

Sunderland North Area Committee

13 April 2010

Report of the Chief Executive

Sunderland North Annual Report 2009/10

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

- The Area, people and place
- Safe theme and priorities
- Attractive and Inclusive theme and priorities
- Learning theme and priorities
- Healthy
- Prosperous
- Meetings and Governance
- Finance

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

The Area

People and Place

The North area comprises the five electoral wards of Castle, Redhill, Southwick, Fulwell and St Peter's. The North area has its roots deep in the mining and ship building industry, with coal being mined in the area since Roman times. Coal continued to be the lifeblood of the area until the 1970s and 80s, with 4,645 jobs lost between 1971 and 1999, the majority disappearing in the 1980s.

The area is rich in culture and heritage, evidenced by St Peter's church, originating from the 7th century, Hylton Castle, a 15th century ruined castle, currently the subject of work to attract restoration funding, the National Glass Centre, where you will find glass making and displays of contemporary glass and the Stadium of Light, the home of Sunderland Associated Football Club. There is also the development of the riverside, seeing a nationally acclaimed Marina and Riverside sculpture trail.

We have the groundbreaking Customer Service Centre at Bunny Hill, offering a wide range of services, including one of the city's state of the art Wellness Centres. We have recently opened the Sunderland Aquatic Centre, the only 50 metre pool between Leeds and Edinburgh and the most environmentally friendly pool in the country. The Sunderland Aquatic Centre, developed by Sunderland City Council, is a first for Sunderland and the wider region. Despite all this, we still have significant health issues to tackle, in part a legacy of our traditional industries.

The area contains a number of distinct communities based on historical conurbations such as Southwick and Fulwell, together with large post-war estates such as Town End Farm, Hylton Redhouse and Hylton Castle. Situated in the area are the coastal resorts of Roker and Seaburn, while the nationally recognised Coast to Coast cycle way is completed by reaching the North Sea at Roker beach.

1. North Safe Theme

Key statistics

Ward	All Crimes (per 1,000 pop)	% change from previous year	Burglary Dwelling (per 1,000 households)	Burglary Non-dwelling	Theft of Vehicles	Theft from Vehicles	Criminal Damage	Drug Offences
Castle Ward	70.9	0.96	4.7	4.2	1.8	2.6	26	2.1
Fulwell Ward	50.5	6.68	4.7	5.5	0.9	1.8	12.5	1.4
Redhill Ward	79.3	8.63	6.7	3	3.1	1.9	29.6	7.4
St. Peter's Ward	76.7	12.88	10.2	4.6	1.7	7.5	17.3	6.2
Southwick Ward	116.5	16.06	11.3	8.2	3.6	10.9	26.3	6.5
Sunderland	82.5	-3.30	8.9	5	2.5	5.8	22	4.2

The rates for each ward have been compared with the City average and highlighted as Green – better than the City, Amber – equivalent to the City, and Red, worse than the City. Although the overall crime rate in four of the five wards is lower than the City average, the crime rate in all five wards has increased since last year, whilst the City average has decreased.

What we set out to do

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

You Said

There should be tighter control on the sale of alcohol to under 21s.

We Did

Using an evidenced based approach, responsive to intelligence gathered, a joint operation between Trading Standards and Northumbria Police was developed to carry out covert operations at times when sales of alcohol to young people are most likely (Friday evenings and weekends).

Further funding for Community Wardens to continue in the Castletown area was provided – the outcomes of this will inform a review to consider a possible Citywide approach.

The Castletown Gating order has been supported and alternative delivery mechanisms are being developed to make the project sustainable.

You Said

Review current youth provision and provide access to more equitable services across the whole North area to provide more/better facilities for younger people.

We Did

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

You Said

Provide a more visible police/Community Safety Warden presence.

We Did

Committee supported the continuation of Community Safety Wardens and Health Housing and Adult Services were identified to review the development a Citywide approach to the provision of such a service.

You Said

Strengthen relationships between the Police and the community to reduce fear of crime.

We Did

Area Committee now informally meet with Northumbria Police and share intelligence to ensure that the Committee's work supports the targeting of crime and appropriate police presence.

The Area Committee developed area newsletters through which local people were made aware of what support is available and what has taken place in their areas.

You Said

Target hotspots of disorder.

We Did

Health Housing and Adult Services have reviewed their provision of Anti Social Behaviour activities in order to provide more visible patrols, evening work and proactive work.

City Services Environmental Officers and Health Housing and Adult Services Anti Social Behaviour officers are exploring more joint working to increase effectiveness and avoid duplication.

You Said

Monitor the use of CCTV cameras and explore further need.

We Did

Area Committee receive regular updates from Northumbria Police regarding hotspots of disorder and successful operations. Regular informal meetings are held to inform members on issues involving surveillance and crime. Development of further CCTV cameras have been incorporated into the application for Seafront Improvements as part of the Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) contribution from St Peters and Fulwell wards.

Other Achievements

- Area Committee provided £14,758 of SIB funding to deliver the Phoenix Project which is being delivered by the Fire & Rescue Service and aimed at young offenders or young people at risk of offending.
- A Community Payback Scheme has been developed with the Youth Offending Service. Area Committee have identified locations for clean up programmes.

2. Attractive and Inclusive Theme**What we set out to do**

The key aims of the Attractive and Inclusive priority areas were to make the streets and environment more attractive, and to improve housing and residential areas. At the Area Committee in July 2009, seven specific priorities were discussed and an action plan was developed.

