered positive activities for young people in the Burnside and Easington Lane areas on Friday and Saturday evenings after reports of large numbers of youths congregating. Attendance has been consistently high and consumption of alcohol on these nights has reduced since this provision began in November 2011.
- The provision of the XL Youth Village at Burnside, Houghton, has been cited by the neighbourhood inspector for the area as being a great success in reducing reported incidents at the biggest hotspot of youth disorder in recent months
- A full programme of holiday activity has been delivered in all wards during all school holidays this academic year
- Youth sessions at the Underground music project, delivered by Sunderland North Community Business Centre (SNCBC) on Monday evenings have seen a steady increase of young people engaging with the project. The numbers attending have increased from 7 in July 2011 to 50 in December 2011. Sessions continue to be popular.
- Contracted and externally funded youth provision continues to be delivered in all wards
- The Coalfields LDD (learning difficulties and disabilities) group meet each Thursday evening. The session is regularly attended by, on average, 12 young people. Independent living skills are promoted through the work in the sessions.
- SNCBC delivered a four month 'Youth at Risk' programme to young people aged 15-17 who want to change things in their lives but don't know how to do it. Young people were matched with a trained life coach. 38 young people attended the pre course, and 9 young

people completed the four month programme. Some of the young people now want to continue to meet as a group to further progress their own development.

- A ten week course of dance instruction at Easington Lane led to 8 young women attending a competition at City Space, Sunderland University and being awarded first place.
- Youth activities have been developed at Shiney Row CA after reports that youths were using the grassed area outside of the CA as a meeting point. The sessions have proved popular and young people are directed to this centre based activity by detached youth workers in Shiney Row, Penshaw and Herrington Country Park.
- Young people engaging with detached youth workers at Shiney Row and Herrington have secured funding through the Keyfund scheme to undertake activities such as go-carting.
- Consultation with local young people will take place in spring and summer 2012 in order to design and build a new play area at the Kirklee Field which will be part funded by Area Committee.
- Area Committee provided funding to enable 16 local people to undertake a level 2 Certificate in Youth Work Practice.
- The Ear 4 U project has received additional funding from Area Committee to offer one to one support for children and young people who have/are experiencing bullying issues, or other social issues (eg domestic violence, family breakdown or family substance use), which is then affecting their attendance at school.
- Washington MIND are delivering 1-1 and group work sessions to young people aged 16-25 who experience, or are at risk of developing, mental health problems or emotional distress. The project is also developing further health related services for young people in partnership with the youth development group and other youth services in the area
- The Underground music project has given young people performance opportunities at a number of events such as two recent gigs which took place at the Hetton Centre in December 2011 and February 2012 with young bands performing to an audience of parents and friends. The concerts were seen as great success with over 100 people attending each of the gigs.

Key stats

- There are 28 public play and urban games facilities in the Coalfield area, this is the highest of all five areas across the City
- There has been a distinct drop in youth related anti social behaviour (ASB) across the whole of the Coalfield area which is currently 23.8% lower on the year to date than the same period last year. This is the second year in succession that there has been a significant reduction.
- Usage of facilities for young people is the lowest of the five areas across the City. This is being addressed by promoting more widely what is available
- A Safer Communities survey shows that residents are more likely to feel crime and ASB has fallen in the last 12 months

Budget allocated to priority area

A total of £71,943 (31% of the area budget) has been allocated to this priority from the current year's budget.

Allotments and Community Gardens

The Coalfield area provides 36% of the total number of allotments across Sunderland; this is twice the City average. Many sites have been identified as being in an unkempt and derelict condition and concerns have been raised about individual plots being used inappropriately. Area Committee identified this as a long term plan, with an aspiration to bring neglected and unused plots back into use and to substantially reduce the waiting list.



What we set out to achieve

- Reduce the number of derelict plots by bringing them back into use
- Reduce the waiting lists
- Improve the appearance of allotment sites
- Reduce inappropriate use of allotment plots
- Reduce rubbish and fly tipping
- Engage with local groups within the community
- Provide community facilities and gardens
- Make larger scale improvements in two pilot sites

What was achieved

- A full audit has been carried out on all 41 allotment sites in the Coalfield area
- 16 previously derelict plots have now been cleared and brought back into use
- 22 residents have now been offered plots and removed from the waiting list
- A number of derelict buildings and caravans have been removed from sites
- Notices have been served on tenants using their plot for non cultivation purposes
- A large scale project to remove asbestos, old window frames and derelict garages has been carried out at Burnside allotments by Council staff supported by the Community Payback scheme
- New fencing and lockable gates have been installed at Burnside allotments. This has reduced fly tipping and improved the appearance of the whole site
- Five very large, unmanageable plots at Burnside have been divided into smaller areas providing 14 new plots for rent
- Through the Coalfield Community Challenge project 18 local groups have been engaged and involved to work on community gardens at Penshaw Community Association, ELCAP, Moorsley Community Heritage Garden. Friends Of Hetton Centre Community Garden and Eppleton Primary Community Garden and a Young Peoples Allotment
- Meetings have been held with allotment holders to seek their views and input into forming allotment associations. This will enable sites to move towards a self management system and attract external funding to improve their own plots.

- An audit of Britannia Terrace allotments showed that there is potential to make better use of the site and the surrounding area. Consultation with plot holders and the local neighbourhood will take place over coming months in order to develop a long term plan for the site.
- In partnership with Springboard Adventure, Hutton Street Allotments in Hetton have been cleared and individual plots fenced off. New plots have been let, and the waiting list at this site has reduced

The Coalfield Community Challenge project and partnership work has supported young people to take up hobbies and interest in community gardening. One young person who is of three generations of allotment holders has reported that it is the time spent on the allotment that has prevented him from in his words “getting into daft stuff” hanging around and getting into trouble. We have purchased spades and equipment to develop the site. The young person is supporting other young people to take part and has supported Love Where You Live Campaign in the Area.

Budget allocated to priority area

A total of £30,000 (13% of the area budget) has been allocated to this priority from the current year’s budget.

Speeding and Dangerous Traffic

Area Committee identified that there were a number of traffic management issues which were of concern to local people. Acknowledging that this is a Citywide, strategic issue, Committee used their influencing role to request a review of current arrangements to improve road safety in the area.

What we set out to achieve

- Apply a strategic approach to managing road safety and traffic calming

What was achieved

- Road safety issues were identified and the overall plan for allocation of resources and prioritising future work has been reviewed at a Citywide level. The new approach and criteria in dealing with this subject will support the improvement of service

Support for Older People

There are almost 8,500 Coalfield residents over the age of 65, with 55% having physical disabilities and many receiving adult social care services, such as home care and day care to help them in their daily living. It has been highlighted by Area Committee that the ageing population of the area brings the need for additional services, and that lack of awareness of who to turn to, amongst some resident, may result in hidden need in some wards.



