

## **NORTH SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE**

### **AGENDA**

**Meeting to be held on Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 at 5:30pm**

**This meeting will be held in Redby Community Centre, Fulwell Road, Sunderland, SR6 9QU**

#### **Membership**

Cllrs D. Wilson (Chairman), S. Foster (Vice Chairman), M. Bond, M. Butler, K. Chequer, A. Chisnall, M. Hartnack, S. Johnston, J. McKeith, A. Samuels, A. Smith, P. Stewart, J. Usher, P. Walton and L. Vera

#### **Part I**

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1. (a) <b>Chairman's Welcome</b>	
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(c) <b>Report of the Voluntary and Community Network</b> (copy attached)	39
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Information contained in this agenda can be made available in other languages and formats on request.

4.*	<b>North Sunderland Area Budget Report</b>	45
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5.	<b>For Information Only and Not Discussion - Current Planning Applications</b>	50
	(copy attached)	

\* Denotes an item relating to an executive function

**ELAINE WAUGH**  
**Assistant Director of Law and Governance**

**20<sup>th</sup> September, 2023**

**At a meeting of the NORTH SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE held in COMMITTEE ROOM 1 of the CITY HALL, PLATER WAY, SUNDERLAND on 22 JUNE, 2023 at 5.30 p.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor Wilson in the Chair

Councillors Bond, Butler, Chequer, Chisnall, Foster, Hartnack, Johnston, A. Smith, Stewart, Usher, Vera and Walton

**Also in Attendance:-**

Ms. Judith Britton	-	Sunderland Community Action Group
Mr. Peter Curtis	-	Area Network Representative
Mr. Richy Duggan	-	Area Network Representative
Mr. Neil Guthrie	-	Development Director (Residential), Sunderland City Council
Ms. Vivienne Metcalfe	-	Area Community Development Lead, Sunderland City Council
Insp. Stephen Prested	-	Northumbria Police
Ms. Joanne Stewart	-	Principal Governance Services Officer, Sunderland City Council
Ms. Ruth Walker	-	Area Network Representative

**Chairman's Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors McKeith and Samuels and from Lee Bell of Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service and Beth Wilkie of Gentoo.

**Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest made.

## **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2023 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

## **North Area Committee Area Plan 2023-2026**

The Assistant Director of Housing and Communities submitted a report (copy circulated) which presented for consideration and approval the North Sunderland Area Committee Area Plan for 2023-26 and provided an update on the Area Committee Area Plan Governance arrangements.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Ms. Vivienne Metcalfe, Partnership and Community Resilience Manager (North), presented the report advising that the role of the Area Committee was to lead on the development, implementation and effective delivery of the plan which included all main priorities for the area, subject to its approval by Cabinet in July, 2023.

The Area Plan was a three year plan and was directly aligned to the themes of the City Plan and other significant strategies for the city. The five Area Committee Area Plans and City Plan would then for a suite of strategic documents for the city and would be produced using the Folian software so they would all have the same format, look and feel.

The information in the report and presentation having been fully considered, it was:-

### **2. RESOLVED that:-**

- The draft Area Committee Area Plan for 2023-2026, external priorities be agreed for referral to Cabinet for approval;
- The internal priorities, as discussed at the workshop in June 2023, be shared with Council Service Leads and Partners to consider the feasibility of delivery and provide feedback;
- The Committee agree to continue to discuss Service Plans with Council Service Leads and develop a list of Area Priorities for the North Sunderland Area;
- The Committee agree to continue to collaborate with key partners to provide their plans for future activity in the North Sunderland Area; and
- The Terms of Reference as set out in annex two to the report be noted.

## **Change to the Order of Business**

At this juncture, it was agreed to change the order of business.

## **North Sunderland Area Committee Budget Report**

The Assistant Director of Housing and Communities submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided a financial statement as an update position on progress in relation to allocating Area Committee Neighbourhood Funds and Community Chest and presented proposals for further funding requests.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Ms. Metcalfe, Area Community Development Lead, presented the report drawing attention to the recommendations detailed within the report.

Consideration having been given to the applications, it was:-

3. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the financial statements as set out in tables 1 and 2 be received and noted;
- (ii) approval be given to the allocation of £10,000 from the Neighbourhood Fund to Sunderland City Council for the Roker and Seaburn Washing Facilities Project;
- (iii) approval be given to the allocation of £5,000 from the Neighbourhood Fund to North East Bus Preservation Trust for the All Aboard the Crossley Project;
- (iv) approval be given to the allocation of £6,000 from the Neighbourhood Fund to Fulwell Community Library for the Christmas at Fulwell Project;
- (v) approval be given to the alignment of £250,000 from the Neighbourhood Fund towards the following six projects;-
  - Downhill Wheeled Sports Park Project - £100,000
  - Castle Ward Improvement Project - £30,000
  - Redhill Ward Improvement Project - £30,000
  - Southwick Ward Improvement Project - £30,000
  - Fulwell Ward Improvement Project - £30,000
  - St. Peter's Ward Improvement Project - £30,000; and
- (vi) the approvals for Community Chest supported from 2022/2023 and 2023/2023 as set out in the report be noted.

### **Partner Agency Reports - Report of the North Area Voluntary and Community Sector Network**

The Voluntary and Community Sector Network submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided an update with regard to the North Sunderland Area Voluntary and Community Sector network.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Mr. Peter Curtis, Area Network Representative, took Members through the report advising that the network had met in June, 2023 and shared the agenda items that had been covered. He advised the Committee that the Network was vital to allow local intelligence to be shared and groups could make each other aware as to what was happening within their ward area.

Councillor Walton asked if there was information sharing and links with the statutory agencies and was informed by the Network Representatives that there was to some extent but it needed improving. Agency representatives were invited along to sector

meetings and they recognised the value of the VCS and the new system would streamline things and make it easier for all parties to work together. The Chairman advised Councillor Walton that he could attend a future meeting if he wished to see how they worked in practice.

In response to a question from Councillor Bond regarding the cost of living increases and how it was affecting the residents they dealt with, the Network Representatives informed the Committee that a lot of families were struggling and were being priced out of taking part and engaging in activities. They were trying, where possible, to engage with the whole family and give young people experiences they would never usually be able to access or afford had they not been free such as the sailing trip. Sport and fitness activities were becoming out of reach for families and this would only result in young people disengaging and ultimately a rise in anti social behaviour in the area.

Members raised concerns around working families who may be disenfranchised or not accessing services and were advised that the Council recognised it as an issue and there was a hardship fund with a focus on working families. Children and young people were invited to take part regardless of their family situation and they actively looked for sponsorships from local businesses to help with sports kit and strips.

The Chairman referred to previous concerns Members had raised around local schools not allowing local children to use their facilities outside of the school day. Some schools in the area had state of the art facilities and they were not being utilised to their full potential. The recent visit to the Rotunda at Monkwearmouth Academy had shown how facilities could be accessed by local young people and help offset anti social behaviour and disruption in their area.

Councillor Chequer shared information regarding the new Links for Life model, which incorporated social prescribing and linked residents to services and self-help resources and how it was critical that something was done to make sports and fitness activities more affordable for all within the city.

In closing, Ms. Metcalfe advised that the VCS Network meetings were open for all Members to attend should they wish and advised that she would circulate the date of the next meeting to the Committee.

Members having no further comments or questions, it was:-

4. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

### **Partner Agency Reports - Gentoo Update**

Gentoo submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided an update with regard to the work done by Gentoo between April and June, 2023.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

There being no representative in attendance, Ms. Metcalfe advised that any queries could be forwarded to herself via email and she would pass them on to Gentoo for a direct response, and it was:-

5. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

### **Partner Agency Reports – Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service**

There being no representative in attendance, Ms. Metcalfe advised that any queries could be forwarded to herself via email and she would pass them on to TWFRS for a direct response, and it was:-

6. RESOLVED that the item be received and noted.

### **Partner Agency Reports - Northumbria Police Update**

Inspector Stephen Prested, Northumbria Police, presented the update report and provided the Committee with a verbal update on the current numbers in relation to anti-social behaviour, burglaries, vehicle and violent crime in the North Sunderland Area.

He also provided Members with an update on other incidents of note in the North Sunderland Area including a number of incidents of youth disorder in Witherwack, the deer sightings in Hylton Dene and motorcycle disorder. He advised the Committee that they would be receiving a number of additional resources which would see a large increase in staffing levels and give the team opportunities to be more proactive to solve ongoing issues.

In response to a question regarding policing at the seafront as it was having just as much of a night-time economy as the city centre, Inspector Prested advised that the situation was monitored on a regular basis and they had found that although there had been an increase in the numbers of licensed premises along the seafront this had not seen a significant increase in the numbers of incidents which remained static. Premises at the seafront were well maintained and well ran and the city centre continued to have more additional concerns where the main focus lay at the moment.

In relation to incidents of crime and disorder around the metro stations with graffiti, drug use and intimidation by youths, Inspector Prested advised that there was a neighbourhood meeting which look at all the transport issues on a continuous basis. The issues were discussed every Thursday and they would continue to focus a presence around the stations that caused concern. Mr. Duggan advised that they could ask their detached youth workers to target those areas and during the school summer break they would usually find more young people travelling into the area from South Hylton and South Tyneside.

Inspector Prested added that they had improved the area around McDonalds, Roker and they were keen to ensure that this continued. Mr. Duggan also advised that they could inform young people of areas where free WiFi was available as this was the usual draw to the McDonalds site.

Members having fully considered the report and asked all that they wished to, thanked Inspector Prested for his report and it was:-

7. RESOLVED that the update from Northumbria Police be received and noted.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.

(Signed) D. WILSON,  
Chairman.



28<sup>th</sup> September 2023

## REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF NORTH SUNDERLAND NEIGHBOURHOOD AND COMMUNITY BOARD

### North Area Committee Delivery Plan 2023-2026

#### 1. Purpose of Report

1.1 This report is to provide an update of progress against the Area Committee's Area Plan priorities, which will be the focus for the North Area Committee during 2023-2024.