You Said

Improve areas of overgrown and run down land.

We Did

The “Responsive Local Services” Project has been developed. The project is focusing on tailoring five key service areas relating to crime and grime. Area Committees will be involved in identifying the level of services required for clarifying ownership and improving areas of overgrown and run down land.

You Said

Reduce fly tipping and improve cycle paths.

We Did

Following local concerns, a budget allocation of £100,000 capital was agreed at Cabinet to clean up cycle paths and prevent fly tipping. In-depth research was conducted utilising the recent Leader ward visit feedback, customer requests and complaints and also inspections undertaken by Environmental Services operatives, as part of their enriched roles to develop the proposed programme for the North area of Sunderland.

Cycle Path improvements were completed to increase opportunities for take up of cycling, raise participation and increase perceptions and satisfaction by reviewing key cycle paths across the area. The programme was completed in partnership with the Sunderland City Council’s Cycle Network/Public Rights Of Way Officer. A variety of works were included within the programme, including pruning of vegetation, thinning of plantation, tree and shrub removal, graffiti removal, improved directional signage, repairs to access barriers and barrier installation, painting, hard surfacing repairs, litter and dog bin installation and installation of columns to which CCTV equipment can be mounted as required. The Public Rights of Way Officer secured agreement with ONE North East, Sustrans and English Partnerships in relation to route maintenance continuity on the sections of the city cycle network in their ownership.

Fly tipping Interventions were also implemented. A variety of works were completed, including removal of fly tipping, tree and shrub removal, strimming grassed areas and installation of columns to which CCTV equipment is mounted as required, knee rail fencing, barriers, fencing and bollards; advisory notices/signage were erected and additional patrols undertaken by Enforcement and Environmental Services staff are regularly carried out to gather and preserve any evidence that may lead to prosecution of offenders.

You Said

Tackle environmental issues (for example, dog fouling/graffiti/litter).

We Did

As well as the first phase of Responsive Local Services, City Services are using local intelligence to reappraise their service provision and ensure that local priorities are being met. The service is undergoing a significant review of its services in order to meet the Area Arrangements challenge:-

- Establishing a performance management framework covering the five key service areas.
- Service performance analysis on litter presented an area level, using a GIS mapping tool.
- Conducted a restructure within City Services, resulting in an identified Street Scene Manager per area being appointed to lead of the RLS, building relationships within communities to improve performance of locally delivered services, ensuring services are efficient, effective and able to respond to local needs and concerns.

- Improved communication: promotion of Neighbourhood Help Line; Staff Reporting Line; promotion of positive stories; Cabinet agreed Service Standards.
- A subsequent piece of work is being developed to map all land owned by the Council onto a GIS web enabled database. This will allow all staff and members to access information in relation to ownership of land, including present maintenance arrangements.
- Further services are to be included in this development: Highways maintenance and environmental enforcement.
- Gentoo have agreed to review joint working arrangements in relation to customer service requests and enquiries, land ownership, and area agreement work already undertaken.
- Aurora Street Lighting Ltd have been trained to access service requests via our council customer contact system, enabling service requests received by the Council can be referred directly to Aurora for immediate action.
- Street scene staff are reporting street lighting and signage issues to Aurora directly via the Staff Reporting Line and supporting them with Emergency Service requests such as dangerous columns.

You Said

Improve the sea front and St Peter's riverside.

We Did

The North Area Committee funded a Sea Front project with £32,000 Strategic Initiatives Budget and £96,000 Strategic Investment Plan funding that will deliver a first phase of improvements to the public realm at Seaburn, including new seating and bins outside of the Seaburn Centre and along the lower promenade, new seating along the sea wall south of Seaburn shelter, the addition of a granite edge to grass verges to create informal seating.

New street furniture is being provided to make the area more aesthetically pleasing and landscaping to improve the run down appearance of the seafront which detracts from the natural beauty of the area.

You Said

Reduce empty properties and invest more in residential areas.

We Did

Individual Area Action Plans are being developed regarding empty properties in the North area. Gentoo's Renewal Plan has already seen the building of 51 new properties in the Carley Hill area and 45 bungalows in Castletown. New homes have been provided at Lea fields (the former Southwick site) with a total of 137 homes becoming available, 115 to rent and 22 for sale. Working in partnership with the Council, there are plans to build around 150 new homes for rent and sale at Castletown.

You Said

Increase partnership working with private landlords/tenants.

We Did

The Accredited Landlord Policy is being reviewed in 2009/10 and a new policy is to be agreed.

You Said

Promote heritage and existing attractions (eg. Fulwell Mill, Hylton Castle and St Peter's church).

We Did

£12,110 SIB funding was provided by the Committee to further develop a business plan so that an application can be made to the Heritage Lottery Fund for the restoration of Hylton Castle and Dene.

The Area Committee also provided £15,000 SIB funding to enable the re-enactment of the battle of Boldon Hill at Hylton Castle to take place in August of 2010. It is likely that this will attract thousands of people to the area and generate significant heritage interest in Hylton Castle and the City.