What we set out to achieve

- To identify what services and support was available at a local level
- To highlight any problems with regard to accessibility of local services
- To improve access to money and debt advice
- To promote the support and services available in the local area
- To encourage and develop local residents to become volunteers

- To promote and support befriending and visiting schemes to reduce social isolation
- To take into account the needs and concerns of carers and provide advice and support to those with a caring responsibility
- To address the concerns raised with regard to self administering of medication



What was achieved

- A Task and Result group consisting of relevant services has been set up to address this priority
- An audit of locally provided services (statutory and voluntary sector) has been produced, this will be added to and reviewed on a regular basis
- Additional welfare and debt advice services are being delivered, including home visits to those who cannot access centre based sessions.
- Area Committee provided over £23,000 SIB to ShARP to enable 2 advice workers to provide an additional 3, two hour sessions per week.
- Through the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Network, a number of collaborative funding bids and projects are being developed. For example, the New Dawn group and Age UK are working together on an application to Comic Relief to deliver additional support for older people.
- Through the Community Challenge project a number of volunteering opportunities have been facilitated and around 60 people have given up their time to provide support. Work with the volunteer centre is ongoing and will be further developed by the Area Community Co-ordinator and VCS Network
- The Coalfield Community Challenge project has also supported a number of older generation groups to participate in community events related to heritage and love where you live
- There are over 15 VCS organisations including faith groups providing services or support for older people in the Coalfield area
- The (Easington Lane Community Access Point) ELCAP shopper bus continues to support local people in accessing supermarkets and shopping centres in order to retain independence and social interaction
- Member organisations of the VCS Network have held a workshop to identify and improve partnership working on services delivered locally. Befriending and visiting schemes, as well as lunch clubs and social activities are being promoted to all neighbourhoods through local and citywide marketing information
- A Coalfield carers group, for carers living in the wards of Copt Hill, Hetton, Houghton and Shiney Row, meets each month at the Hetton Centre. A member of the Carers Centre will be invited to join the Task and Result group to further discuss how support for carers can be improved
- The issue of self administration of medication has been referred to the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee for consideration

We have supported groups around governance and setting up new projects. Successful luncheon clubs exist in many of our community venues such as Eppleton Welfare Community

Hall and ongoing work has identified opportunities for Coalfield Community Challenge to support further training such as “Beyond the Luncheon Club”. Two members of New Dawn Group completed this in March. Many member organisations of the VCS Networks are made up of older generation groups all of whom contribute and have a say on issues and project delivery within the area.

The Love Where you Live campaign identified many groups with older generation members. This has enabled us to look at developing other projects with partners such as Gentoo who are supporting the development of a community garden and food co-op at Penshaw Community Association.

Budget allocated to priority area

A total of £32,166 (13% of the area budget) has been allocated to this priority from the current year's budget.

Empty and Problematic Properties

Area Committee identified that empty properties can have a detrimental effect on neighbouring properties and the surrounding area. Long term empty properties can attract anti social behaviour, criminal activity and environmental crime such as fly tipping and graffiti. It was felt an overall plan was needed to ensure that there was a co-ordinated and strategic approach to dealing with empty and problematic properties.



What we set out to achieve

- To identify nuisance properties
- To reduce the number of empty properties
- To improve problematic properties
- To facilitate a landlords' forum to discuss issues and solutions
- To identify 'hotspots' for improvement
- To attract additional funding for improvements

What was achieved

- The Coalfield area has a dedicated 'Empty Properties Officer' who has identified a number of properties for improvement. An Empty Property Action Plan, with targets, has been developed for the area
- During the past year 90 empty properties have been brought back into use
- Area specific officers including the Area Response Manager, Environmental Enforcement Officer, ASB Officer, Empty Properties Officer and Environmental Health Officer meet to share information and strengthen collaborative working across all Council directorates
- A landlord forum was held in December 2011. The Empty Properties Action Plan and relevant projects were promoted. There are now 40 accredited landlords with a total of 188 properties in the Coalfield area
- During the exercise to identify nuisance properties, 7 Gentoo properties were identified. Six of these have now been brought back into use.
- The Coalfield Empty Properties Officer and Senior Environmental Health Officer offer drop in sessions at (Houghton Racecourse Community Action Point (HRCAP) and ELCAP for residents who wish to speak to an officer regarding empty or problematic properties
- Two long term and problematic empty houses have been refurbished by Gentoo via the Homes and Community Agency (HCA) New Homes Bonus. Gentoo will manage these properties for a period of five years to ensure they are managed to a high standard.

- The City Council are working closely with Gentoo to secure additional HCA funding for 2012-2015. This will allow more empty homes to be brought back into use via two projects, one is a grant scheme and one is a loan scheme.
- Following Cabinet approval in November 2011 the Council has pursued a policy of voluntary acquisition of properties in Maudlin Street, Hetton Downs with a view to eventual clearance of the terrace. The Council now owns 14 of the 28 properties in the terrace and values have been agreed with landlords of a further 5 private rented properties.

Key Statistics

- 90 empty properties have been brought back into use during the last year. However, the net figure has not changed due to other properties being vacated during the same period. The exception to this is the Copt Hill ward where there has been a 16.8% reduction in the number of empty properties.
- The Coalfield area has the second lowest number of long term empty properties of the five areas across Sunderland

Budget allocated to priority area

A total of £13,000 (5% of the area budget) has been allocated to this priority from the current year's budget.

Neglected Land

It was identified by Area Committee, residents and partners that patches of unmanaged land (large and small) across the Coalfield area cause a problem and are visually unattractive and often attract environmental crime such as fly tipping.



What we set out to achieve

- To identify sites which could be categorised as 'neglected'
- To provide local intelligence via a Task and Result group
- To find out who owns the identified sites
- To improve Council owned land
- To work with owners of private land to establish their future plans for their land
- To encourage owners of private land to improve the appearance and use of land
- To reduce fly tipping on neglected plots



What was achieved

- Using a range of sources of information, including the Council's 'eyes and ears' in the form of Responsive Local Services ward team leaders and staff, a total of 26 Council owned and 101 privately owned plots of land were identified as 'neglected'
- Plans and options for four of the Council owned plots are being developed in order to begin a programme of improvements across all 26 as identified above
- Searches have been carried out by the Council's Legal team and Land Registry to establish ownership of all non-Council owned sites.
- Letters have been sent to 72 owners of privately owned sites, asking what the future plans for the land is.
- Fourteen plots of privately owned land have now been improved and removed from the list of land identified as neglected
- A request has been made for further information and a review of available Section 106 allocations. The possibility of utilising this levy to carry out eligible works on identified Council sites is being explored.
- The Task and Result group has been expanded to include Gentoo, Property Services and Planning and Policy colleagues to ensure all relevant information is available
- A number of projects to install boulders and create rockeries have taken place. In addition to tidying up small grassed areas, the projects are designed to prevent inconsiderate parking and access to motorcycles

Budget allocated to priority area

A total of £36,000 (15% of the area budget) has been allocated to this priority from the current year's budget.

Unadopted Roads

Many of the unadopted roads across the area are in bad repair and cause a problem for residents and visitors. It was recognised by Area Committee that this needs to be addressed at a strategic level and therefore the Area Committee used its influencing role to instigate a review of the policy.

What we set out to achieve

- To review the current arrangements regarding unadopted roads in the area

What was achieved

- This issue was escalated to the Executive Director of City Services and an extensive study was carried out to identify all of the unadopted streets and their condition. The current policy and arrangements were reviewed on this basis and the fundamental elements of the policy remain unchanged. However, there is an opportunity to increase the budget available for City Council contributions where all owners within the street are willing to contribute to the costs.
- A number of minor repairs have been carried out using area SIP budgets.

None of this year's budget was allocated to this priority. However, a small scale project was delivered using funding allocated from last year's budget.