#### 2. Background

2.1 The Area Committees are part of the Council's Executive Function. The purpose of the Area Committees is to:

- Lead on the development, implementation, and effective delivery of an Area Plan, working closely with residents to ensure the plans include all main priorities for the Area, which enables residents to be resilient, The Area Plans are linked to the City Plan and other significant strategies for the city.
- Actively encourage local residents to become involved in shaping the Area Plan, ensuring delivery of activities to support matters which affect them.

2.2 The Article 10 Area Committee Area Plans for 2023 - 2026 were agreed by Area Committees in June 2023 and approved at Cabinet in July 2023.

2.3 It is now the responsibility of each Area Committee to deliver their agreed priorities to support the delivery of the Area Plan.

2.4 The Neighbourhood and Community Board supports the work of the Area Committee and specifically the delivery of the Area Plan. The Boards are chaired by the Vice-Chair of the Area Committee and are practical and action-orientated groups. The role of the Board is to respond to all priorities in the Area Committee Area Plan, as agreed by the Area Committee. They develop and implement plans for the delivery of each priority and make recommendations to the Area Committee based on information and research and working closely with partner agencies, particularly the VCS, to ensure effective delivery of the plan.

2.6 The Board is not a decision-making body, the work of the board is presented to each Area Committee via this Report of the Chair of the Neighbourhood and Community Board. The purpose of the report is to update on progress in relation to the delivery of the Area Plan in addition to making any recommendations of the Board to the Area Committee for final approval. Funding decisions to support delivery of the plan can be found at **Item 4 Area Budget Report**

2.7 Additionally all Sunderland City Council Service leads, when producing Service Plans this year, provided a list of Area Priorities, where relevant, for each of the five geographical Areas of Sunderland and have agreed that regular updates for those priorities will be appended to this report, to the relevant Area Committee, to provide quarterly performance updates (Annex 2)

### **3. Area Committee Area Plan 2023-2026- Areas of Key Action and Progress**

- 3.1 Attached as **Annex 1** is the North Area Committee Delivery plan which highlights progress against the Area Committee plan. Good news stories and promotion of projects are shared at every opportunity.
- 3.2 Attached as **Annex 2** is an update on Sunderland City Council Service Plans - Area Priorities, specifically relevant to the area, including a quarterly update on progress for information purposes only.

### **4. Recommendations - Members are requested to:**

- 4.1 Consider the progress and performance update with regard to North Area Committee Area Plan 2023- 2026.
- 4.2 Consider the progress update with regard to Sunderland City Council Service Plans - Area Priorities, for information purposes only.

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Vivienne Metcalfe, Partnership and Community Resilience Manager

Item 2 Annex 1

North Area Committee Delivery Plan 2023 - 2026

Updated September 2023



The Area Plan commits the Area Committee to a number of priorities, which will be delivered within the North of Sunderland. This Delivery Plan provides an update on progress on the Area Committee’s Area Plan and will be monitored by the Area Committee and actions will be addressed throughout the next three years via the North Neighbourhood and Community Board

Priority	Progress Update
<b>Dynamic Smart City We Will Have</b>	
North Ward Based Raising Aspiration Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ward Meetings Held                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Castle – 4<sup>th</sup> August 2023</li> <li>• Redhill – 4<sup>th</sup> August 2023</li> <li>• Southwick – 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023</li> <li>• St. Peters - TBC</li> <li>• Fulwell – 20<sup>th</sup> September 2023</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
North Communication Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> Newsletter Circulated May 2023</li> </ul>
Benefit Advice/Guidance for Residents Focusing on Digital Inclusion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digital Inclusion linked to UKSPF Digital Hubs in the North (funding in place)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Go Online Sunderland 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Digital Inclusion Newsletter shared with Area Committee 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023</li> <li>• UKSPF (UK Shared Prosperity Fund) Digital Health Hubs Update:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sites across the North are currently undergoing surveys to identify upgrades required which will include enhancing wifi capabilities, upgrade of digital devices/furniture, upskilling of staff/volunteers</li> <li>• <b>Locations shown in Amber are on a waiting list for future investment, subject to future funding being secured.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Southwick Community Project: The Salvation Army, Southwick</li> <li>• Roker Life Church, Roker</li> <li>• Thompson Park Community Centre, Southwick</li> <li>• Friends of Fulwell / NE Sports, Monkwearmouth Academy, Fulwell</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Downhill Community Hub, Downhill</li> <li>Castle Ward Hub, Castle</li> </ul>
Regular Updates on the Delivery of Low Carbon Initiatives in the Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation on Low Carbon initiatives received June 2023</li> <li>Ward Tree Planting Suggestions across the North submitted for consideration</li> </ul>
<b>Healthy Smart City We Will Have</b>	
Provision of a Wide Range of Youth Activities Particularly in Areas Suffering from Anti-Social Behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>£20,000 ring fenced for Youth</li> </ul>
A North Quarry Run	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Park run is due to commence the end of September 2023</li> <li>Set up fees have been now paid to parkrun</li> <li>Volunteers have been engaged and have begun to undertake core training</li> <li>The project has received support from the parkrun ambassador in establishing the route and other areas of the required / necessary for the set up.</li> </ul>
Supported the Delivery of a Play Zone Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work has progressed and the design has been informed by a community engagement exercise. Residents want to see the new facility as a safe space with the opportunity play sports such as football, basketball and netball. Football Foundation have approved application in principle and £50,000 secured from Health City Fund as match. Construction is hoped to start before the end of 2023</li> </ul>
Health Related Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>£10,000 ring fenced for future health related projects- potentially air quality monitoring therefore on hold for now to be discussed at future Board</li> </ul>
Wildlife, Walking, Cycling and Running Destinations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hylton Dene</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ward members currently meeting with Environmental Services</li> </ul>
Wide Range of Social Prescribing Services and Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UKSP Funded Links for Life Call for Projects circulated to North VCS Network members 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023. The programme will build on the learning from the warm and welcoming spaces, ensuring we are able to offer services and support within our communities – support and activities which bring residents together, enable active engagement and improve health, wellbeing and financial resilience.</li> </ul>
<b>Vibrant Smart City We Will Have</b>	

<p>Delivery of a Wide Range of Heritage and Culture Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hylton Castle – Current NF Project</li> <li>• Crossley Project</li> <li>• Southwick Illumination Project – Current NF Project up to 2024</li> <li>• Fulwell Christmas Lights</li> <li>• Redhill Community Christmas</li> <li>• Cenotaph Area in Redhill</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Area Committee June 2023 funding awarded for Crossley Project</li> <li>• Area Committee June 2023 funding awarded Fulwell Christmas Lights Project</li> <li>• Culture House – Leanne attended July Board</li> <li>• Redhill Community Christmas – Ward members currently developing proposals via the Ward Improvement Budget</li> </ul>
<p>North Events programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Battle Re-enactment</li> <li>• Thompson Park Event</li> <li>• Future Events</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Successful Battle Re-enactment Event delivered 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> July 2023 with over 10,000 visitors</li> <li>• Thompson Park Event unfortunately cancelled twice due to the weather – expected to be rescheduled Spring 2024</li> </ul>
<p>Regeneration of Thompson Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thompson Park Refurbishment – Current NF Project</li> <li>• Accessible Kit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All new play areas and refurbishment complete July 2023</li> </ul>
<p>Support to VCS &amp; Community Hubs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Downhill Hub – Current NF Project</li> <li>• Hylton Castle Community Hub</li> <li>• Redhouse Community Association</li> <li>• Community Warden Project to support community hubs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Redhouse Community Association Expression of Interest for Neighbourhood Fund to be presented to November Board</li> </ul>
<p>Redevelopment of Downhill Wheeled Sports Park Site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of site into a Great North Forest</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Area Committee June 2023 funding aligned for the development of a project which regenerates the site. Meeting held 7<sup>th</sup> August to commence discussions and planning</li> </ul>

Delivery of Roker & Seaburn Washing Facilities Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Area Committee June 2023 funding awarded for the delivery of the project</li></ul>
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**Item 2 Annex 2**

**Sunderland City Council Service Plans – North Area Priorities for information purposes only**

**ADULT SERVICES: Strategic Commissioning Team and Strategic Safeguarding Team**

<b>Project/Programme</b>	<b>Project Detail</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by</b>	<b>Area Committee quarterly update</b>
Bodmin Assessment Service	Development of an assessment service for adults with mental health needs, in partnership with the Registered Social Landlord	TBC	10/23	The consultations with current residents and families have been completed. New accommodation / service provision has been identified for the residents and work with SCAS/ASC Social Work teams to progress these moves is ongoing.
Rotherham Road	Development of Supported Living Accommodation for adults with social care, support and accommodation needs, in partnership with the Registered Social Landlord	2/23	10/23	All building works are complete. Residents have been identified and work with SCAS/ASC Social Work teams to progress these moves is ongoing. Property will be handed over to SCAS from Bernicia early September. New residents will start a phased move into the service from September 2023.
Fulwell Community Resource Centre	Redevelopment of building-based day care services	4/23	TBC	Building surveys have been undertaken by Property Services and improvement works have been identified. Discussions are ongoing in relation to the implementation of the improvement works.