Other Achievements

- SIB funding of £3,800 was provided for a local History Fair providing a showcase for Sunderland's local history organisations and attractions. The event was open to all groups and organisations interested in promoting our heritage through their activities. It provided, under one roof, a unique opportunity for the general public to appreciate the diversity of the active organisations in the region, also providing a personal contact for individual interests.
- Local Community Wardens are developing a project for potential bonfire celebrations at Hylton Castle for November 2010.
- A tree planting scheme has enhanced the environment at Southwick primary school.

3. Learning Theme

What we set out to do

The key objective identified was to provide better support for children and young people, focusing on raising aspirations, providing non academic support and youth provision.

You Said

Provide non academic support for children and young people.

We Did

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

You Said

Specialist and generalist youth provision should be available for all wards.

We Did

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

A review of service provision within the Downhill Sports Complex is being considered by City Services. The Consultation Report on Football, Play and Wellness is accounting for developments of the site and when agreed will allow for an integrated development at the site. Community Chest has also provided for investments to improve public seating within the site.

A review of current policy for the community use of school facilities outside of school hours is being undertaken.

You Said

Raise aspirations of children and young people and their families.

We Did

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

You Said

Raise attainment levels and skills of young people.

We Did

This issue has been escalated to the 14-19 partnership to review the apprenticeship opportunities and greater public sector commitment to the creation of more full apprenticeships being required.

You Said

Provide access to educational activities for adults.

We Did

The review of Family Adult and Community Learning (FACL) has accounted for the access to educational activities for adults.

Also Achieved

- The ABOUT project received £23,685 SIB funding to bring young people together in a learning and supportive environment. They worked in forums with the Primary Health Care Trust, Gentoo housing, schools, appropriate departments of the local authority such as Parks and Play, Youth development, Regeneration and Planning as well as with the local councillors and MP for Sunderland North, The young people also built on the work of the Southwick Hacks newspaper.
- £23,500 of SIB funding was granted to Kickz, based at the Seaburn Leisure Centre, engages the hardest to reach young people in a unique range of sporting, educational and community activities enabling them to challenge and develop themselves so finding their place within their community and reaching their true potential.

4. Healthy Theme

What we set out to do

The key focus for the Healthy theme was to provide better support for older people and provide an evidence base to identify further health priorities.

You Said

There should be adequate support for vulnerable adults and that independent and safe living should be supported.

We Did

Health Housing and Adult Services are identifying groups and individuals who are “at risk” and will be supporting agencies to work with the Area Committee’s priorities and develop daily living solutions.

You Said

There should be easier access to GP and hospital services.

We Did

The Teaching Primary Care Trust (TPCT) are developing a programme to ensure that there is an increase in targeted individuals accessing specific health services in the North Area.

You Said

Support services for people with mental health issues and dementia should be provided.

We Did

The Joint Needs Assessment for the City provides for an increased focus on mental health and well being and the need to embed an approach to early identification of dementia for adults has emerged.

The TPCT have developed a mental health and well-being strategy across all organisations, including links to work on positive approaches. The Wellness programme through the Bunny Hill Centre is also providing for a preventative and supportive role for participants of their programmes.

You Said

An evidence base to inform future health related interventions should be developed.

We Did

The Committee received a presentation from the TPCT providing evidence of local health concerns in the North Area. The information provided in the presentation is being further updated.

5. Prosperous Theme

Ward	% claiming out of work benefits	% claiming incapacity benefits	Unemployment rate	% of children living in poverty
Castle Ward	23.09	12.44	10.2	30.4
Fulwell Ward	9.3	5.8	3.9	4.3
Redhill Ward	27	14	12.7	36.6
St. Peter's Ward	15.24	8.38	6.8	15.2
Southwick Ward	26.96	15.41	13	45
Sunderland	19.4	10.9	8.4	26.5

The rates for each ward have been compared with the City average and highlighted as Green – better than the City, Amber – equivalent to the City, and Red, worse than the City.

What we set out to do

The main objective within the prosperous theme was to promote and develop unused business units, attract new businesses and help people to get new or better jobs.

You Said

Negative perceptions of the area should be countered and that the strengths of the area should be developed.

We Did

A detailed report on what was happening in the North Area was provided to Area Committee and it was agreed that Sunderland arc would provide progress reports/further information to Area Committee regarding current and future activities when available, together with the results from the 'Visible Workspace' project.

You Said

We should provide co-ordinated advice and support to businesses.

We Did

We connected to the Working Neighbourhood Fund programme, which brought approximately £30m of funding to the City over three years from 2008/9 and encouraged an area perspective to be considered when commissioning projects. This resulted in an initiative called Enterprise Talent Scouts and Business Start Up in the North and throughout the City, being funded via WNF. This involves the Scouts targeting new potential entrepreneurs and supporting them on the route to setting up in business.

You Said

Co-ordinate the work of advice and business support agencies.

We Did

The primary aim of the Business Investment Team (BIT) is to ensure improvements in economic prosperity in the City through encouraging business growth, development and investment. To achieve this aim, the team:

- Has developed measures to increase the level of business activity and stimulate sustainable economic interest and investment in the City;
- Provided support and assistance to local and incoming businesses in order to develop employment opportunities and support business growth;
- Provided proactive and reactive support and assistance to secure direct investment and re-investments within the City to create and safeguard local jobs;
- Promoted physical and infrastructure improvements for business growth;
- Worked to develop a skilled and motivated workforce to support the long term goals of Sunderland as a competitive location.

Between April and December 2009, 19 businesses in the Sunderland North Area successfully applied for financial assistance from the BIT to implement business growth plans, creating a potential 164 new jobs. This represented 28% of the applications for that period.