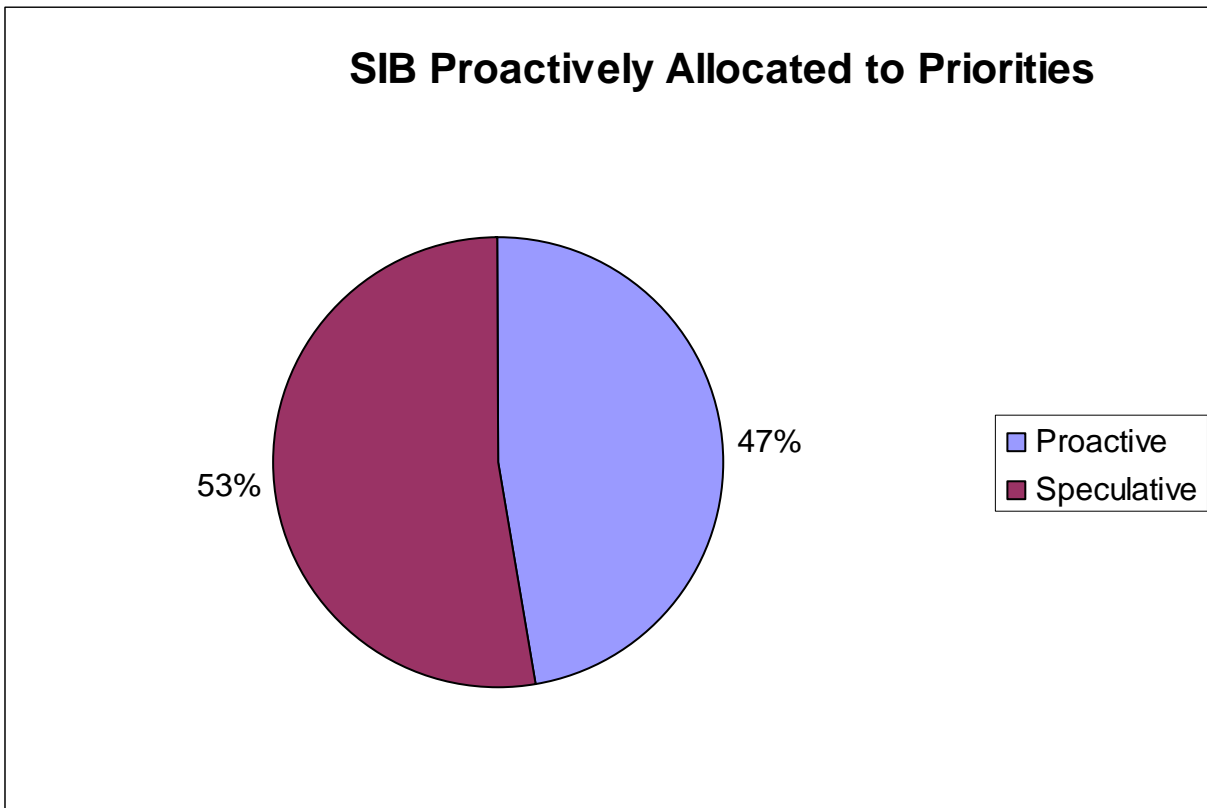
Finance

The Coalfield Area Committee has successfully allocated more than £280,622 throughout 2011/12:

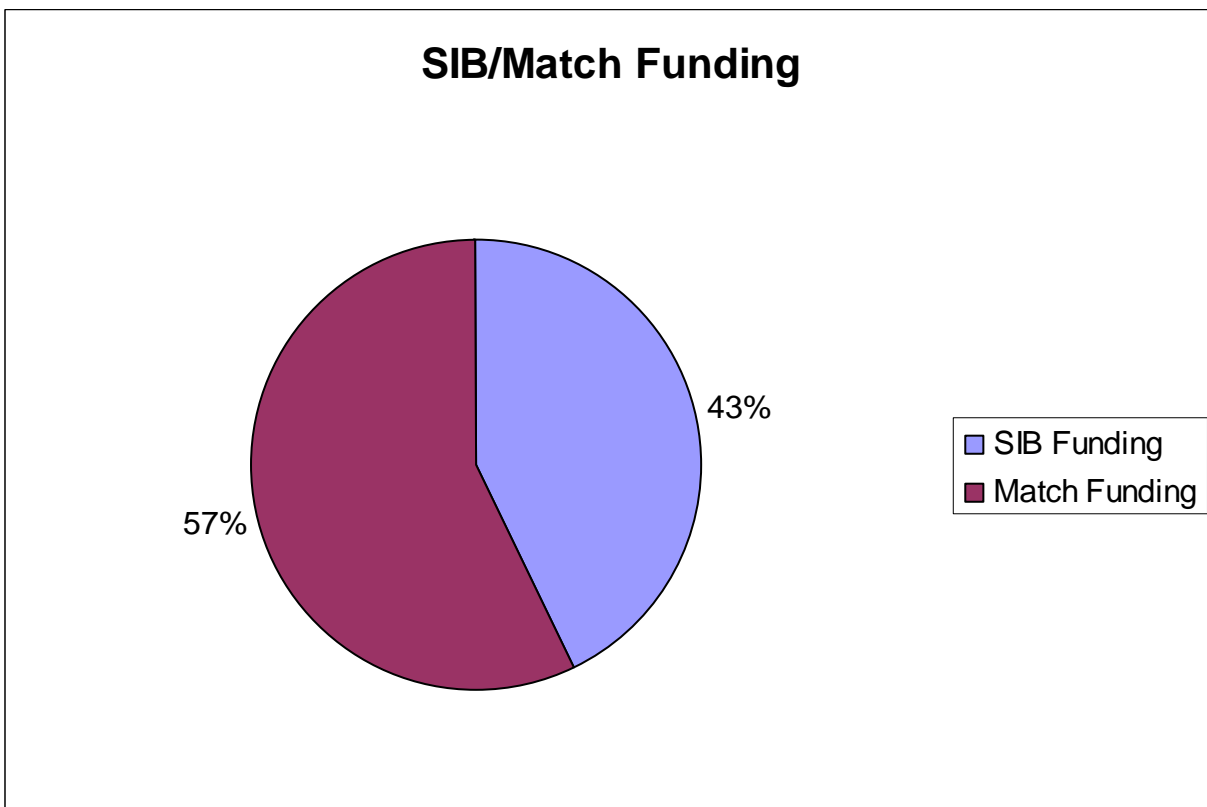
- Total **Strategic Initiatives Budget** allocated £238,902.
- Total **Strategic Investment Plan** allocated £4,453.
- Total **Community Chest** allocated £37,267.

Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB)

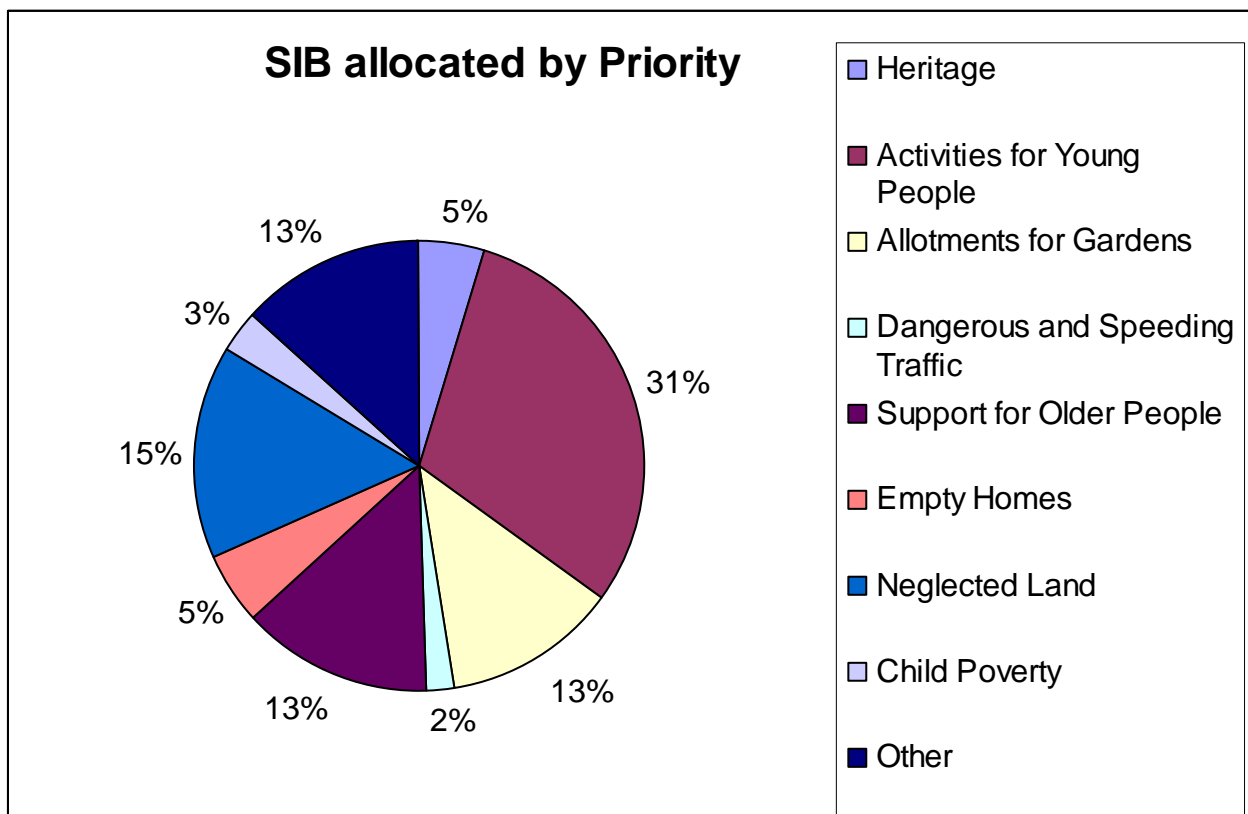
A total budget of £238,902 was available for 2011/12. Committee has allocated the budget to meet the priorities outlined in the Local Area Plan. The charts below provide an overview of proactively allocated funds, match funding attracted and priorities targeted.