**City Development: Regulatory Services**

<b>Project/Programme</b>	<b>Project Detail</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by</b>	<b>Area Committee quarterly update</b>
Sara (currently national lottery funded)	1 x Community Engagement Worker and office costs	1/21	3/25	Project continues to deliver agreed aims and outcomes via the SARA Strategic Board. External Evaluation is in year 2 of a 3-year evaluation. more in depth update can be given to forthcoming AC meetings if required

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Thompson Park Event	Community Event		8/24	Postponed to twice due to inclement weather therefore expected delivery Spring 2024
Hylton Castle Battle Re-enactment	Hylton Castle event		8/23	Event successfully held – supported by events funding

#### CORPORATE SERVICES: Smart City Team

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Digital Inclusion	Delivery of a range of DI initiatives subject to interest/approval	4/23	4/26	Significant work ongoing, a newsletter is available and can be circulated if of interest and further information can be found in the City Resources section of our website: <a href="http://www.sunderlandoursmartcity.com">www.sunderlandoursmartcity.com</a>
Smart Cities	Opportunities for a range of digital and data solutions e.g. interactive play, smart bins etc	4/23	?	Significant work ongoing, further information can be found across our website and in the Innovation Challenges section: <a href="http://www.sunderlandoursmartcity.com">www.sunderlandoursmartcity.com</a>

#### ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES: Bereavement Services

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Cemetery Improvements	Prioritisation of improvement measures within area cemeteries according to an assessment of risk, need and local demand	June 22	Ongoing	Meetings: The Cemetery Improvement Boards are now established and convene bi-monthly bringing together representatives from local Ward Members and managers from relevant Council departments. These meeting serve as a platform to identify



Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
				<p>pressing issues and local concerns in each cemetery and to reach agreement on the priority attached to each.</p> <p>Key improvements: Through site visits and local knowledge key areas of improvement have been identified in each cemetery developed into an action plan.</p> <p>Our immediate focus relates to Regulatory compliance for lawn section graves and the requirement to remove unauthorised grave surrounds and install formal personalisation areas where personal items are placed on graves. This uniformity and standardisation of grave sizes will enable us to achieve a higher standard of maintenance which will contribute to an overall enhancement of these areas.</p> <p>Additionally, to protect public safety within all cemeteries we have launched a dedicated memorial testing programme to assess the stability of all memorials. Upon receipt of the stock condition report in September, the Cemetery Improvement Boards (CIB) will review the findings, determine necessary works, establish a public communication strategy and prioritise tasks accordingly until the programme is adopted and forms part of standard operations.</p>

**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES: Local Services**

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Glyphosate Trial	A trial project to help us understand the impact of alternative weed control options in different environments, with a view to the potential elimination of the use of herbicides in weed killing.	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2023	September 2023	<p>The 2023 trial which commenced on the 1st of April which is due to conclude on the 30th of September 2023 is enabling Local Services to ensure we capture a full weed season. The process is allowing us to monitor the impact of using alternative methods to Glyphosate, understand how effective other weed control methods can be, the impact these treatments have on the effectiveness of maintenance, resource, costs, equipment/training requirements, environmental and visual impact, and importantly the views of our residents.</p> <p>To date detailed records on all aspects of the trail are being gathered and analysed. Aspects such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Application process</li> <li>• Environmental Impact</li> <li>• Cost</li> <li>• Effectiveness</li> <li>• Resident Feedback</li> </ul> <p>We are continuing to engage with residents, our wider council colleagues, key city stakeholders and neighbouring authorities.</p> <p>We are also engaging with several other Authorities and organisations such as Cardiff Council, South Lanarkshire Council, Brighton Council the Amenity Forum and APSE.</p>

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
				A final report will be produced and published following the conclusion of the trial.
Tree Surveying	A citywide tree inspection and mapping project.	May 2023	2027	Tree inspections and mapping commenced in May 2023. Starting in the East area to date we have surveyed and digitally mapped over 5000 trees. The survey will move into the West area over the coming weeks. The survey will enable SCC to fully understand our tree stock, which will in turn increase our ability to manage the risk more effectively. The survey will also facilitate a much more proactive approach to tree planting and replacement, establish how much carbon as a city our trees can sequester, it will also inform us of the overall impact of Ash Dieback disease. The data base as it grows will provide a deeper case by case record of each tree and its inspection record which will improve member and customer journeys as the information held will provide more detailed information when responding to customer requests and complaints.
E Technology Trials	Trialling alternative Electric equipment to replace petrol fuelled kit to reduce carbon emissions.	May 2023		We continue to trial alternative kit not only to reduce carbon emissions but to reduce the hand arm vibration some kit exposes our workforce to. To date we have tested Electric hedge trimmers, chainsaws, strimmers and grass cutters. We are hoping in the coming weeks to explore hybrid chipper technology. We are also working with our fleet team to future proof our kit replacement programme factoring in the feedback we capture as part trials and are confident that over a period of time to further reduce our reliance upon petrol tools and equipment.
Bunny Hill Fencing	Fencing project to prevent ASB motor bike and quad access.	April 2023	July 2023	Fencing has been installed and positive feedback received

<b>Project/Programme</b>	<b>Project Detail</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by</b>	<b>Area Committee quarterly update</b>
Blue Flag Information Boards	Information Map Boards to meet Blue Flag eligibility.	April 2023	June 2023	New boards are erected and look really good. Positive feedback received.
Park Signage	New Park Signage at Roker Park & Hylton Dene	April 2023	March 2024	New boards are erected and look really good. Positive feedback received.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES: Winter Maintenance**

<b>Project/Programme</b>	<b>Project Detail</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by</b>	<b>Area Committee quarterly update</b>
Winter Smart Solutions	Trials of several infrared road surface sensors across the highway network.	Continue through the winter of 2023/2024	Testing of various options remains ongoing through the winter of 2023/2024	The selection, trial, and testing of additional Smart Road Surface Temperature measuring equipment supplied by the Smart City Team, remains ongoing. It is hoped that the additional equipment options being trialled will accurately enhance existing road monitoring and weather forecasting service provided by the Environmental Services, Winter Maintenance gritting team, and give the team are greater insight into the condition or road surfaces across the city during periods of cold.

#### **HEALTH HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES: Area Arrangements**

<b>Project/Programme</b>	<b>Project Detail</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by</b>	<b>Area Committee quarterly update</b>
Warm spaces – developing into Community Hubs	The current warm spaces which were funded to support residents during the cost-of-living crisis will be supported to	April 2023	March 2024	Links for Life delivery plan developing, working closely with the VCS. Call for projects will be circulated in September to support VCS to enhance delivery within communities.

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
	develop their offer, to support residents longer term, with five permanent community hubs established linked with social prescribing			
Developing the community support offer, working closely with the voluntary sector to enable maximise positive outcomes from Social Prescribing	Supporting VCS to develop their capacity to deliver commissioned services within communities	April 2023	March 2025	As above
VCS Alliance – growing capacity of voluntary and community sector	Continue to work in partnership with the voluntary sector Alliance to maximise resources into the sector via external funding and grow social value resources	April 2023	March 2025	<p>VS Alliance developing their offer to support the sector.</p> <p>Since securing charitable status in April, the Sunderland VS Alliance asked the sector across Sunderland for a view on current needs and gaps in service offer. Following the completion of the surveys and further work with the Alliance Strategic and Operational Boards, funding priorities have been agreed which will inform future funding applications as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Older peoples’ services</li> <li>•People with disabilities</li> <li>•Young people (the need for more youth services)</li> <li>•Veterans</li> <li>•People affected by the cost-of-living crisis</li> <li>•People furthest from the job market,</li> <li>•Refugees</li> <li>•Mental health services</li> </ul>

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
				<p>The Alliance has secured £45,000 ICB funding via VONNE to employ a Capacity Mapping Officer as part of a regional piece of work to review social prescribing and look at best practise for Sunderland and the Northeast region. The Alliance are working hand in hand with the Links for Life programme team to provide recommendations which will improve communities and prevent escalation of specialist services, to benefit the outcomes for local people. The Alliance is part of the Community Foundations Participatory Grant process developing funding opportunities for grass roots voluntary and community groups. Launch date to be confirmed.</p> <p>The Alliance will launch their membership scheme in October and will be promoting to all of the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector organisations in Sunderland, asking them to register.</p> <p>The Alliance will also be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Recruiting, inducting, and training new staff</li> <li>•Re-launching their website (with a membership hub)</li> </ul> <p>The Alliance is working hard to secure the following members for the Alliance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•A Treasurer</li> <li>•Trustees</li> <li>•Operational Board members</li> </ul>
Delivery of Financial Wellbeing Strategy Delivery Plan	Supporting residents within areas to improve their resilience	April 2023	March 2025	<p>Using household data and intelligence to identify issues and inform support across services.</p> <p>Establishing partnerships to deliver support to communities, including the VCS through Links for Life Sunderland</p>

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
				<p>Working through the Partnership Task Force Group to share knowledge and insights, leading to collaborations, such as a working arrangement with Gentoo on Cost-of-Living issues, including workshops to develop information and ensure the best support is provided to residents across all services.</p> <p>The team continues to talk to residents in Welcoming Spaces about their experience and report on issues and themes from the conversations</p> <p>The work is facilitated by excellent relationships already established with local VCS organisations.</p> <p>We are combining quantitative and qualitative data to provide context and a deeper understanding of the Lived experience of residents.</p> <p>We are currently refining a recording and reporting system to manage both statistical and anecdotal information so that if a service or partner organisation requires some contextual information we can find and provide it.</p>

**HEALTH HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES: Housing Strategy**

<b>Project/Programme</b>	<b>Project Detail</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by</b>	<b>Area Committee quarterly update</b>
The service is generally responsive based on requests for service and the severity of empty property conditions. However, the Empty Homes Strategy identified the areas of the City where empty properties were most prevalent. Work to tackle empty properties is targeted in these areas.	This is not a specific project	Progressing	Initial presentation complete  Future reports presented for Area Committee Information quarterly	A presentation on Empty Properties has been delivered to all Area Committees. This showed the data relating to area, Ward and across the City.  An Empty Homes Report is being developed following the views and questions provided as part of the Area Committee discussions.  This report will be presented to Area Committees quarterly