You Said

We should work with employers to develop relevant training packages to meet skills shortages.

We Did

Funded through Working Neighbourhoods Funding, the Working Links part of the Job Linkage Service is working closely with employers to ensure that job vacancies can be matched with skills development to ensure employment training is appropriate for the vacancies both current and anticipated.

SAFC Foundation is working in partnership with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and Job Centre Plus targeting people over 18 who are not in work or training. The programme began in October 2009 and will run for an initial 18 month period. SAFC Foundation is consulting the North East Chamber of Commerce and Job Centre Plus to identify occupations where there are skills shortages and to invite employers to engage with course participants.

Health, Housing and Adult Services (HHAS) have developed a service model for vulnerable adults to prepare them to a point where they are ready for employment, and aims to support employers to enable vulnerable people to enter/remain in employment.

You Said

We need to provide in-work support to those gaining new jobs.

We Did

Included in the extended Job Linkage service, in work support is prioritised through Working Neighbourhoods Funding. All projects funded via WNF offering specialist support for example to those leaving care, offer continued support to clients for a period of six months after they have gained employment.

Welfare rights advice is being given by Sunderland City Council and partners funded by the Council in relation to benefits, in-work benefits, housing and debt issues.

The Housing Options Team at Sunderland City Council have five resettlement workers across the City who will work with Job Linkage to provide support to clients who have housing problems. This is to ensure they do not lose their home which would affect their ability to gain/stay in a job.

Health, Housing and Adult Services (HHAS) are working with Remploy to support people with disabilities into employment. The project aims to co-ordinate the employment and social care needs of individuals to ensure they are better supported.

HHAS are delivering a WNF project focusing on supporting people with mental health needs into employment. The project also supports clients to remain in sustainable employment.

The Libra partnership, a network of advice organisations, offers financial advice and support.

You Said

We should provide access to educational activities for all adults and raise aspirations and skills in relation to employability.

We Did

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

You Said

Co-ordinate approach to enterprise support and development.

We Did

The North-East Business Innovation Centre (BIC) is located in the North and is one of the leading enterprise agencies in the United Kingdom. The BIC is an organisation which exists to service businesses of all sizes at all stages. The team of experienced advisers help hundreds of businesses to start up each year, and the 14-acre BIC site can accommodate over 160 companies in purpose-built offices and work spaces. They also offer an array of technical resources and support services, as well as quality meeting / conference facilities fitted with the latest video conferencing equipment.

Established in 1994, the facilities have grown in line with the needs of industry and include specific incubator units to help nurture aspiring businesses.

In terms of Business starts, the Enterprise Activity of partners has supported the start up of 9 new enterprises, including an artist, an entertainer, a design consultant and a builder.

Also Achieved

- £11,543 was provided to a two-year project named Community Leaders of the Future a project that included a high profile citywide competition open to all secondary and special schools with a key theme of volunteering whilst developing both key employability skills, work readiness and entrepreneurship on participating young people . In particular the programme aims to develop young people's work readiness and employability skills, foster a sense of entrepreneurship and an understanding that volunteering makes a real difference to everyday life across the city and that young people can be positive about giving freely of their time and energy as a preparation for adulthood and citizenship.

6. Area Committee Meetings and Governance

Membership

The meetings are chaired by Councillor Richard Bell and the Vice Chair is Councillor Rosalind Copeland.

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

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

Northumbria Police
Tyne & Wear Fire and Rescue Service
Gentoo
Sunderland Teaching Primary Care Trust
Nexus
Sunderland arc
City of Sunderland College
Voluntary and Community Sector

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

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

Meetings

The Committee met six times during 2009-10, this being the seventh. Attendance levels of elected members has been consistently high throughout the year with an average of 11 out of 15 members attending each meeting. Officer attendance has also been consistently high with an average of 12 officers attending meetings and there have been an average of 5 partners in attendance. Attendance from the public has been poor although there have been attendances at the last three meetings.

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

- Questions to Area Committee have been introduced at the beginning of meetings. There have been no Questions to Area Committee at the Coalfield meetings. The process is being reviewed by Democratic Services.
- At each of the usual business meetings, one of the five strategic themes has been the main agenda item for discussion and action. This agenda item has therefore been given priority and more time allocated to it.
- A thematic feedback report is presented to give updates on themes previously discussed. Performance updates are reported during this part of the meeting.
- Financial reports include applications for SIB and SIP funding. Area Committee receives a summary of each project with a recommendation whether to approve, defer or reject the application. Extensive consultation is carried out outside of Area Committee in order to inform recommendations. This has reduced time taken to discuss this item at meetings.
- Consultation items, of relevance and interest to the area, are presented to gain feedback and information from a local perspective.
- Information only items are not formally presented and do not form part of discussions.

Standards for Area Committees have been developed and a set of guidelines are available for those presenting reports or carrying out consultation. As a result there are fewer pages and reports are tailored to reflect information at an area level. The average numbers of committee papers this year was 48, compared with 100 for last year.

The duration of Area Committee meetings during the last year has reduced from approximately two and a half hours to one and a half hours. Although the time management of agenda items has improved there is still a need to be more focused and reduce the amount of issues discussed at each meeting.