A total of £112,927 was proactively allocated to projects identified and developed by Area Committee via Task and Result groups. The remaining £125,975 was awarded to organisations who developed a project to meet an identified priority or need.



A total of £238,902 SIB was allocated this year. Projects identified they would collectively attract match funding of £317,961, giving a grand total of £556,863 available this year.



The vast majority of funding was allocated specifically to the priorities identified at the beginning of the year. The chart above shows what proportion was allocated to each priority.

Community Chest

Community Chest forms part of the Strategic Initiatives Budget and £10,000 was available for each Ward in 2011-12. Including starting balance and grants returned, a total of £50,064 was available for the Coalfield Area, of which Area Committee allocated **£37,267**. A list of successful projects is provided at the end of this report.

Next Steps

An Area Needs Assessments (ANA) is currently under development to support Area Committees agree their priorities for 2012 -13. A snapshot of the ANA will be presented at the State of the Area Debate in May 2012. The aim of the snapshot is to assist Area Committees to decide on their future priorities, by building a picture of the area using key statistics and background information, along with identifying areas of strength and opportunities to develop.

The State of the Area Debate is following a similar format as the State of the City Debate, but delivered at an Area level. North Sunderland's Area Debate has been organised for the 28th May 2012. This will be an opportunity for Area Committees to show case examples of good practice in the area and request residents to inform future priorities by participating in a question and discussion session with the Leader and the Chief Executive being in attendance.

Information will be collated from the ANA and the Area Debates and presented to Area Committees in July 2012 to approve the Local Area Plans and priorities for 2012-13, with Cabinet approval being sought thereafter.

A joint Annual Report highlighting the key achievements of all 5 Area Committees is to be presented to Full Council for consideration..

In September 2012, the outcomes from the State of the Area Debates will be reported into the annual State of the City Debate.

Project Performance

Below is a summary of all SIB and SIP funded projects showing how they have performed against targets and what they have achieved this year (April 2011 to March 2012).

Heritage Feasibility Study	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB allocated - £10,000						
Complete						

Feasibility studies produced	1	1	G	£2,000	£2,000	G
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A Heritage audit was undertaken and a report and Action Plan presented to Area Committee in July 2011. The recommendations from the report are now being taken forward by the Heritage Task and Result Group

Rectory Park Regeneration	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB allocated - £50,000						
Complete						

Improved community facilities	1	1	G	£24,090	£24,090	G
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Events/programmes of work to improve appearance	1	1	G			G
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Works to the boundary walls of Houghton Rectory Park were carried out and new seats installed. Double gates matching the existing Park design have also been provided and other minor works carried out. This project has generated almost an additional £100,000 of Council funding to add to the £50,000 awarded by Area Committee. The Friends group will continue to apply for funding from external sources.

Sunderland Festival	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB allocated - £3,000						
Complete						

Community or educational events held	1	1	G	£3,000	£3,000	G
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People employed in voluntary work	100	160	G			G
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Number of young people benefiting from youth inclusion/diversionary activities	100	105	G			G
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Coalfield Area Committee made a £3,000 contribution to this Citywide event. Sunderland Festival was delivered as a three day event in July 2011 with activity taking place at Northern Area Playing Fields, Washington, Barnes Park, Sunnyside Gardens, Arts Centre Washington, Marine Walk, Roker, Washington Old Hall and Herrington Country Park. The theme was Americana and the activity across the city reflected this theme through music, dance, and classic American football. In addition a series of kite making workshops took place in schools in each area prior to the event in an effort to encourage young people and their families across the city to travel to the main site at Northern Area Playing Fields. A drive in movie of 'Grease' was shown at Herrington Country Park.

Kepier Hall Car Park	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB allocated £10,000						
Complete						

New or improved community facilities	1	1	G	£10,000	£10,000	G
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People using new or improved facilities	24	24	G			G
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The funding was awarded to contribute to 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. The work was completed by the end of June 2011 and has been reported as successful in terms of improved accessibility.

Community Leaders of the Future	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB allocated - £11,543						
Complete						

Community voluntary groups supported	2	2	G	£2,997	£2,997	G
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People in voluntary work	25	25	G			
Young people engaged in youth inclusion activities	25	25	G			

The project was designed to develop young people's readiness and employability skills, foster a sense of entrepreneurship and an understanding of the difference volunteering makes. Thirty year 7 pupils from Houghton Kepier Sports College selected Houghton District Centre for the Blind as the community project they would raise money for. The Academy raised almost £500 and held an enterprise cake sale and a raffle at Christmas. 25 Learners have achieved a NCFE level 1 award in Exploring Enterprise Skills. The school attended a skills, industry and employment event at the Hetton Centre and a third sector event at The Bethany Christian Centre, Houghton Le Spring.

Wensleydale Avenue Traffic Calming	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total allocated SIB £10,277 + £9,723 SIP						
Complete						

Programmes of work to improve the appearance of streets	1	1	G	£20,000	£20,000	G
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The project has delivered a traffic calming scheme to address the identified speeding problems along Wensleydale Avenue, Penshaw. The project is complete.

Lake Road Subway Steps	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIP allocated - £1,185						
Complete						

New or improved community facilities	1	1	G	£1,185	£1,185	G
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The funding has paid for removal of redundant steps adjacent to the underpass leading up to the pedestrian bridge at Lake Road. This forms part of a larger scheme to provide a surface crossing facility to reduce the need to use the subway. The work has been completed.

Lake Road Footpath	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIP allocated - £10,500						
Complete						

New or improved community facilities	1	1	G	£10,500	£10,500	G
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The project has constructed a footway along the north side of Lake Road between Elizabeth street and Gravel Walks and the work has been completed.

Bird Terrace Environmental Improvement	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIP allocated - £3,262						
Complete						

New or improved community facilities	1	1	G	£3,262	£3,262	G
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Programmes of work to improve the appearance of streets	1	1				
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The project improved a piece of land at Bird Terrace, Penshaw that was not previously being maintained. A redundant concrete base was removed and a footpath and landscaping installed during March 2011. The project is now complete and will be maintained by the local Street Scene team.

Easington Lane Lighting	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB allocated - £3,500						
Complete						

Homes/businesses/Community facilities improved	1	1	G	£3,500	£3,500	G
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The project installed three lighting columns along a footpath leading from Easington Lane High Street, behind

Jubilee House and to the Flatts Youth Centre. The area used to be unlit and as a result many residents felt unsafe. Young people use the area to access the youth provision, residents use as a short cut and dog walkers use the open space to exercise their pets. Some users of the footpath felt threatened when the surrounding area was not visible. The installation, maintenance and power supply costs were included in the project total and will ensure the area is inspected on a regular basis. Any opportunity for disorder at this location has been minimised by the introduction of lighting.