**HEALTH HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES: Welfare Reform Service and Business Development**

<b>Project/Programme</b>	<b>Project Detail</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Due for Completion by</b>	<b>Area Committee quarterly update</b>
Foodbank Support	Council currently supporting range of foodbanks / food aid organisations in all area of the city – majority in East / West via fresh food and FareShare –	N/a	N/A	Information to be collated for December Area Committee papers. Future quarterly updates will include information on:



Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion by	Area Committee quarterly update
	will be refining offer / support during the year			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• foodbank usage in each local area (to cover Sunderland Foodbank Distribution Centres, Washington Community Food Project , Salvation Army , Loaves &amp; Fishes, Space 4 and Bethany Houghton)</li> <li>• links to SC webpages covering food support / advice provision etc</li> </ul>

#### HEALTH HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES: Active Sunderland

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Parks Tennis Court Programme	Refurbish Tennis Courts in Thompson Park and Roker Park	5/23	7/23	Roker park - complete and operational from 25/8/23 Thompson park - practical completion scheduled for 12/9
Parks Tennis Court Programme	Develop Tennis activation programme	6/23	10/23	Complete - taking place
Swim Bike Run programme	Develop new adult parkrun in Fulwell Quarry	9/23	Ongoing	On schedule for end of Sept
Swim Bike Run programme	Create new opportunities to participate in SBR and Go Tri – Seafront	4/23	Ongoing	Ongoing – new opportunities in place - will develop further
Swim Bike Run programme	Develop SBR Hubs from Adventure Sunderland	7/23	Ongoing	Opportunities not progressed at Adventure Sunderland - North offer is linked to Bike hub in place already adjacent to NGC

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Regular Physical Activity Opportunities	Development of 1st Playzone in Southwick	2/24	4/24	At planning committee stage

#### HEALTH HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES: Public Health and Integrated Commissioning – Living Well

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Cycle scheme	Walking and Cycling activities for families in Southwick and Redhill	5/23	3/25	Delivery commenced July 23, programme supported wider initiatives in North. Next quarter focussed work with particular communities i.e. Redhill and partnerships with groups i.e SARA
Development of Social prescribing physical hubs	To deliver a Social Prescribing 'hub' to allow for localised presence of the offer	4/23	3/25	Progressing model development
Targeted substance misuse related death prevention	Development of targeted substance misuse related death prevention interventions	6/23	03/24	<p>Targeted Outreach and identification of additional space including, Caring Changes (Southwick), Swan Lodge Hendon, Betsy Jenny's Community Café, Poplar House (Hendon) and Back on the Map (Hendon) in target areas.</p> <p>CGL also offer online sessions, and support service users in the Southwick/Hendon and St Peters area with free data sim cards to improve digital assess. This is alongside the enhanced harm reduction services to at risk clients.</p>

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
				CGL are also expanding needle exchange provision with 7 pharmacies offering needle exchange in the targeted area.
Stop Smoking Clinics	To deliver stop smoking clinics in the wards with the highest smoking rates.	4/23	12/23	<p>SSSS are actively investigating clinic/drop in sites within the high prevalence wards. The following clinics are either established, planned to start or in discussion:</p> <p>Hendon: Riverview Health Centre (established) Back on the Map (in discussion)</p> <p>Millfield: The Salvation Army (planned to start mid September)</p> <p>Pallion: St Luke's Neighbourhood Centre (planned to start early September)</p> <p>Redhill: Bunnyhill Centre (established)</p> <p>Castle: Bunnyhill Centre (established)</p> <p>Southwick: Salvation Army – Austin House (in discussion) SNIP (in discussion)</p> <p>Sandhill: Grindon Primary Care Centre (established)</p> <p>St Anne's: Grindon Primary Care Centre (established) Pennywell Neighbourhood Centre (planned to start soon)</p>

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
				Washington North: Galleries Health Centre (established) The Millenium Centre (planned to start mid-September)  Central Sunderland: Betsy Jenny Wellbeing Café (established).

**HEALTH HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES: Public Health – Starting Well and Health Protection**

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Healthy Settings (Schools) - Castleview Enterprise Academy	School and key partners working together on identified priorities of mental health and RSHE	4/23	3/24	Updates to be provided once schools return after summer break and will be included in December Area Committee papers.

**REPORT OF NORTHUMBRIA POLICE****1.0 Purpose of Report**

The following report provides a community update and key performance information in relation to the North Sunderland Area.

**2.0 Key Updates****Total Crime**

Up 8.5% - increase of 220 crimes.

From research a key area that has increased is now the area of A5O9 which is the area of St Peters with an increase of 66 crimes. Also A5Q1 which is Redhouse with an increase of 72 crimes. The main crime area relates to Shoplifting in both of these locations. Four key Offenders have been identified in relation to these Offences.

**Anti-Social Behaviour**

Increase of 8.5% which equates to - 114 incidents.

ASB in Sunderland North is low in comparison to the other parts of Sunderland; once again the area of concern is focussed around Roker retail park and also the Metro station for Stadium of Light A5O8. A5O5 is also being highlighted which is the area for Seaburn and the fields behind Morrisson's; this also includes the increased number of incidents with Electric bikes.

An area also identified is Witherwack where we have increased youth disorder aimed at Stagecoach Buses and the Police.

In addition, I have had support from ASB Officers from local authority and also Outreach workers from Violence reduction unit assisting in patrols on the transport network.

Two young named offenders are being progressed by both Sunderland North NPT and city centre NPT.

**Burglary Dwelling**

Residential Burglary is down by 6.9% year to date, this equates to a reduction of 6 burglaries.

Targets and areas are discussed in our 4-weekly meeting around all Burglaries with a dedicated team focussing on Burglaries.

There has been a number of key Offenders arrested and sentenced to imprisonment throughout this year. The main area is upper Southwick.

**Commercial Burglaries**

Up by 78.6% year to date, this equates to an increase of 39 crimes.

This has been a high increase in numbers but we have a number of Offenders arrested and remanded namely Kenneth Roberts and John Campbell; these two arrests have made an impact in the Offending but there are still a number of active burglars attacking Commercial premises across the whole of Sunderland North.

I have created an Operation for this with nightshift patrols and a revisit by NPT for any additional opportunities.

Due to a good number of arrests as the trend is slowing in relation to the Crimes reported.

### **Vehicle crime**

An increase of 16.6 % which is an increase of 26 incidents; this includes vehicle interference and also theft of motor vehicles. The main area is Seaburn and Fulwell.

Neighbourhood teams with the increased resourcing levels are focussing on this area of Criminality .

### **Violent Crime**

The key area is around Roker area.

There is an increase of 5.4 % which equates to 54 incidents. This relates to the main area of violence without injury which includes crime such as harassment. A KCSV meeting takes place every 4 weeks where we discuss all incidents and measures to prevent and detect the offences. This has achieved the area of Monkwearmouth having additional support with GRIP funding which has additional patrols in the area with target areas and individuals.

### **Other incidents of note**

The football disorder that occurred last year where large scale disorder occurred outside of the Wheatsheaf Public House, an in depth investigation inclusive of Licencing, CID, NPT, the Local Authority and SAFC resulted in a number of arrests. Eight youths were charged with Affray and seven have recently appeared at Court pleading guilty, one youth is pleading not guilty. Banning Orders have been successful in preventing the offenders from attending football matches.

### **Motorcycle Disorder**

PCSO Josie Mcknight collating ASB around motorcycle disorder from a resident in North side. There is an increase in electric bikes on seafront and research ongoing to identify and progress.

Crime stoppers have offered substantial amount of money to identify offending riders and a media release will be going out soon to identify where the bikes are being stored.

Further funding bids have been submitted from Southern Area Command to upgrade a previous Operation that will span across the Force, this is via the PCC Office that is targeting Criminality on motorbikes and also ASB.

Police have purchased a small number of Drones and training pilots and are just awaiting the agreed deployment plans and dates.

## **Good arrests**

Kevin Sandilands was arrested for serious assault and numerous shopliftings charged and remanded.

David Trott was also charged remanded for same offence.

John Campbell was arrested, charged and remanded for an offence in Durham (burglary).

Kenneth Roberts was charged with a number of Burglaries and is remanded now on Conditional Bail.

Zoe Smith was charged with Burglary Commercial and pleaded guilty at court and was given a conditional discharge.

Shaun Ellwood was charged with Burglary Commercial and remanded for court and given unconditional bail.

Michael Foster was arrested and charged with Theft from Motor vehicle in Roker area and sentenced to 4 months in prison.

## **SARA team**

An internal review of the SARA team has taken place with the possibility of an additional PCSO being appointed in near future.

The calls for service and crime reporting in the area is still high and key targets are being prioritised. The team, with support from partners, will maintain our key community function but increase our proactivity; especially around repeat offenders who are responsible for a disproportionate amount of Crime in the area.

The overlap with my other Neighbourhood teams and increased resourcing enables all teams to be more proactive.

## **Darker Nights**

My Autumn plan has been submitted and the Seasonal trend will be a focus around the build up to Bonfire Night, meetings are now scheduled for both the City wide plans and also the Force plans.

**REPORT AUTHOR Inspector Stephen Prested**





28<sup>th</sup> September 2023

**REPORT OF THE TYNE & WEAR FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**

**1 Purpose of Report**

1.1 The following report gives performance-monitoring details in relation to Local Indicators for the Sunderland North Committee area from 23<sup>rd</sup> June until 12<sup>th</sup> September, compared with the same period in 2022.

**2 Background**

2.1 Area Committee agreed that regular updates on Crime and Community Safety would be presented to each committee meeting.