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

Building the Infrastructure of Meetings

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

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

A thematic feedback report is presented to give updates on themes previously discussed. Performance updates are reported during this part of the meeting. However, this has been an area of weakness and work is ongoing with the Performance Improvement Team to introduce a more meaningful performance framework in the new municipal year.

An Area Team has been established to support the work of the Area Chair/Vice Chair and Area Committee. The team consists of:-

- Area Officer
- Area Community Development Co-ordinator
- Communications Link Officer
- Democratic Services Officer
- Policy Officer (Inclusion)

7. Finance

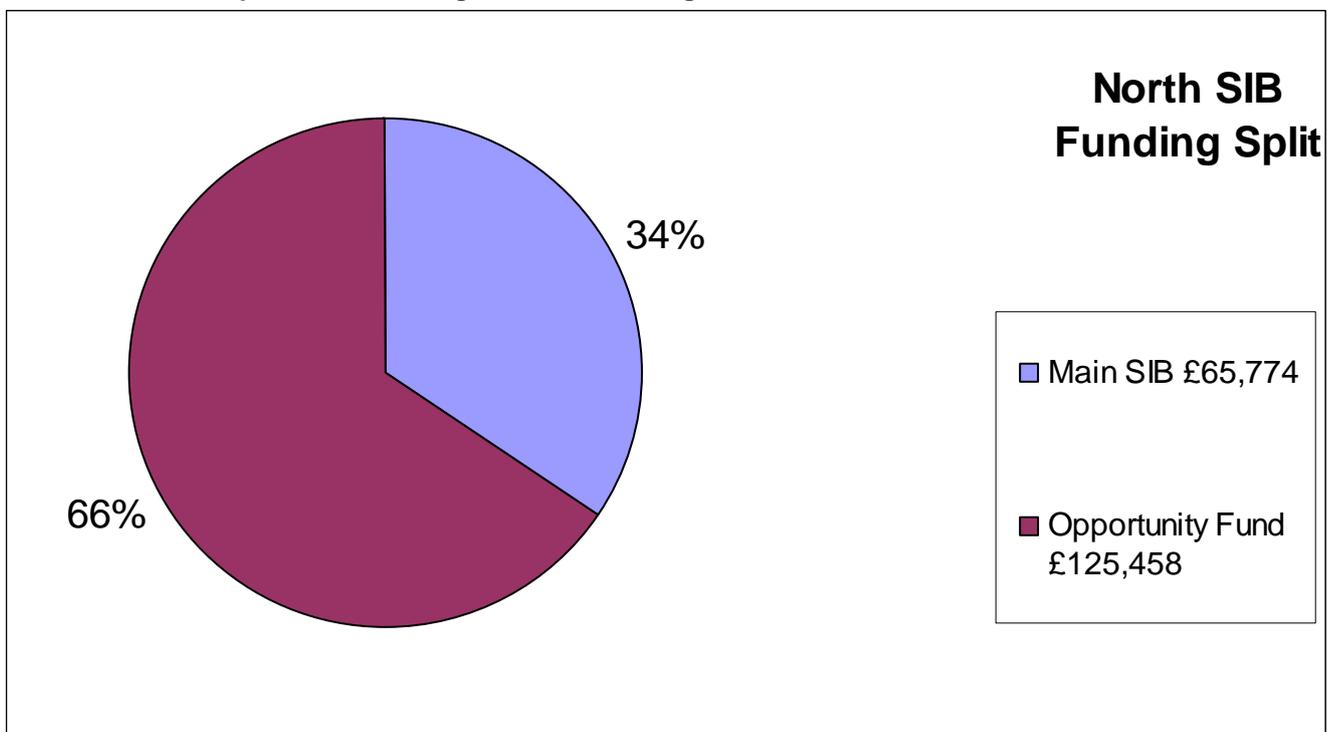
SIB (Strategic Initiative Budget) Proactive Allocation of Funds

Under the revised governance arrangements for SIB, resources are allocated against the priorities outlined in the Local Area Plan. At the beginning of the municipal year, Area Committee set out to allocate a proportion of SIB funding by proactively identifying projects to deliver against agreed priorities and commission services to meet local need (main SIB budget). The need to be flexible and responsive was also important and therefore Committee were receptive to organisations also identifying need and gaps in line with the priorities in the LAP and applying for funding to deliver against these priorities (opportunity fund). The breakdown is shown below.

From a total budget of £ 288,548, £191,232 has been allocated leaving a balance of £97,316 to be carried over to 2010/11. The Committee agreed to 80% of its allocation as a 'Main Fund' to solicit bids to meet priorities with the remaining being an 'Opportunities Fund' to enable the committee to receive unsolicited bids that meet priorities.