Grangewood Play Site Footpath Lighting	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB allocated - £13,775 + £4,453 SIP						
Complete						
Homes/businesses/Community facilities improved	1	1	G	£18,228	£18,228	G

The project installed six lighting columns on two footpaths behind the Grangewood Surgery at Shiney Row. This has improved safety and reduced fear of crime for residents and visitors using the footpaths to access the surgery and other amenities.

Shopping Centre Scoping Exercise	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB allocated - £5,000						
Complete						
Feasibility studies produced	1	1	G	£5,000	£4,989	G

An audit of the three shopping centres of Hetton, Houghton and Shiney Row was carried out. The report with recommendations was presented to Area Committee. The Task and Result group are using the results of the audit as the basis for developing further projects.

South View Phase 3	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB - £1,000 & £5,100 SIP						
Complete						
Programmes of work to improve appearance of streets	1	1	G	£6,100	£5,373	G

The work was completed, this involved re-grade of existing road surface and laying of recycled road planings.

Fencehouses Gateway Feature	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIP allocated - £4,500						
Complete						
Programmes of work to improve the appearance of streets	1	1	G	£800	£800	G

The project provided traffic signs and road markings on the B1284 at the entry to Fence Houses. The work has become part of the adopted highway infrastructure. The purpose is to improve road safety and provide a gateway feature. The project was awarded an additional £800 to create a floral display at the foot of the signs to provide a more visually attractive focal point. Planted tubs have now been placed at the grass verges and tree and bulb planting has taken place with Dubmire Primary School pupils.

Elemore Vale Steelworks	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB allocated - £6,000						
Complete						
Homes/businesses/Community facilities improved	2	2	G	£6,000	£6,000	G

The project is complete and has provided additional works at Elemore Vale to enhance the extensive work carried out by the Woodland Trust last year. Works included wiring of fencing, installing knee rails and high spec steelworks to further restrict motorcycle access. The second phase of work to include site management and biodiversity works was completed in March 2012.

St Matthews Lighting Project	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB allocated - £4,118						
Complete						
Events/programmes of work to improve appearance	1	1	G	£4,118	£4,118	G
<p>The project provides lighting to St Matthews Path/Garden Terrace, Newbottle, the south end of a footpath that links Front Street and South Street. The addition of a new lighting column will enable residents and visitors using the path to feel safer.</p>						

St Matthews Lighting Project, Perimeter Fence	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB allocated - £300						
Complete						
Events/programmes of work to improve appearance	1	1	G	£300	£300	G
<p>The project provided new fencing at St Matthews Path/Garden Terrace to complement the lighting scheme as above.</p>						

Environmental Improvements to Burnside Allotments	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB allocated - £3,382						
Complete						
Improved community facilities	1	1	G	£3,382	£3,382	G
<p>The project provided new galvanised palisade fencing to a section at the rear of the Burnside Allotments site and installation of an entrance gate to the site. The fencing will prevent further fly tipping and dumping at the site and enable vacant plots to be brought back into use. The provision of an entrance gate will limit vehicular access and reduce the instances of fly tipping and the associated costs of its removal.</p>						

Houghton Crest Project	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB allocated - £3,500						
Complete						
Improved community facilities	1	1	G	£3,500	£3,462	G
<p>The funding paid for replacement of the illuminated Houghton Crest to be displayed in Houghton at the time of the Houghton Feast. The new illumination is lighter in weight and uses LED bulbs which are more economic and eco friendly. The whole community of Houghton, plus visitors to the area will benefit. The crest promotes the identity of Houghton and is a visual attraction for the Houghton feast.</p>						

Coalfield Community Challenge	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB allocated - £17,000						
Community/voluntary groups supported	43	50	G	£15,500	£15,303	G
Events/programmes of work to improve appearance	5	15	G			
Community or educational events held	8	35	G			
People carrying out voluntary work	63	123	G			
<p>This project was designed to build on the success of the Coalfield in Bloom project and provide a mechanism to enable the local community to influence and deliver area priorities selected by Area Committee. The project is supporting the heritage and allotments priorities and is progressing exceptionally well. Various events and programmes have attracted greater than expected input and involvement from community groups and volunteers.</p>						

The project supported Christmas events across the Coalfield area enabling over 1000 people to celebrate the heritage of the area through Christmas activities. Shiny Row resource centre, Penshaw CA and The Hetton

Centre volunteers designed and made their own costumes for some of these events and Santa had his own real Rudolf. Memorial events to commemorate the area's mining heritage have also been held and an art Mural was created by pupils of Eppleton Primary School and Winder Wheels. Park benches were erected in Herrington Country Park in memory of Miners across the Coalfields. Houghton Racecourse Community Access Point were able to buy equipment to prepare their award winning Community Allotment for the up and coming growing season.

Houghton Feast	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB allocated - £5,000						
Community/voluntary groups supported	1	5	G	£5,000	£Nil	R
Community or educational events held	7	21	G			
Number of young people benefiting from youth inclusion/diversionary activities	20	106	G			

The event was reported as a success with more community and school groups than ever taking part. Artists and a writer worked with various groups, including schools, youth groups and writer's groups. The writing workshops led to a performance at the opening ceremony. Several schools worked with a writer to create poems on the myths and legends which was compiled into an anthology and is to be printed and distributed to all schools. Schools that participated within the Coalfield area were Eppleton Primary; Barnwell Primary; New Penshaw Primary; St Michael's RC Primary; Burnside Primary; Easington Lane Primary; Hetton Lyons Primary; Houghton Community Nursery and Dubmire Primary. The printing and distributing of poems to the schools will be carried out in quarter 1 of 2012/13. The funding will be claimed upon completion.

Phoenix Project (T&W Fire and Rescue Service)	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB allocated - £13,578						
Number of additional youth sessions been delivered per week	15	15	G	£6,962	£5,344	A
Number of young people benefiting from youth inclusion/diversionary activities	19	20	G			

The course was designed to change behaviour of young offenders or young people at risk of offending. Twenty young people from the Coalfield area (age 11-17) have participated in the course during this year. Advanced Phoenix Courses and Respect Courses are being delivered to participants each week.

The Underground Project	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB allocated - £32,394						
Additional youth sessions being delivered	48	60	G	£28,894	£28,968	G
New additional young people engaged and participating	105	108	G			
Number of young people benefiting from youth inclusion/diversionary activities	260	454	G			
Additional young people engaged and participating	64	108	G			

The Underground is a music project for young people. The Underground now have a constitution and a young person led Management Committee. They have charity status now approved and the management committee has recently undergone relevant training. High numbers of young people are attending music sessions and the continued work with Sunderland North Business Community Business Centre offers more youth provision including holiday time activities. The project took part in a music exchange visit with partners in Sunderland's twin town of Essen, Germany. The Underground has given young people performance opportunities at a number of events including two gigs at the Hetton Centre in December 2011 and February 2012 with young bands performing to an audience of parents and friends. The concerts were seen as great success with 100 people attending gig.

Responsive Youth Provision	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB allocated - £10,000						
Complete						
Number of young people benefiting from youth	90	163	G	£10,000	£9,940	G

inclusion/diversionary activities

The project provides 'rapid response' targeted youth provision in areas identified by the police and partners as having high levels of youth disorder. Areas such as Easington Lane, Houghton Racecourse Estate, Burnside and Penshaw have benefited from targeted, intense support to address reported issues. Support still continues in the Burnside area.

The project has performed exceptionally well, with high numbers of young people attending the sessions. To date, Dance, Mini Moto, Decks, DJing and mobile youth provision have been successfully delivered in Easington Lane and Houghton Racecourse Estate. Savings made and additional funding from Gentoo enabled the project to extend the work in Burnside, an area that was more recently identified as an area of high levels of youth disorder. The Task and Result group for Youth Provision will be consulted with regard to future activity. There has been positive feedback from partners including the police and a reduction in reported youth related anti social behaviour (ASB).