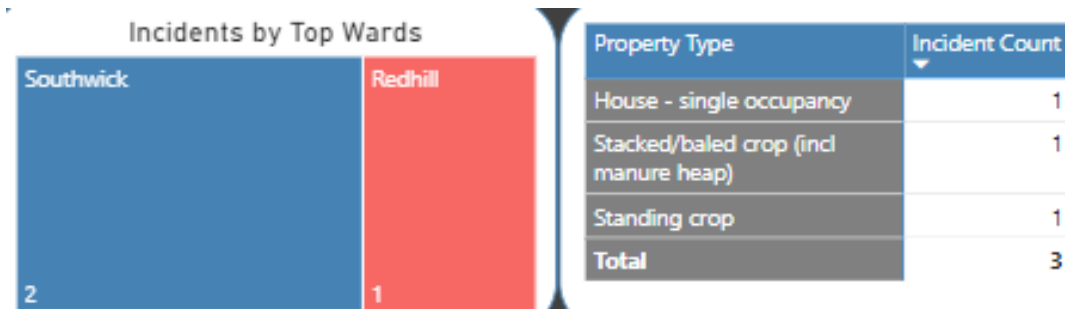
**3 Tyne & Wear Fire and Rescue Service Update**

**3.1 LI 02 - Number of Deaths from all fires**

No deaths were recorded during the reporting period.

**3.2 L.I 14 - Number of Deliberate primary fires excluding road vehicles**

3 Incidents occurred within this reporting period; this compares to 7 reported incidents in the same period last year



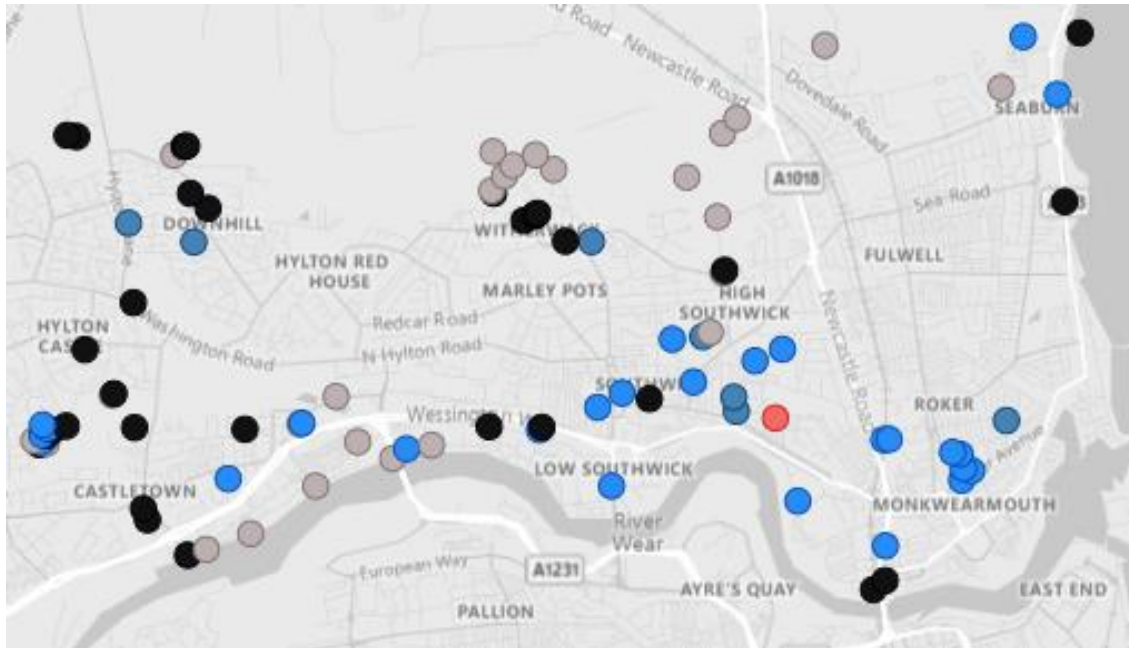
1 deliberate property fire. Small in scale and resulted in no injuries, Firefighting actions limited.

Hot strikes from operational crews and Safe & Well targeting has been conducted by the TWFRS Prevention and Education department. Partnership work with the Police, Gentoo, Sunderland City Council and other partners continues where appropriate to reduce repeat incidents using a joint approach.

SARA Partnership working is once again showing positive results for TWFRS

### 3.3 LI 33 - Number of Deliberate fires incorporating Secondary Fires (LI16)

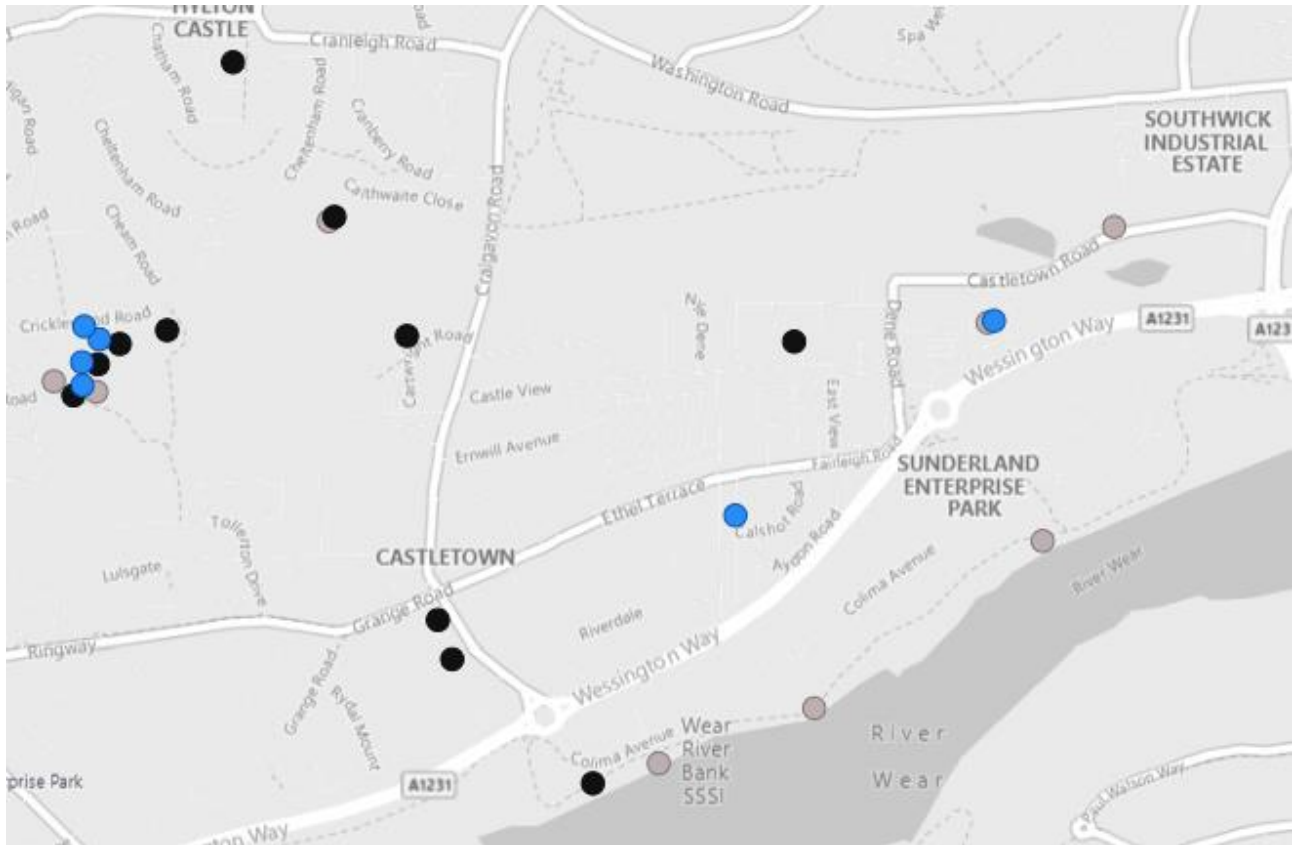
There have been 92 deliberate fires over this period compared to 169 in the same period last year, a decrease of 45%. Large Improvements across all wards apart from St Peter's, however this increase is attributed to only 1 incident. We are seeing a 16% - 63% reduction.



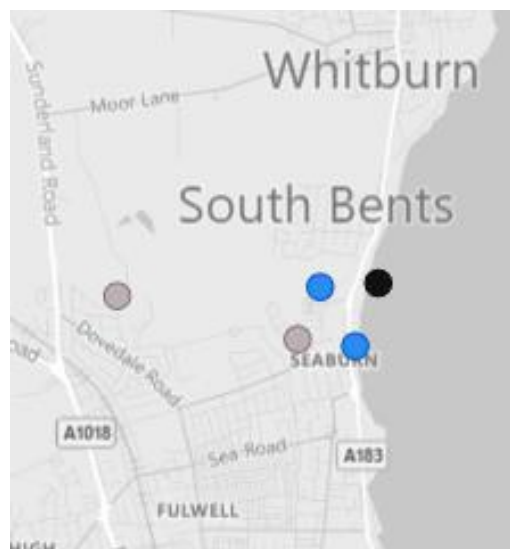
#### Ward Breakdown

Castle	25 down from 32 = 22% reduction
Fulwell	5 down from 6 = 16% reduction
Redhill	21 down from 57 = 63% reduction
Southwick	29 down from 77 = 62% reduction
St Peter's	10 up from 9 = 11% increase