The funding split is shown below:

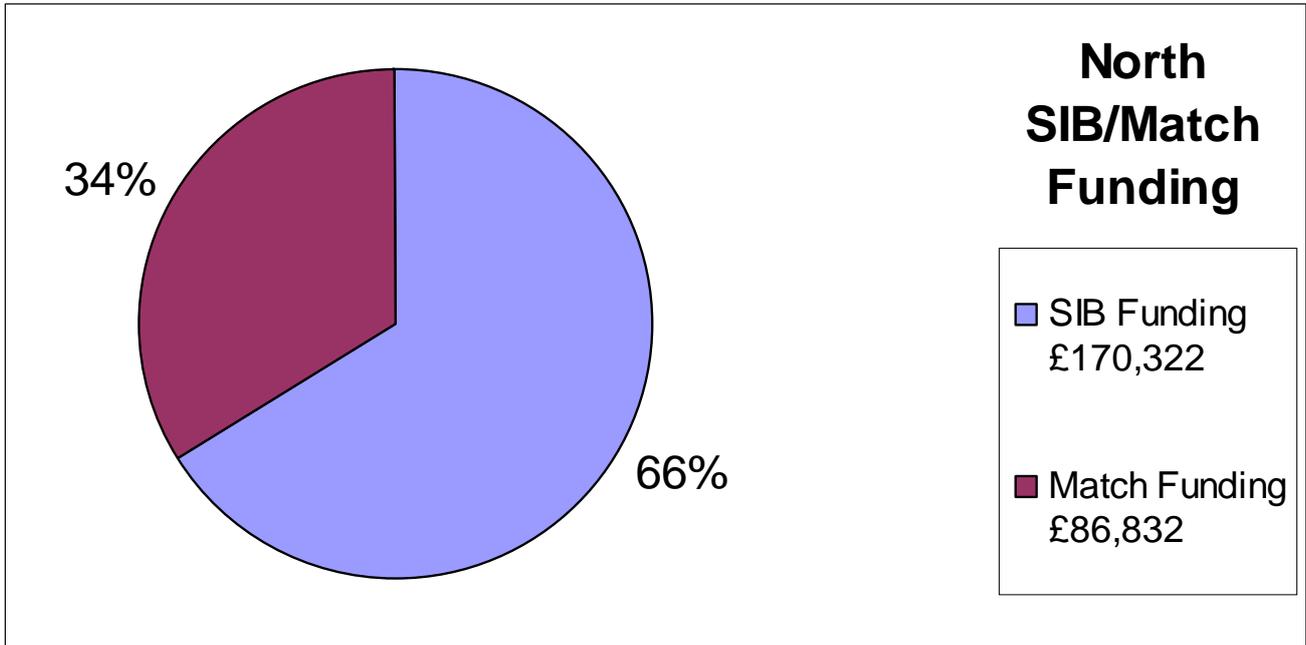
Table 7.1: Actual split of SIB funding awarded totalling £191,232



SIB Match Funding

One of the aims of SIB funding is to attract match funding from other sources in order to maximise the benefits to local projects and communities. The percentage of matched funding is shown below.

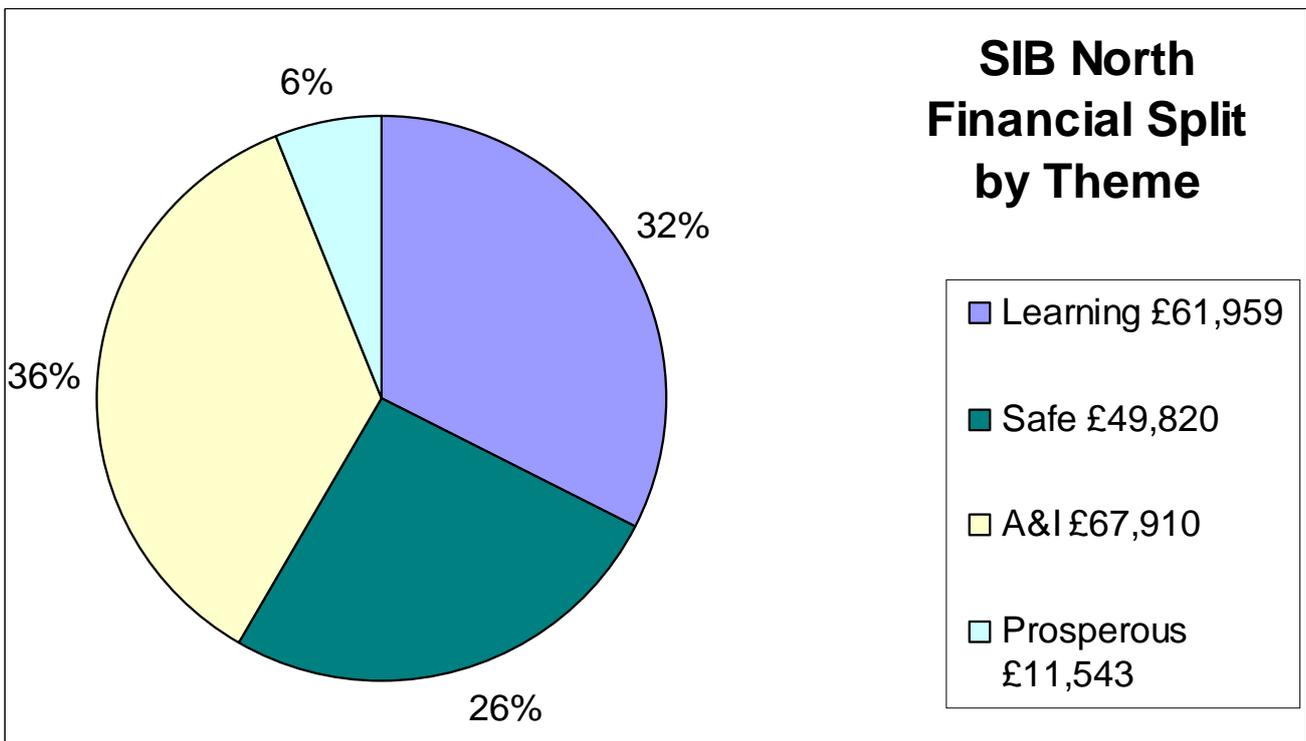
Table 7.2: Match funding secured into Sunderland North via SIB funding