Activities for Young People	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB allocated - £30,000						
New junior clubs (8-12 year olds) established	4	2	A	£10,000	£9,940	G
Additional children and young people engaged and participating in junior clubs	120	40	R			
Activities for children and young people being delivered during school holidays	59	71	G			
Additional children and young people participating in activities during school holidays	220	150	R			

The project was designed to provide additional activity for young people, with a specific focus on young people aged 8-12 and general youth provision during school holidays. SIB funding was matched to a budget from Children's Services and Gentoo to provide a more comprehensive project. SIB funding has extended the duration of the responsive youth provision project and has offered a programme of holiday activities, as well as a programme of term activities for 8 to 12 year old. This has complemented the commissioned youth activity currently being delivered to 13 to 19 year olds.

The Area Committee agreed to pilot two junior clubs, to gauge interest and success. The two pilots have proven successful, with 40 young people making contact with the junior clubs and the provision at Easington Lane being well attended. This success will be built upon to develop a further two youth clubs from April 2012, reaching the target of 4 a little later than planned. The partnership working recently established between all youth providers in the area will enable the project to deliver more effective and co-ordinated provision in future and the underachievement of targets will be rectified during the next quarter.

Monument View Workshop and Classroom	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB allocated - £25,000						
Improved community facilities	1	1	G	£25,000	£25,000	G
Young people benefiting from youth or diversionary projects	25	7	R			

A workshop has been constructed and partly fitted out with relevant facilities to deliver NVQs and other training in skills such as mechanics, decorating, bricklaying and plastering. There has been a delay in finalising the workshop and electrical works still require completion. Further fundraising is underway to finalise the facility and NVQ's will be developed over coming months. However the qualifications will not be delivered within the original proposed timescales due to the delays. The project has now ended but a follow up visit will be arranged for June 2012 to assess the benefit to young people.

Ear 4 U	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB - £20,900						
People accessing improved advice or support	62	65	G	£13,750	£13,750	G
Number of new (additional) young people engaged and participating in youth provision	5	5	G			

The Ear 4 U project offers one to one support for children and young people who have/are experiencing bullying issues, or other social issues (eg domestic violence, family breakdown or family substance use), which is then affecting their attendance at school. The project has exceeded targets and over the last year has made strong

working relationships with Hetton and Houghton Kepier School who have helped to raise awareness of the Ear 4 U project across their schools and their local communities. The key worker for the Coalfield area has also worked closely with a number of social workers and has assisted them in gathering information which has been used for child protection plans and court proceedings.

Sunderland Road/High Lane Gateway	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
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Total SIP allocated - £25,000						
Programmes of work to improve the appearance of streets	1	0	R	£25,000	£0	R

The project will reduce the existing 60mph speed limit, first to 50mph, then 40mph, then 30mph into the residential area of Newbottle Village. After significant delays in the project, road markings, signs and the introduction of a Vehicle Activated Sign was due to be completed and the works carried out during the Easter school holidays (2nd - 13th April). There has since been a further delay and the works will now be completed at the end of April 2012.

Vehicle Activated Signs	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
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Total SIP allocated - £11,500						
CCTVs and monitoring equipment installed.	3	0	R	£11,500	£0	R

The project was designed to install vehicle activated signs (VAS) on Seaham Road, High Lane, and Hetton Road. There have been significant delays with this project and the works will now not be complete until the end of April 2012.

Traffic Calming Robin Lane/Hazard Lane	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
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Total SIP allocated - £10,000						
Programmes of work to improve the appearance of streets	1	1	G	£10,000	£10,000	G

This project is complete, the works comprised of the reduction of the speed limit on Robin Lane and Hazard Lane from 60mph to 40mph in the vicinity of East Rainton, and from 60mph to 30mph on the section of Hazard Lane adjacent to Hetton School. In addition, road markings and traffic signs have been used to create 'Gateway' features to emphasise the reductions in the speed limit. The project is intended to reduce the frequency and severity of traffic accidents on Robin Lane and Hazard Lane.

River Wear Trail	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
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Total SIB allocated - £19,500						
Complete						
New or improved community facilities	1	1	G	£19,500	£19,500	G

Funding of £19,500 was granted from the Coalfield Area & £26,500 from the Washington Area Committee towards a £72,000 project to restore to a high standard the accessibility of the River Wear Trail between Cox Green and Fatfield bridges. The route is now step free enabling the north and south bank circuit to be used by those in wheelchairs and with push chairs. Significant delays had occurred in the project due to waiting for title deeds from the land owner, concerns from Northumbrian Water etc but the project is now complete.

Walking Route to Rainton Meadows	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
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Total SIB allocated - £20,000 + £14,000 SIP						
Improved community facilities	1	0	R	£34,000	£0	R

This project will provide a safe walking route From Fencehouses to Rainton Meadows at Redburn Row. The project will be significantly delayed due to residents' objections and delays with land registry applications for adverse possession. If legal issues are not resolved satisfactorily, the funds will be returned to Area Committee.

Houghton War Memorial	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
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Total SIB allocated - £235						
Sample carving of four names.	1	1	G	£235	£235	G

The project carried out sample carving of four names on the Houghton War Memorial in the grounds of St Michael and All Angels Church. A specialist stonemason was appointed to carry out the work which has been assessed and approved by the Church Commission and Durham Diocese. The next stage of the project will be to begin fundraising to restore and re-cut all names and restore the memorial.

Coalfield Community Challenge – Sunderland 2012 and Jubilee Celebrations	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB allocated - £10,000						
Community/voluntary groups supported	30	34	G	£6,000	£3,000	R
Community or educational events held	30	12	R			

The project will deliver community and partnership events around two themes 1) Sunderland 2012 (Olympic programme) and 2) Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Local schools, VCS organisations and residents will be supported to deliver and take part in a series of events. A workshop on the 19 January 2012 attracted 34 groups to take part in the planning of an events programme and these groups have received continued support to date. So far, 12 pre Olympic events have been supported and 37 further events are planned. It was envisaged that more events would be planned earlier in the year, but with most groups wishing to hold their celebrations during June, the target for expenditure and events has fallen behind. The targets will be reprofiled into the next quarter. The £3,000 spent to date is for costs related to the hire of equipment and bookings for each of the events.

Youth Work Training – Herrington Burn YMCA	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB allocated - £5,600						
Adults obtaining qualifications (non accredited)	3	5	G	£2,800	£2,800	G
People receiving job training	2	8	G			

The project is delivering the new level 2 Certificate in Youth Work Practice through ABC Awarding body to 16 people from local organisations. This is the new qualification for youth and community work combining training for working with children and young people. The course started its first cohort of 8 learners on 30 January 2012 for 20 weeks delivery across a 26 week period. Currently all 8 learners are receiving job training both through course delivery and supported placements and 5 of the 8 learners have obtained a Level 2 Certificate in Safeguarding qualification. Each learner has an identified assessor and placement supervisor. The course, to date, has covered Youth work principles and practice, Safeguarding, Health & Safety and risk assessments in youth/play work and Group development, styles and leadership

Herrington Burn YMCA has also gained Centre status and qualification approval through ABC Awards which has enabled the course to be delivered.

Welfare and Benefits Advice (ShARP)	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB allocated - £23,166						
People accessing improved advice and support	100	102	G	£5,791	£5,791	G

SIB funding will allow ShARP to operate extra Welfare Benefits and Advice Sessions from its Centre in Shiney Row. The funding will pay for an extra 3 sessions per week of advice and guidance. Each session will last for 2 hours and there will be 2 advice workers giving advice. The funding will also provide reception/administrative cover providing assistance in basic form filling (to allow the advice workers to focus on giving maximum time to advice), sending and receiving correspondence on behalf of clients and signposting. The new advice sessions started on 7th December 2011 and during the period from December through to March the project has conducted 13 home visits for older people in the Coalfields area. The majority of advice needed by these visits has been advice on Pension Credit, Disability Living Allowance and Attendance Allowance to form filling and support for Welfare Benefits issues. SIB funding has also enabled ShARP to support and offer advice to a further 102 people.