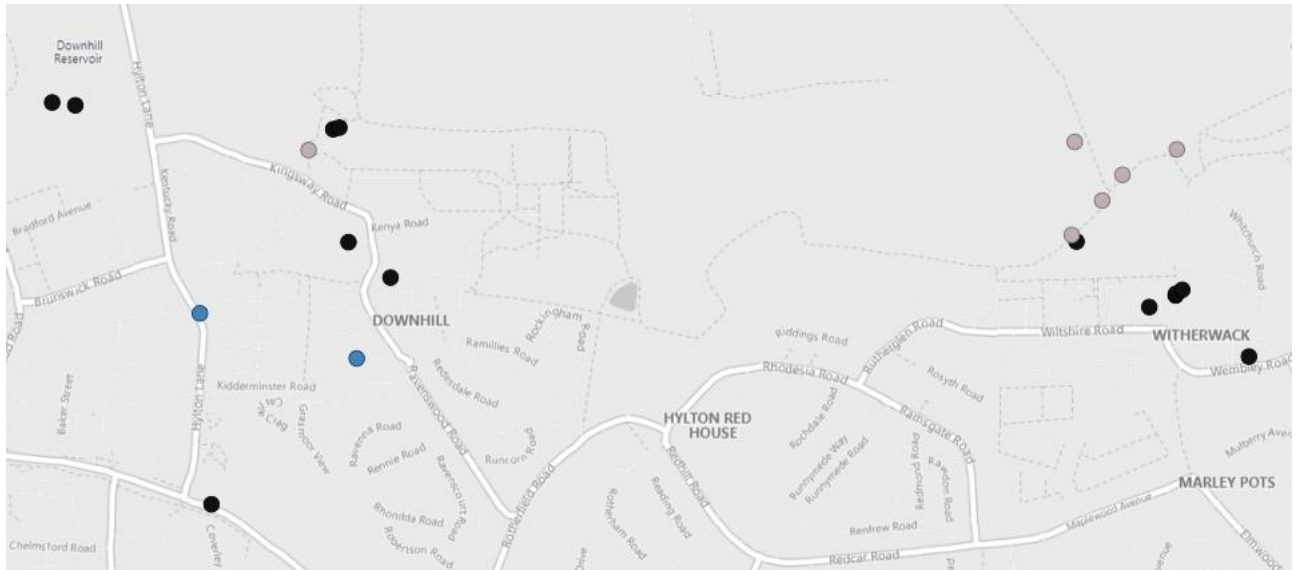
3.3.1 **Castle Ward** has seen a decrease in deliberate fire related incidents from 32 the previous year to 25 this reporting period. Incidents have occurred in the following area;



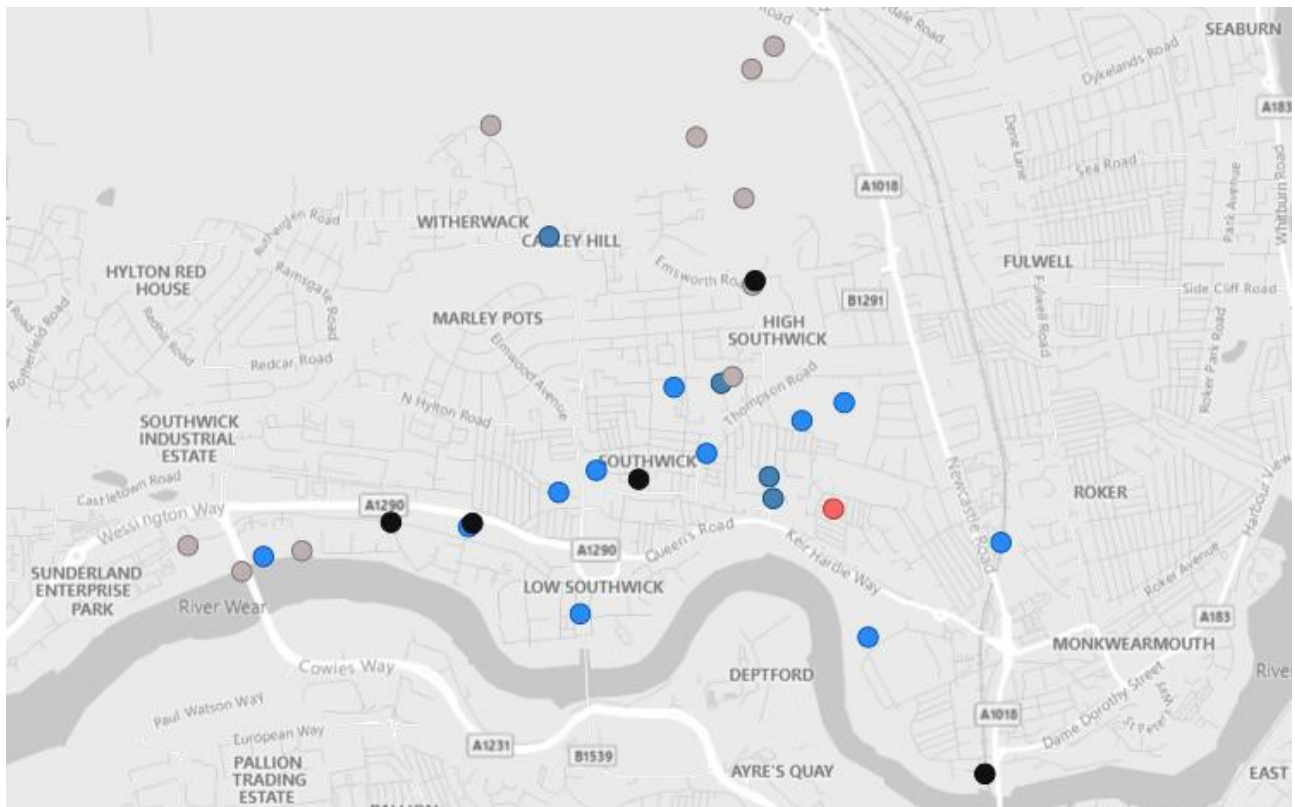
3.3.2 **Fulwell Ward** has seen a decrease in deliberate fire related incidents from 6 the previous year to 5 this reporting period. Incidents have occurred in the following areas;



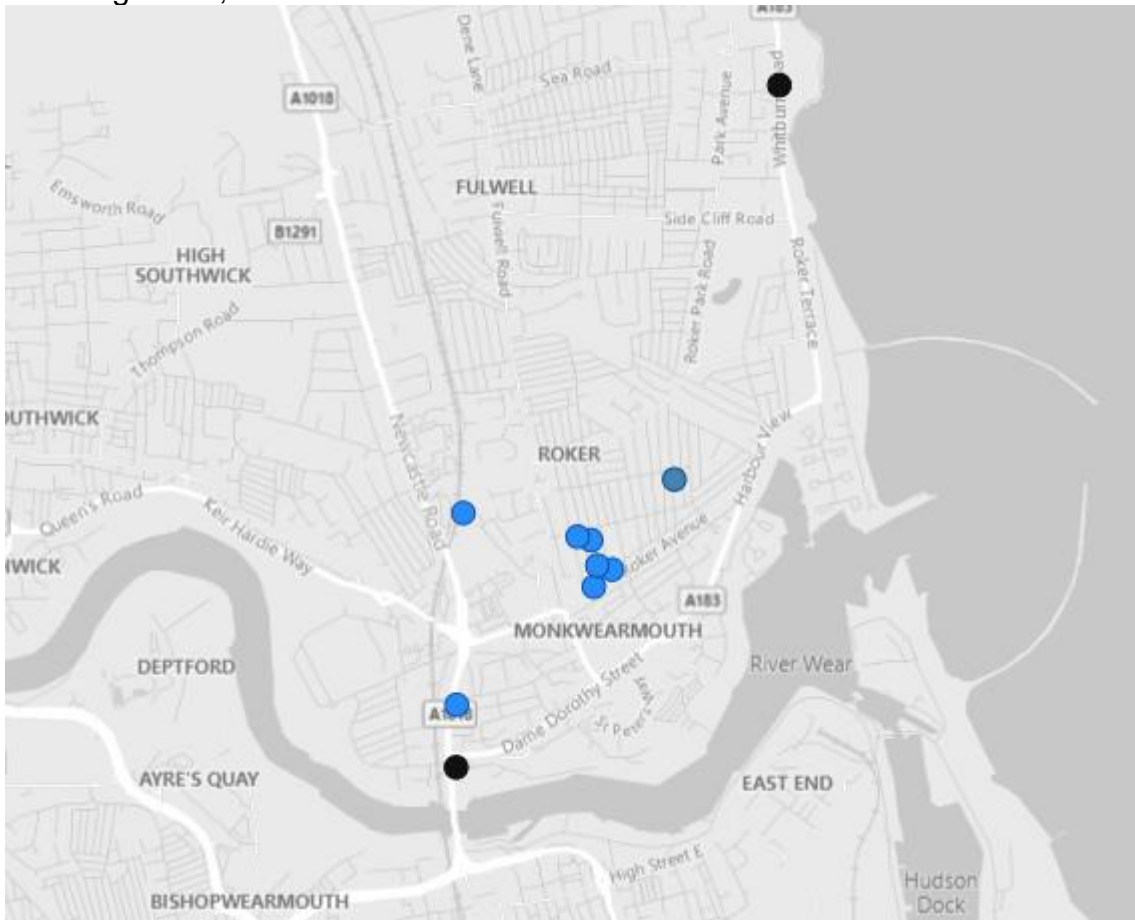
3.3.3 **Redhill Ward** has seen a decrease in deliberate fire related incidents from 57 the previous year to 21 this reporting period. Incidents have occurred in the following areas;



3.3.4 **Southwick Ward** has seen a decrease in deliberate fire related incidents from 65 the previous year to 31 this reporting period. Incidents have occurred in the following areas;



3.3.5 **St Peter's Ward** has seen an increase in deliberate fire related incidents from 9 the previous year to 10 this reporting period. Incidents have occurred in the following areas;



3.3.6 **LI 16 Number of deliberate secondary fires**

Figures are incorporated into the above totals but provided here as these are relevant to partners when tackling ASB areas

82 incidents compared to 157 same period last year. 48% reduction area wide

Ward Name	Incident Count
Castle	25
Southwick	25
Redhill	18
St Peter's	9
Fulwell	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>82</b>

Property Type	Incident Count
Loose refuse (incl in garden)	30
Wheelie Bin	11
Grassland, pasture, grazing etc	10
Tree scrub (includes single trees not in garden)	9
Small refuse/rubbish/recycle container (excluding wheelie bin)	7
Refuse/rubbish tip	4
Other outdoor items including roadside furniture	3
Straw/stubble burning	3
Canal/riverbank vegetation	2
Cycle path/public footpath/bridleway	1
Fence	1
Playground (not equipment) or Recreational area	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>82</b>

#### 4 Fire Stoppers Hotline

- 4.1 It is essential that any fire related issues are reported utilising the Fire Stoppers hotline; 0800 169 5558. Crews from Marley Park Community Fire Station are encouraged to foster strong working relationships with community groups and partner agencies. Our aim is to positively impact deliberate fire reduction and deter anti-social behaviour, as these activities have a direct and detrimental impact on life risk, property, the environment and the entire Sunderland community.