SIB Thematic Breakdown

The allocation of funding by theme is shown below:

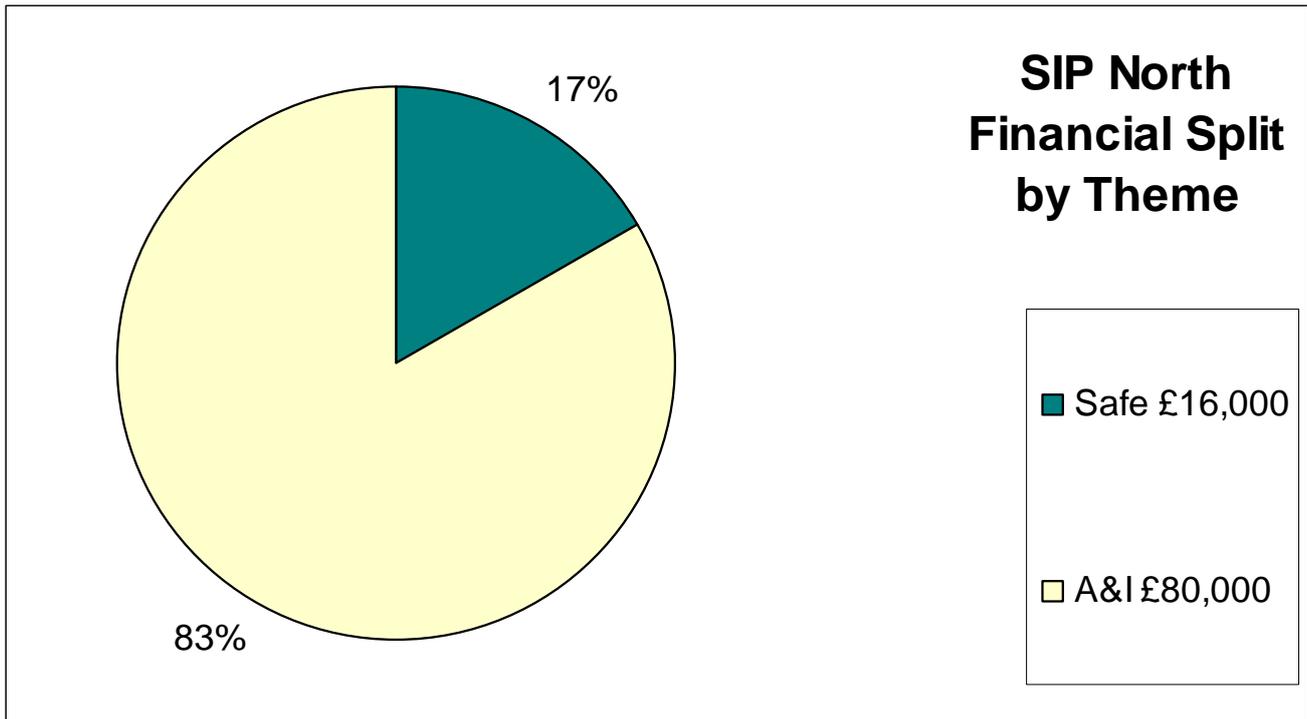
Table 7.3: SIB North Financial Split by Theme



Strategic Investment Plan

A one off budget of £266,540 SIP was available for 2009/10. A total of £96,000 has been allocated, leaving a balance of £170,540 to be carried over to 2010/11. The remaining SIP budget must be fully expended by 31 March 2011. As identified in the strategic objectives, this budget is available to make physical improvements to the area and therefore the majority of this spend has been allocated within the Attractive & Inclusive and Safe themes. A breakdown of SIP is shown below.