Wellness Programme in Extra Care Housing	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB allocated - £9,000						
Programmes tackling health inequalities	2	0	R	£9,000	£0	R
People engaged in healthy lifestyle projects	72	0	R			

The Wellness Service proposes to work with the two Extra Care Housing schemes (ECH) in the Coalfields area, Bramble Hollow (which has 48 apartments) and Cherry Tree Gardens (which has 47 properties), to develop physical activity opportunities and programmes at each individual scheme to meet the needs of adults and older people in order to promote health, reduce social isolation, increase physical activity, and therefore contribute to

reducing inequalities in health. The provision of outside activity equipment will encourage people to use the outdoor space; get fresh air and take part in physical activity - promoting fun, activity and a sense of wellbeing

The project will install a set of easy to use 'outdoor gym' equipment, that provides a 'get on and go' circuit and requires no adjustment by the users. Due to a delay in the procurement process the installation of the equipment has been delayed but is scheduled to be installed w/c 2nd April. Once the equipment is in place a programme of training and participation will be delivered from April.

Delivering the Heritage Action Plan	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB allocated - £35,000						
Community/voluntary groups supported	3	8	G	£5,000	£5,000	G
Community or educational events held	2	0	R			

Two Community Heritage Development Workers are leading on the delivery of the previously agreed Coalfield Heritage Action Plan. The main role of the workers is to ensure co-ordination, promotion and development of cultural heritage projects, to develop and submit funding applications and to co-ordinate a programme of heritage based events and to actively engage with groups, organisations and individuals.

Work is taking place to develop a heritage learning resource in partnership with local schools and a heritage learning provider. The theme of this is likely to be coal mining. An event is planned in partnership with the organisation Living Streets in order to undertake an audit of a potential heritage town trail for Hetton. This will support a Geocaching trail being developed by Hetton Local History Group. Work is continuing to update and enhance the existing heritage gazetteer. Local heritage groups have been involved in reviewing this material. The possibility of establishing a heritage website for the coalfields where this material could be located is also being investigated.

A number of Heritage Open Day events are being planned including an event at the Hetton Smithy which is in the process of being restored by Limestone Landscapes. The Project is working towards delivering a number of events working with a number of groups supporting both Heritage Open Days and events linked to the Jubilee celebrations and the Olympic Games through Sunderland 2012. The project has not achieved the targets stated due to more considered and careful planning of events. The shortfall will be made up in the next quarter when a number of events are planned.

Sunderland 2012	Output Target	Output Actual	Progress Indicator	Spend Target	Spend Actual	Progress Indicator
Total SIB allocated - £10,000						
Number of people engaged in healthy lifestyle projects	1,000	418	R	£2,500	£1,467	R
Number of people volunteering	75	0	R			

Sunderland in 2012 Olympic programme will provide a mixture of opportunities for residents to engage with the programme. The initiative will introduce and embed a level of friendly 'competitiveness' into the programme. Since the launch of the Sunderland in 2012 programme on 27 January at the Museum and Winter Garden there have been 3135 people taking part in the programme by Doing, Watching or Supporting. The main events and activities that have taken place to date include the Big Aerobathon, Play Days delivered in all 5 areas during February half term with 600 people taking part and the 24 hour Swimathon which took place on the 23 March and saw teams from all 5 areas participating. Running parallel to the main events programme individuals are taking part in the Travelling Ping Pong Programme which has been in place since Tuesday 7 February and will be touring Sunderland until Friday 21 September 2012 on a rolling three week basis. To date, in the Coalfield area, Gentoo, Herrington Burn YCMA and Hetton Wellness Centre have taken part

Participation figures in the first quarter of the programme are behind target as the figures collected to date are for activities and events that have taken place in February and March. However it is expected that the programme of events and activities scheduled for quarter two will see a significant increase in the number of people taking part in the programme across the Coalfield area.

Russell Foster Football Centre, Parking Management Total SIB allocated - £4,900

The project will provide restrictions to prevent obstructive and inconsiderate parking in the Coaley Lane, Staddon Way area of Newbottle. Objections to the original scheme were received during consultation and therefore the project has been delayed to allow for a redesign and further consultation to take place.

Young People's Project – Washington MIND Total SIB allocated - £9,875

This is a new project with no expenditure or output targets profiled for 2012/13. Washington Mind Young People's

Project work with 16-25 year olds who experience or are at risk of developing mental health problems or emotional distress. The project has an open referral pathway and offers wellbeing and recovery services, 1-1 Counselling and Psychotherapy as well as psycho-educational and therapeutic group work and Computer Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CCBT).

Providing accessible services in the Coalfield area will reduce the need for young people to travel to Washington to access support. In addition to locally delivered 1-1 sessions the project will deliver group arts based interventions with young people (Photography, Digital media, Art). Research shows that art based interventions can have a therapeutic effect upon people's mental health. It is proposed that an additional 6 individual sessions and an additional 2 group sessions will be delivered.

The project is also working in partnership with the Youth Development Group to develop the Hetton Centre Youth Rooms (HCYR) into a 'one stop shop' for health service for young people offering a holistic approach to young people's health in the Coalfield area and would look at developing partnership working with an array of Youth Provision to work on an outreach basis from the HCYR

Kirklee Fields Play Area Total SIB allocated - £16,468

This is a new project the expenditure and output targets are profiled for 2012/13 it will provide a purpose built play space within the Kirklee area. Subject to resident consultation, this will comprise fixed play equipment on a safety surface or the development of a natural play environment, or other space as determined by the children and young people in the community. On-going maintenance of the facility will be incorporated into the play maintenance plan.

Empty Homes 2012 Total SIB allocated - £13,000

This is a new project the expenditure and output targets are profiled for 2012/13. The project, managed by Gentoo Sunderland, will bring back into full time use four private rental properties that have been empty for several years. Due to the nature of these homes they have remained empty and become a focus for anti social behaviour and/or crime. Four properties have been identified in the Coalfield area and will be assessed for suitability to be refurbished to bring them up to decent homes lettable standard. A variety of works will be undertaken but in general this will include kitchens, bathrooms, heating systems, general decoration, windows and external doors.

Once complete, the properties will be managed by Gentoo for a minimum of five years. Tenants will be selected from the Local Authority Housing Register and will be vetted for suitability. Tenancies and condition of the property will be monitored and reviewed by Gentoo to ensure they remain in a decent standard. The rental income from the properties will fund the future upkeep and maintenance costs for five years following these properties will be returned to the owner.

Retail Business Support Project Total SIB allocated - £35,000

This is a new project the expenditure and output targets are profiled for 2012/13. The aim of this project is to assist independent retail businesses throughout the Coalfield area to improve business competitiveness, effectiveness and sustainability. It is envisaged that a retail specialist will work with retailers on either a one to one or small group basis to provide advice, support, mentoring and guidance on all aspects of the business including staffing, short / long term strategy, operations, sales and marketing, financial management and IT requirements. An organisation or individual will be procured to develop a 6 month pilot programme which would deliver this specialist support. The successful organisation will be expected to work closely with the Business Investment Team as well as the wider business support network.

To complement this specialist business support project and support the conclusion of the interactions with businesses, a small amount of funding to develop a grant scheme will need to be allocated. The successful tenderer will be expected to work with the City Council in developing the scheme specific to the needs of this particular target group. The grant scheme would be administered and managed by the City Council.

Additionally, more recently, local traders in Houghton had expressed an interest in forming a traders' forum. This possibility will be explored and initialised for all three centres (individually or collectively) as part of the Business Support Project. The joint traders association could be designed to have three 'sub groups' to focus on the specific needs of each geographic location in order to minimise set-up and administrative costs.