Any questions: please feel free to contact the below TWFRS Station Manager.

#### 5 Summary

- 5.1 TWFRS will continue to work with Northumbria Police and Local Authority Representatives to investigate and identify trends, create action plans and evaluate activities. Crews at Marley Park Community Fire Station utilise intelligence led data to target areas of increased activity, allowing resources to be utilised efficiently and effectively. SARA partnership working is having very positive results for TWFRS

#### 6 Recommendations

- 6.1 The Sunderland North Area Committee are requested to note the content of the report.

7 **Contact Officer:**

Name: SM Lee Bell  
Marley Park Community Fire Station  
Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service

Mobile Tel: 07442 846564

Email: [lee.bell@twfire.gov.uk](mailto:lee.bell@twfire.gov.uk)







**28<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

**REPORT OF NORTH AREA VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR NETWORK**

**1. Purpose of the Report**

1.1 The report provides an update with regard to the North Area Voluntary and Community Sector Network

**2. Background**

2.1 To develop the capacity and influence of the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) across the City, Area Networks have been established and delegates represent each Area Network at Area Committee taking forward issues on behalf of the whole VCS in the area, reporting on area priority delivery by the VCS, and reporting back, providing a two-way flow of communication.

2.2 North Area Network delegates will present a report to each Area Committee meeting informing Members of activity, progress, issues and concerns of the sector.

2.3 The North VCS Network is made up of over 100 local groups and strategic local/national/regional partners. The network meets on a regular basis to share good practice, support one another and receives regularly updates as part of an information share e bulletin distributed via the Sunderland VS Alliance.

**3. North Voluntary and Community Sector Network (VCSN) Progress Report**

3.1 The North VCS Network met in June 2023 at Castletown Methodist Church and September 2023 at Redhouse Community Centre

3.2 The meetings have included the following agenda items:

- Health Screening Programmes
- Networking and Information Share Opportunities
- Change the Game
- Wear Moving

3.3 Members of the Network joined Sunderland Council and the Sunderland Integrated Care Board (Health) for breakfast on Thursday 15th June 2023, to discuss future opportunities to work together in the city, developing community hubs and our community support offer for residents. The following themes were consistently discussed at each table with a high amount of consensus over the challenges or opportunities associated with the themes. Members of the network were asked to sign the pledge for Links for Life

In summary they were:

- Funding,
- Opportunities to network and collaborate,
- Potential and challenges of Links for Life,
- Capacity in the sector
- Attitudes to the NEPO portal.

- 3.4 Moving forward from the Warm and Welcoming spaces, we are working closely with the sector to extend and co-produce the 'welcoming warm spaces'. Members of the network have been informed there will be launch for a new call for projects in September, to enable the community support offer to move into 'Links for Life' – Sunderland's social prescribing community support programme. The programme will build on the learning from the warm and welcoming spaces, ensuring we are able to offer services and support within our communities – support and activities which bring residents together, enable active engagement and improve health, wellbeing and financial resilience.
- 3.5 Members of the network continue to welcome funding opportunities and social value opportunities from SVSA. The Area Arrangements team are working in collaboration with the Sunderland VCS Alliance (SVSA) and wider Council services and partners to bring forward social value from investments and from businesses delivering in the city, to support the voluntary and community sector. The Area Arrangements team and the SVSA are also working together to understand where local community services are currently being delivered within the area, to support resident community resilience and wellbeing.
- 3.6 The Network representatives regularly consult with the Network to ensure that the agenda items reflect their requirements.

#### **4. Sunderland Voluntary Sector Alliance (SVSA) update August 2023**

- 4.1 Since securing charitable status in April, the Sunderland VS Alliance asked the sector across Sunderland for a view on current needs and gaps in service offer. Following the completion of the surveys and further work with the Alliance Strategic and Operational Boards, funding priorities have been agreed which will inform future funding applications as follows:
- Older peoples' services
  - People with disabilities
  - Young people (the need for more youth services)
  - Veterans
  - People affected by the cost-of-living crisis
  - People furthest from the job market,
  - Refugees
  - Mental health services
- 4.2 The Alliance has secured £45,000 ICB funding via VONNE to employ a Capacity Mapping Officer as part of a regional piece of work to review social prescribing and look at best practise for Sunderland and the Northeast region. The Alliance are working hand in hand with the Links for Life programme team to provide recommendations which will improve communities and prevent escalation of specialist services, to benefit the outcomes for local people.
- 4.3 The Alliance is part of the Community Foundations Participatory Grant process developing funding opportunities for grass roots voluntary and community groups. Launch date to be confirmed.

- 4.4 The Alliance will launch their membership scheme in October and will be promoting to all of the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector organisations in Sunderland, asking them to register.

The Alliance will also be:

- Recruiting, inducting, and training new staff
- Re-launching their website (with a membership hub)

- 4.5 The Alliance working hard to secure the following members for the Alliance:

- A Treasurer
- Trustees
- Operational Board members

## 5. Recommendations

- 5.1 Members are requested

- To note the contents of the report and consider the opportunities and issues raised by the North VCSN.

Contact: Ruth Oxley, Area Network Representative.  
Email: [ruth@snyo.co.uk](mailto:ruth@snyo.co.uk)  
Richy Duggan, Area network Representative  
Email: [sunderlandcommunityactiongroup@hotmail.com](mailto:sunderlandcommunityactiongroup@hotmail.com)  
Peter Curtis, Area Network Representative  
Email: [peter@northeastport.co.uk](mailto:peter@northeastport.co.uk)



28 September 2023

## REPORT OF GENTOO

### 1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The following report provides an update from Gentoo for the North Area Committee for the period June to September 2023.

### 2 Background

- 2.1 Area Committee agreed that regular updates from Gentoo would be provided to each Committee meeting to enable members to be up to date on current Gentoo developments, projects, and priorities and to ensure members are fully aware of their opportunities to work collaboratively with Gentoo.

### 3 Update on Neighbourhood Services

#### 3.1 An Invitation from Louise Bassett, CEO of Gentoo Group

The relationship between Gentoo and Sunderland City Council is very important to Gentoo's CEO and she would welcome the opportunity to further strengthen this and has arranged dates (which you should have received), to meet with you in each of the City's localities. The date for North ward councillors was:

**Wednesday 6 September**      The Cornhill Centre, Goschen Street, Southwick, SR5 2LR

#### 3.2 Estate walks

Estate walks are now all arranged within the wards, and invitations sent to you all should you wish to attend. The dates for walks are as follows:

Redhouse & Marley Potts	2 October 2023
Hylton Castle	17 October 2023
Downhill	19 October 2023
Southwick	12 October 2023
Fullwell	10 October 2023
Carley Hill	4 October 2023
Roker	12 October 2023
Castletown	9 October 2023
Witherwack	5 October 2023
Hebburn	9 October 2023
Town End Farm	3 October & 11 October 2023

#### 3.3 Tenancy Sustainment Fund

In July 2023, Gentoo Board approved several measures to support tenancy sustainability. These measures include interventions such as, providing carpets for new customers who have been housed with us on a priority basis and are below the age of 25. Supporting this group of customers to have their water rates paid if they are really struggling financially (for a limited period). We also identified measures such as the provision of Ring Doorbells for

victims of domestic abuse or antisocial behaviour, and a small budget to support these customers with house removals for those who need to move in an emergency and can't afford to pay for it.

In addition to these measures, we have increased resource in the Money Matters Team and now have four Support Coordinators working with our customers who have complex financial needs across the city. We will also be recruiting for two 'Pre-Tenancy Coordinators', who will work with new applicants to the Gento housing register, their aim will be to provide support and advice across a range of issues, these include assessing any priority needs, identifying vulnerability issues, offering money management and the costs of running a home, support advice, income maximisation, energy advice and signposting to low-cost furniture and fittings, to ensure we prepare and support applicants to have the best possible start to tenancies.

### **3.4 Recruitment Activity**

In the coming months, we will be looking for passionate, engaged tenants to join a brand-new paid Tenant Committee. The Committee will be made up of 6 Gento customers and it will form an important part of our governance structure. It will be chaired by Group Chair – Emily Cox - and it will fulfil a critical role, advising Group Board on all tenant-related matters.

The Committee will help us to better understand the challenges facing tenants and it will drive purposeful, positive change across the Group.

## **4. Investment & Renewal**

Windows, Sekura are on site carrying out our window replacements. These works are on schedule to be complete by December 2023.

Loft insulation, Regen are our contractor to carry out loft insulation top ups to over 1000 properties city wide. This scheme is due to start next month.

Low Rise Fire Alarm Removals, Isoler are currently on site carrying out the removal of fire alarms from 80+ low rise blocks scattered city wide. The fire alarms in the communal areas of several low-rise blocks are being removed and replaced with individual smoke detection within the flats themselves.

Communal flat decoration, Carley Hill communal flats are included in this year's decoration scheme. Bell group are our contractor and should be on site by December 2023.

## **5. Recommendations**

- 5.1 Note the content of this report.

### **Contact Officer**

Beth Wilkie, Head of Neighbourhoods.