Table 7.4: SIP North Financial Split by Theme

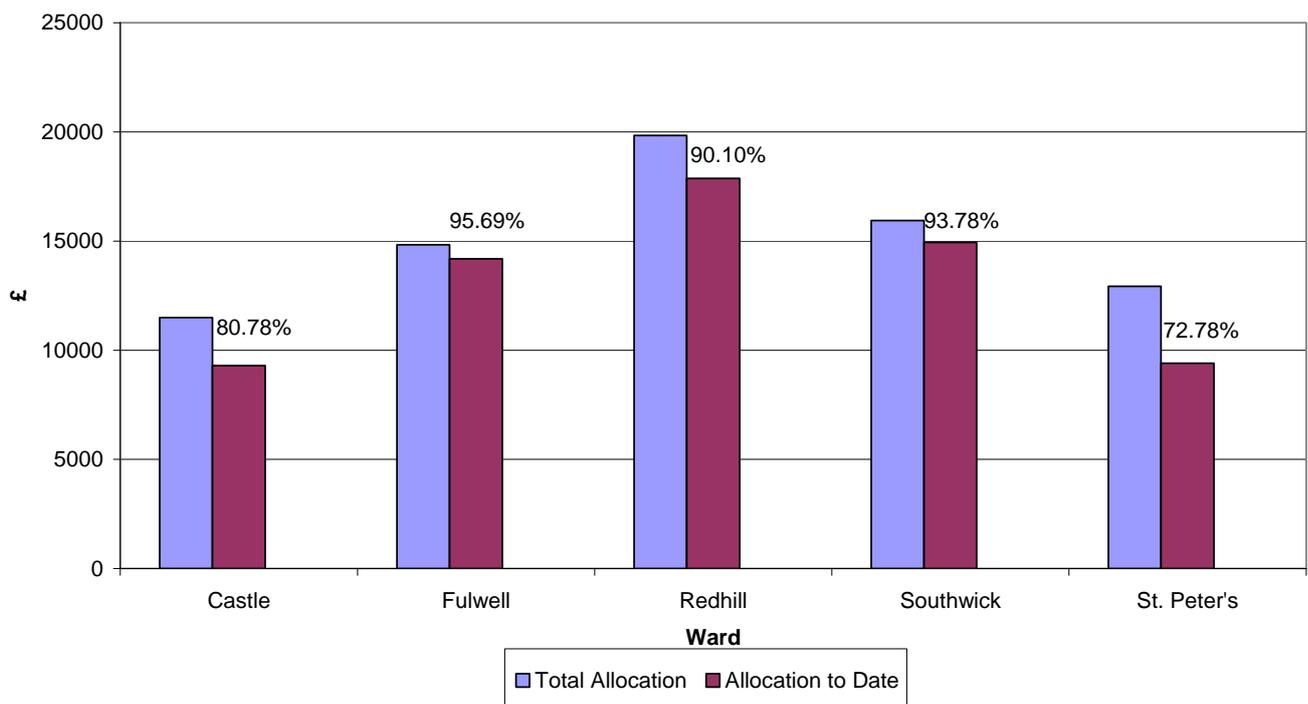


Community Chest

A budget of £75,020 was available for 2009/10. A total of £43,050 has been allocated, leaving a balance of £31,970 to be carried over to 2010/11. Allocation by ward is shown below.

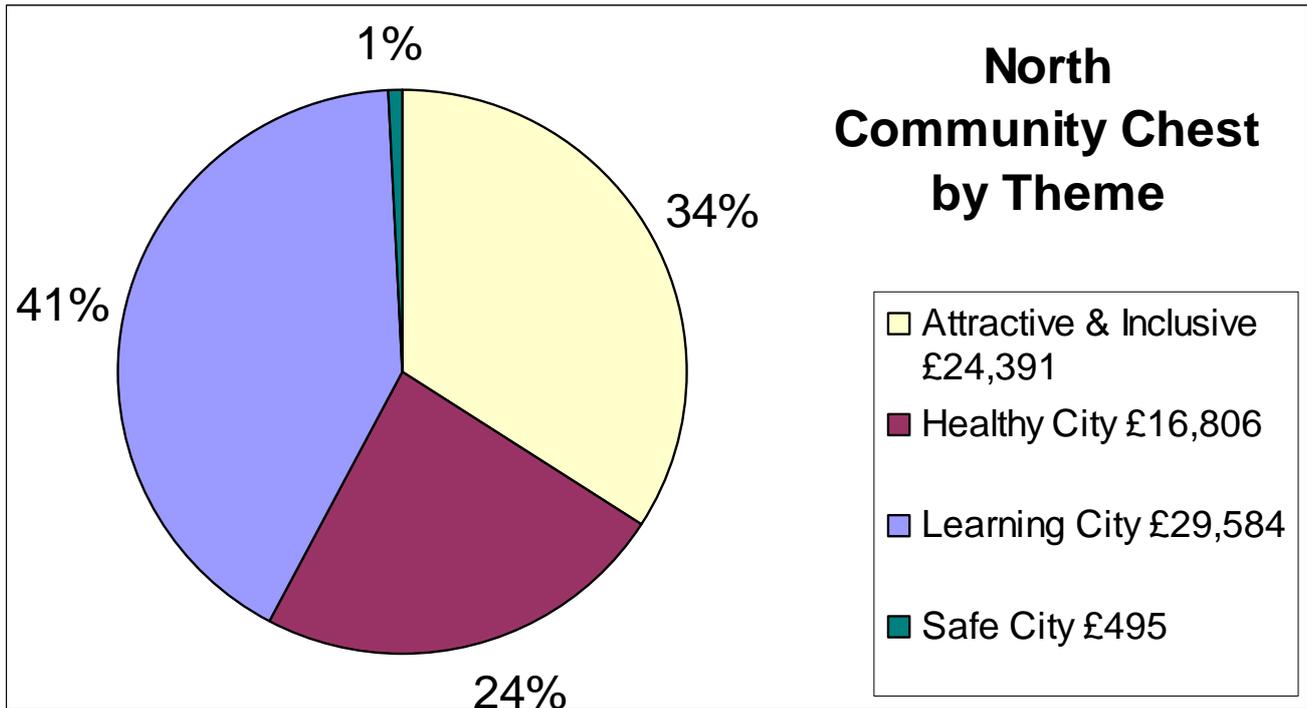
Table 7.5: Community Chest allocation at a ward level

Sunderland North Area Committee



All projects funded by Community Chest are assessed against the thematic priorities in the Local Area Plan. The amount allocated to each theme is shown below.

Table 7.6: Community Chest thematic breakdown



Community Chest is allocated against the themes within the Local Area Plan and this has supported 109 community projects throughout the West Area.

8. Summary

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

9. Background papers

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

10. Contact Officer:

Dave Leonard, Acting Area Officer for North

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