Coalfield Community Chest approved project for 2011/12:-

Copt Hill Ward

Project Name	Organisation Name	Date Approved	Amount (£)
Park Improvements	The Friends of Rectory Park	01.06.2011	800
Eppleton Colliery Disaster 60th Anniversary	The Hetton Centre	01.06.2011	250
Queen of Eventide Afternoon Tea/Houghton Tea Dance	Sunderland Age UK	01.06.2011	75
Football Activities	Hetton Lyons Football Club	01.06.2011	500
Funding for publicity costs to identify veterans and their families to refer signpost and obtain expert care and financial support	Sunderland Armed Forces Network	13.07.2011	20
New Chairs	Hetton Methodist Church	13.07.2011	1,000
Repairs to damaged flooring	Houghton Racecourse Community Association	21.09.2011	1,000
Christmas Party Lunch	Princess Garden's Community Hall	21.09.2011	500
Sunderland Remembrance Day Parade	Parade Steering Group	21.09.2011	100
Sunderland Remembrance Day Parade	Sunderland City Council	21.09.2011	240
Round Table Beer Festival	Houghton-le-Spring District Round Table	23.11.2011	533
Water Mains to Cricket Square	Eppleton Cricket Club	01.02.2011	2,000
New Container Loft	Hetton Premier Homing Society	01.02.2011	270
Sustainability/Recycling Project	Gillas Lane Primary School	01.02.2011	740
Diamond Jubilee Party	Gentoo Group, Cherry Tree Gardens	21.03.2012	300
Band Fee & Coach Hire	Eppleton Durham Banner Group	21.03.2012	600
Purchase & Installation of new electric cooker	Kepier Hall Trust	21.03.2012	1000
Funding towards student grant, clothing and shoe vouchers	Sunderland Orphanage & Educational Foundation (CW)	21.03.2012	60
Funding towards a gift for children when they are adopted into a new family	The Family Justice Adoption Fund (CW)	21.03.2012	20
Total			10,008

Hetton Ward

Project Name	Organisation Name	Date Approved	Amount (£)
Social Event	Hetton & Eppleton Community Hall	01.06.2011	180
International Day for Older People	Sunderland Age UK	01.06.2011	200
Eppleton Colliery Disaster 60 th Anniversary	The Hetton Centre	01.06.2011	250
Queen of Eventide Afternoon Tea/Houghton Tea Dance	Sunderland Age UK	01.06.2011	75
Funding for publicity costs to identify veterans and their families to refer signpost and obtain expert care and financial support	Sunderland Armed Forces Network	13.07.2011	20
Refreshments for Annual Social Event	Hetton & Eppleton Community Hall	13.07.2011	150
Christmas Lunch	Hetton and Lyons Mother's Union	13.07.2011	700
Catering & Entertainment for Christmas Lunch	Easington Lane Senior Citizens Club	13.07.2011	851
Annual Trip	Easington Lane & Hetton Club for the Disabled	13.07.2011	475
New Chairs	Hetton Methodist Church	13.07.2011	1000
Contribution towards running costs	East Rainton Football Club	21.09.2011	500
Xmas Party	Nidderdale Community Centre	21.09.2011	300
Sunderland Remembrance Day Parade	Parade Steering Group	21.09.2011	100
Sunderland Remembrance Day Parade	Sunderland City Council	21.09.2011	420
Festive Activities & Lights Switch On	Easington Lane Volunteers	23.11.2011	300
Christmas Party	Hope 4 Kidz	23.11.2011	219

Pitch & Referee Fees	Elemore Boys FC	23.11.2011	445
Installation of broadband and wireless router and one years running costs.	Hetton Dawn Group	23.11.2011	500
New Container Loft	Hetton Premier Homing Society	01.02.2011	330
Pitch & Referee Fees	Easington Lane WMC Football Club	01.02.2011	250
Christmas Party 2012	Moorsley Care of Aged	21.03.2012	1000
Funding towards student grant, clothing and shoe vouchers	Sunderland Orphanage & Educational Foundation (CW)	21.03.2012	60
Funding towards a gift for children when they are adopted into a new family	The Family Justice Adoption Fund (CW)	21.03.2012	20
Total			8,345

Houghton Ward

Project Name	Organisation Name	Date Approved	Amount (£)
Park Improvements	The Friends of Rectory Park	01.06.2011	800
Queen of Eventide Afternoon	Sunderland Age UK	01.06.2011	75
Tea/Houghton Tea Dance			
Update Heating System/Decoration of Clubhouse	Houghton Town Bowls Club	01.06.2011	500
Funding for publicity costs to identify veterans and their families to refer signpost and obtain expert care and financial support other than the LA	Sunderland Armed Forces Network	13.07.2011	20
Pantomime Trip	Sunnyburn Resident's Association	21.09.2011	500
Sunderland Remembrance Day Parade	Parade Steering Group	21.09.2011	100
Sunderland Remembrance Day Parade	SCC, Traffic Management	21.09.2011	720
Christmas Party	Hope 4 Kidz	23.11.2011	344
Purchase Air Hockey & Craft items	St John's Methodist Group	23.11.2011	200
Round Table Beer Festival	Houghton-le-spring District Round Table	23.11.2011	534
Trip to China	Dubmire Primary School	23.11.2011	2,000
New Container Loft	Hetton Premier Homing Society	01.02.2012	200
Purchase & Installation of new electric cooker	Kepier Hall Trust	21.03.2012	1000
Funding towards student grant, clothing and shoe vouchers	Sunderland Orphanage & Educational Foundation (CW)	21.03.2012	60
Funding towards a gift for children when they are adopted into a new family	The Family Justice Adoption Fund (CW)	21.03.2012	20
Total			7,073

Shiney Row Ward

Project Name	Organisation Name	Date Approved	Amount (£)
Construction of Outside Wooden Classroom	Monument View	01.06.2011	500
Queen of Eventide Afternoon	Sunderland Age UK	01.06.2011	75
Tea/Houghton Tea Dance			
Refurbishment/Redecorating of Village Hall	St Aidan's Community Group	01.06.2011	500
Durham Miners Gala	New Herrington Miners Banner Partnership	01.06.2011	500
West Herrington Village Planters	Friends of West Herrington	01.06.2011	120
Funding for publicity costs to identify veterans and their families to refer signpost and obtain expert care and financial support other than the LA	Sunderland Armed Forces Network	13.07.2011	20
Christmas Dinner	Penshaw Women's Guild, Penshaw Catholic Club	13.07.2011	500
Scarecrow Trail	Penshaw Community Association	13.07.2011	500
Purchase of new pigeon carrying baskets	Penshaw Homing Society	21.09.2011	500
Contribution towards running costs	Lambton Lyons Junior Football Club	21.09.2011	500
Sunderland Remembrance Day Parade	Parade Steering Group	21.09.2011	100
Sunderland Remembrance Day Parade	Sunderland City Council	21.09.2011	300

Remembrance Day Band	Salvation Army	21.09.2011	200
Hire of Sports Hall	Herrington St Aidans Team Support	23.11.2011	572
Pitch Fees	Penshaw Catholic Club Over 40's FC	23.11.2011	500
Beer Festival	Houghton-le-Spring District Round Table	23.11.2011	533
Christmas Lights	Shiney Row Xmas Lights	23.11.2011	1,353
New uniform with Choir logo	Shiney Row male Voice Choir	23.11.2011	1,000
New Container Loft	Hetton Premier Homing Society	01.02.2012	200
Village Atlas of Old Penshaw	Sunderland City Council	01.02.2012	1,000
New Heating	Trinity Chapel	01.02.2012	500
Music for Health Sessions	Friends of Gillwood Court	01.02.2012	588
Travel & Accommodation for Trip to China	Biddick School Sports College	21.03.2012	1200
Funding towards student grant, clothing and shoe vouchers	Sunderland Orphanage & Educational Foundation (CW)	21.03.2012	60
Funding towards a gift for children when they are adopted into a new family	The Family Justice Adoption Fund (CW)	21.03.2012	20
Total			11,841