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**NORTH SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE**  
**28<sup>th</sup> September 2023**  
**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I**

**Title of Report:**

North Sunderland Area Budget Report

**Author(s):**

Assistant Director of Housing and Communities

**Purpose of Report:**

Area Committee has delegated budgets to allocate to specific strategic priorities identified in the Area Plan, with the overall aim to respond to the needs of residents and ensure the delivery of activities and projects to support matters which affect residents and enable them to be resilient. The report provides a financial statement as an updated position on progress in relation to allocating Area Committee Neighbourhood Funding and Community Chest and presents proposals for further funding requests.

**Description of Decision:**

Committee are requested to:-

(a) Note the financial statements set out in **Tables 1 and 2.**

(b) Note the Community Chest approvals supported from 2023 – 2024 as set out in **Item 4 Annex 1**

Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework?

Yes

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

The Area Committee has an allocation of £404,516 (inc Youth allocation) for 2023/2024 from the Neighbourhood Fund to deliver key priorities identified in the relevant Area Plan and 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

## NORTH SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE

28<sup>th</sup> September 2023

## REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF HOUSING and COMMUNITIES

## North Sunderland Area Budget Report

## 1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 Area Committee has delegated budgets to allocate to specific strategic priorities identified in the Area Plan, with the overall aim to respond to the needs of residents and ensure the delivery of activities and projects to support matters which affect residents and enable them to be resilient. The report provides a financial statement as an update position on progress in relation to allocating Area Committee Neighbourhood Funds and Community Chest and presents proposals for further funding requests.

## 2. Area Committee Neighbourhood Fund

- 2.1 The table below shows the financial position of Area Committee Neighbourhood Fund for 2023/ 2024:

Project Name	Committee Date	Returned	Aligned	Approved	Remaining
<b>Starting Balance for 2023 / 2024 (£404,516 and £13,782 c/f )</b>					<b>£418,298</b>
Sunderland City Council – Roker & Seaburn Washing Facilities Project	22.06.23			£10,000 (previously aligned)	<b>£418,298</b>
North East Bus Preservation Trust – All Aboard the Crossley Project	22.06.23			£5,000	<b>£413,298</b>
Fulwell Community Library – Christmas at Fulwell Project	22.06.23			£6,000	<b>£407,298</b>
Downhill Wheeled Sports Park	22.06.23		£100,000		<b>£307,398</b>
Ward Improvement Project – Castle, Redhill, Southwick, Fulwell & St. Peters	22.06.23		£150,000		<b>£157,298</b>

*Table One: Neighbourhood Fund Statement 2023 / 2024*

- 2.2 North Sunderland Area Committee has been allocated **£418,298** Neighbourhood Funding for capital and revenue projects for 2023/2024
- 2.3 There are no applications presented for approval therefore the Neighbourhood Fund balance is **£157,298**



### 3. Community Chest

- 3.1 Each ward has been allocated a ward budget of **£10,000** each, to support projects which complement the Area Plan. The process to allocate Community Chest is now online. Ward Councillors will continue to lead on seeking suitable project proposals and making decisions on applications received. Where it is difficult to make a majority decision and discussions cannot be resolved at a ward level the outcome will be escalated to Area Committee for a final decision.
- 3.2 The Table below details the Community Chest awards starting balance for 2023 - 2024. **Annex 1** shows the approvals, supported to date 2023 - 2024

Ward	2023/2024 Allocation	Returned	Approved	Remaining
Castle	£10,000	-	£3,855	£6,145
Fulwell	£10,000	-	£3,887	£6,113
Redhill	£10,000	-	£5,944	£4,056
Southwick	£10,000	-	£7,814	£2,186
St Peters	£10,000	-	£5,334.01	£4,665.99
<b>Total</b>	<b>£50,000</b>	-	<b>£26,834.01</b>	<b>£23,165.99</b>

*Table Two: Community Chest Funding Statement 2023 / 2024*

### 4. Recommendations

- 4.1 Note the financial statements set out in **Tables 1 and 2**
- 4.2 Note the Community Chest approvals supported from 2023 – 2024 as set out in **Item 4 Annex 1**

**Contact Officer:** Vivienne Metcalfe, Partnership and Community Resilience Manager  
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North Sunderland Area Committee

28<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Item 4 Annex 1

Community Chest Awards April – September 2023

<b>Castle Ward Budget</b>	<b>£10,000</b>		<b>Approvals</b>
<b>Project</b>	<b>Approval Date</b>	<b>Returned</b>	<b>Approvals</b>
Castletown Scout Group (2 <sup>nd</sup> payment)	16.02.23		£1,667
Castletown Community Association	05.04.23		£500
Castletown Methodist Church	17.07.23		£1,215
Golden Gloves Boxing	22.08.23		£473
<b>Remaining balance - £6,145</b>			<b>£3,855</b>
<b>Fulwell Ward Budget</b>	<b>£10,000</b>		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Approval Date</b>	<b>Returned</b>	<b>Approvals</b>
St Andrews Snooker Club (joint with St Peters)	09.06.23		£1,512
Seaburn Dene Primary	17.07.23		£2,375
<b>Remaining balance - £6,113</b>			<b>£3,887</b>
<b>Redhill Ward Budget</b>	<b>£10,000</b>		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Approval Date</b>	<b>Returned</b>	<b>Approvals</b>
Redhouse & District CA	24.05.23		£3,610
Redhouse Community Tea Dance	18.07.23		£450
Gentoo	18.07.23		£1,884
<b>Remaining balance - £4,056</b>			<b>£5,944</b>
<b>Southwick Ward Budget</b>	<b>£10,000</b>		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Approval Date</b>	<b>Returned</b>	<b>Approvals</b>
Southwick & Witherwack Community Development Trust	06.04.23		£987
SARA Policing Team	06.04.23		£889
Grace House	06.04.23		£993
Grange Park Primary School	06.04.23		£985
Weights & Cakes	12.05.23		£1,000
JLYSG	12.05.23		£960
High Southwick Homing Society	12.05.23		£1,000
Guildacre Social Club	18.07.23		£1,000
<b>Remaining balance - £2,186</b>			<b>£7,814</b>
<b>St. Peter's Ward Budget</b>	<b>£10,000</b>		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Approval Date</b>	<b>Returned</b>	<b>Approvals</b>
Changing Lives (2 <sup>nd</sup> Payment)	16.03.23		£2478.01
St Andrews Snooker Club (joint with Fulwell)	09.06.23		£1,008
Sunderland Community Action Group	13.06.23		£1,846
<b>Remaining balance - £4,665.99</b>			<b>£5,344.01</b>



# Current Planning Applications(North)

Between 01/07/2023 and 23/08/2023

Reference	Address	Proposal	Date Valid	Target Date for Decision
23/01487/FUL	42 Tollerton Drive Castletown Sunderland SR5 3DQ	Erection of two storey rear extension.	03/07/2023	28/08/2023
23/01387/FUL	The Licensee Halfway House 133 Southwick Road Sunderland SR5 1SP	Conversion of former Public House to provide a supported accommodation scheme consisting of 7nos. bedrooms and additional staff accommodation unit.	10/07/2023	04/09/2023
23/01472/FUL	Stadium Of Light Metro Station Newcastle Road Sunderland	Installation of CCTV cameras, associated column and installation of new replacement parking ticket machines.	17/07/2023	11/09/2023
23/01581/PCG	Barbers 1 Oswald Terrace West Sunderland SR5 3BH	Change of use from retail premises into 5-bedroom residential accommodation, to include replacement of shop front with a domestic frontage.	24/07/2023	19/09/2023
23/01595/TPA	29 Ocean Park Road Sunderland SR6 8BP	Removal of T1 cherry tree replaced with planting 3x new trees T1 looks to have damaged roots and doesnt seem to be blooming as much as the others in the area the roots arent in great condation.	25/07/2023	20/09/2023

Reference	Address	Proposal	Date Valid	Target Date for Decision
23/01674/FUL	30 Ashdale Court Sunderland SR6 9SZ	Single storey rear kitchen extension.	25/07/2023	19/09/2023
23/01637/FUL	60 Chestnut Crescent Sunderland SR5 5BH	Side extension.	25/07/2023	19/09/2023
23/01623/FUL	30 Kirkstone Avenue Sunderland SR5 1NH	Porch with new garage roof and erection of a rear extension.	26/07/2023	20/09/2023
23/01675/FUL	Evans Halshaw Vehicle Preparation Centre Riverside Road Sunderland SR5 3JG	Raising of the roof ridge and replacement of existing felt roof covering to composite metal roof sheets	09/08/2023	04/10/2023
23/01794/VAR	Former Southwick Social Club Church Bank Sunderland	Variation of condition 6 (hours of operation) attached to planning application 23/00263/FUL to allow the hours of operation to be carried out between 0700 and 23.00 Monday to Sunday	10/08/2023	05/10/2023
23/01433/FUL	13 And 14 Cliffe Park Sunderland SR6 9NS	Erection of first floor balconies to front of properties (part retrospective)	11/08/2023	06/10/2023

Reference	Address	Proposal	Date Valid	Target Date for Decision
23/01421/FUL	Land At Rear Of Bede Street, Benedict Road And St Andrews Terrace Sunderland	Erection of 1x single-storey residential dwellinghouse (Use Class C3) including green, flat roof, new boundary treatments, private residential garden areas across unbuilt curtilage, car parking and access.	14/08/2023	09/10/2023
23/01746/SUB	17 Roker Park TerraceSunderlandSR6 9LY	Ground floor extension to rear yard and demolition/rebuild of existing rear outhouse to form new utility and wc. Rebuilding of existing rear yard wall. (resubmission)	16/08/2023	11/10/2023
23/01758/FUL	17 Roker Park TerraceSunderlandSR6 9LY	Rebuilding of front garden wall (Retrospective)	16/08/2023	11/10/2023
23/01677/CLP	29 Park ParadeSunderlandSR6 9LU	Certificate of Lawfulness for proposed rear single storey extension	17/08/2023	13/10/2023