

**Coalfield Area Committee  
Proposals for 2011/2012 Priorities**

	<b>Priorities</b>	<b>What is being done currently</b>	<b>Proposed actions to influence services</b>
1	<p><b>Support for Older People</b> Older People (women over 60 and men over 65) in Coalfield make up 20.2% (9,505) of the population.</p> <p>In Coalfield 1,657 residents over 65 are receiving nursing, community based or residential care services, this is 20.5% of the area's population. In relation to individual wards more residents in Shiney Row (22.1%), and Copt Hill (24.2%) are in receipt of care than the average for the area.</p> <p>Residents in Coalfield (44%) consider that older people in the local area are able to get the services and support they need to continue to live at home for as long as they want to, to a greater level than the city average (40%).</p> <p>Resident's satisfaction with GPs (85%) is greater than the city average ( 83%) and satisfaction with their local hospital is in line with the city</p>	<p><b>Age UK</b> (local office based at the Hetton Centre):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Benefits, tax, pensions and other money advice</li> <li>• Legal and consumer advice</li> <li>• Travel and motor insurance</li> <li>• Info on housing choices and help at home</li> <li>• Work and learning advice</li> <li>• Finding and using health services</li> </ul> <p><b>Sunderland City Council:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Benefits and pension</li> <li>• Winter fuel payments</li> <li>• Planning for retirement</li> <li>• Direct payments</li> </ul> <p>Day Opportunities (extended luncheon club) - Gilwood Court, Station Road, Shiney Row Social Activity Group - Bramble Hollow Extra Care Scheme, Four Lane Ends, Hetton</p> <p>Day care, Permanent care, Sunderland telecare, Meals on wheels, Handypersons service, Community equipment service and wheelchair service provided by Sunderland City Council</p> <p>Extra care scheme at Bramble Hollow, Hetton (Housing 21 and Sunderland City Council). Cherrytree Gardens, Houghton le Spring due to open Summer 2011 (Gentoo and Sunderland City Council)</p> <p>Active at 60 - a £1 million government grant programme, provided by DWP and administered by</p>	<p>Please note: The Task and Finish Group meeting in March will begin to identify actions which will be further developed by each Task and Result group once formed.</p>

	<p>average (78%). Residents aged 65+ are most likely to be satisfied with their family doctor/local hospital.</p>	<p>the Community Development Foundation.</p> <p>Welfare benefit advice at Shiney Row Advice and Resource Project (SHARP)</p> <p>Gentoo operate a 'Busybodies' scheme which provides a maintenance and repair service for the home and garden. A small charge applies</p> <p>Innovation scheme – allotment site on Race Course estate</p> <p>Bethany Centre – Daily Drop Ins, tea / coffee, lunch, speakers, activities</p> <p>Myre Hall – Luncheon club</p> <p>Access Point, Easington Lane – coffee mornings</p> <p>Stephenson House (Methodist Church) – Tea dances</p> <p>Church Hall, Hetton – 50 / 50 dancing</p> <p>Princess Gardens – Luncheon club</p> <p>Shiney Row – Over 60's Fellowship night, ladies club</p> <p>Grangewood Care Home – Seasonal coffee mornings (Spring / Summer)</p>	
2	<p><b>Empty Properties</b> As at January 2011 there were approximately 400 empty homes (private sector) across the area</p>	<p>Health, Housing and Adult Services are responsible for working with owners of residential properties in the private sector</p> <p>One of the key priorities in the Sunderland Housing Priorities Plan (SHPP) is to bring empty properties</p>	

		<p>back into use A private sector housing officer (empty properties) has been in post since November 2010. The officer is dedicated to the Coalfield area and is working proactively to identify empty properties and support owners to bring them back into use where appropriate</p> <p>Non residential properties causing a problem can be dealt with by the enforcement team within the Development Control service at Sunderland City Council</p> <p>An area based Empty property Action Plan 2011/12 is being developed by HHAS. The Area Committee will be consulted</p> <p>Eppleton and Broomhill Estates are awaiting demolition pending acquisition of the final properties. There are currently no plans to redevelop the site</p> <p>The empty property officer is working with Gentoo and the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) to explore a possible project to bring a small number of empty properties back into use through young unemployed people refurbishing empty properties over the next 3 – 4 years.</p>	
3	<p><b>Public Transport</b> Residents within the Coalfields report the lowest satisfaction (57%) within the city with their local bus services. Residents aged 65+ are most likely to be very satisfied (40%) whilst those in the age group 25-34 being more likely to be dissatisfied</p>	<p>A rep from Nexus attends Area Committee as a key partner</p> <p>The accessible bus network (ABN) is defined as non-core services, whether subsidised by Nexus or provided commercially. Getting these local services right is often a key element in helping to enhance people's quality of life. Consultation regarding the ABN has taken place.</p>	<p>Area Committee to escalate the issue to the most relevant LSP or Scrutiny group and ensure regular input and feedback to Area Committee</p>

	<p>(24%) with this service.</p> <p>Similarly residents within the Coalfields are least satisfied with the provision of local transport information (49%). Those residents aged 65+ are most likely to be satisfied (73%) with the service whilst those within the 35-54 age group being most dissatisfied (17%).</p>	<p>4 elected members from Sunderland are part of the Integrated Transport Authority (3 of which are Coalfield Area Councillors). The main objective of the ITA is <i>to promote and encourage safe, integrated, efficient and economic transport facilities and services for Tyne and Wear and its surrounding area through the development of partnerships between other local authorities, transport operators, public service providers, local communities and Nexus</i></p>	
4	<p><b>Neglected Land</b></p>	<p>The Strategic Land Management (SLM) programme will contain information on land ownership.</p> <p>A team of 5 land management inspectors (1 for each area) will inspect council land and property and report any issues to property services.</p> <p>The Area Response Manager, Area Response Officer and four ward managers for the Coalfield area will be in place by the end of March 2011. The team can be contacted directly to report and discuss any issues.</p> <p>A greenspace audit is being carried out and consultation is currently underway. This will inform the Local Development Framework (LDF)</p>	