

**At a meeting of the COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE held in EASINGTON LANE COMMUNITY ACCESS POINT, SUNDERLAND on WEDNESDAY, 14<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2010 at 6.00 p.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor D. Richardson in the Chair

Councillors F. Anderson, Blackburn, Ellis, A. Hall, Heron, Richardson and Rolph

**Also Present:-**

Ron Barrass	Member of the Public	
Mike Frankland	Training Manager	Sunderland Council
Julie Heathcote	Corporate Communications Officer	Sunderland Council
Annette Parr	School Improvement Officer	Sunderland Council
Carl Brown	Member of the Public	
Les Clark	Head of Street Scene	Sunderland Council
John Rostron	Area Community Manager	Sunderland Council
Lee Wardle	VCS Representative	
Pauline Hopper	Area Officer	Sunderland Council
Phil Spooner	Programme Manager	Sunderland Council
Norman Atkinson	Horticultural Co-ordinator	Sunderland Council
Fran Kelly	Francis Kelly Management Consultants	
Dave Leonard	Area Co-ordinator	Sunderland Council
Emma Hindmarsh	Democratic Services Officer	Sunderland Council
Raj Singh	Extended Services and Attendance Group Manager	Sunderland Council
Meg Boustead	Head of Safeguarding	Sunderland Council

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors Ellis, Rolph and D. Smith.

Apologies were also received from Helen Patterson (ALE), Graham Finlay (Northumbria Police), Judith Quinn (City of Sunderland College), Jeff Wilkinson (Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service), Susan Brown, Sunderland Council

## **Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Committee held on 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2010**

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2010 be confirmed and signed as a correct record subject to the inclusion of Councillors Tate and Wakefield as being present.

### **Declarations of Interest**

Community Action: Review Progress and Agreeing Next Steps

Councillor A. Hall, D. Richardson and Speding declared a personal interest in the project relating to Houghton Feast Opening Ceremony as Council appointed members of Houghton Feast Steering Committee.

Councillor Tate declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the Community Chest project relating to Moorsley Residents Group as a Member of Moorsley Residents Association and withdrew from the meeting prior to consideration of the item.

### **Community Action: Identifying New Issues and Agreeing Actions**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided information on the progress made in relation to its 7 Work Plan priorities as agreed at its last meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2010.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Pauline Hopper, Area Officer presented the report and updated the Committee in relation to current activities to deliver the priorities.

Ms Hopper advised that two 'Local Task and Result Groups' had been established – one for Heritage, and one for Local Shopping Centres. With regard to Child Poverty, Raj Singh, Extended Services and Attendance Group Manager, was in attendance at the meeting to consult with Members. Bulb Planting and Landscaping will be a short focused piece of work and would be discussed and actioned by the whole Committee. Play Provision and Unadopted Roads would be regular items, with the lead agent consulting with, and bringing information to Committee to identify targeted activity. Responsive Local Services will continue to present service performance for neighbourhood services to Area Committee. These groups will report through Item 3 on the agenda with regard to proposed focus, activity and options for delivery.

Ms Hopper agreed to forward details of the Task and Result Group membership to Councillor F. Anderson.

Ms. Hopper introduced Les Clark, Head of Street Scene and Norman Atkinson, Horticultural Co-ordinator who were in attendance to agree a programme of work with locations and timescales with regard to the bulb planting and landscaping priority. Ms Hopper advised that the bulb planting would need to commence in

September and she therefore proposed that £50,000 of SIB funding be approved at the meeting tonight as a nominal amount pending a full application from City Services to be approved at the September 2010 meeting.

Mr. Clark provided Members with details of the initial audit identifying sites across the whole of the Coalfield area. Members were advised that based on those sites identified the approximate cost would be £43,000.

In response to a question from Councillor F. Anderson, Mr. Clark advised that two of the sites were owned by Gentoo and one was privately owned. He confirmed that initial discussions had taken place with Gentoo regarding contributing to the proposals, including costs to develop a partnership project.

Following detailed discussions in relation to possible locations for bulb planting and landscaping, it was:-

2. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the report be received and noted;
- (ii) Members forward the proposals for further bulb planting and landscaping to Ms. Hopper as soon as possible to permit a full detailed application and appraisal; and
- (iii) £50,000 of SIB funding be approved as a nominal amount pending a full application from City Services to be approved at the September 2010 meeting; and
- (iv) details of the Task and Result Group membership to Councillor F. Anderson.

### **Community Action in Coalfield – Reviewing Progress and Agreeing Next Steps**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which:-

- (i) briefed Members on issues previously identified through the 2009/10 Work Plan and provided an update on issues and actions arising.
- (ii) sought approval for recommendations in relation to the allocation of SIB and Community Chest funding.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms Hopper advised that Keith Hamilton, Deputy Manager, Planning Implementation was in attendance to update Members with regard to the progress of the Hetton Memorial Gardens project.

Mr Hamilton reminded the Committee that £30,000 SIB had originally been requested to refurbish the area in Hetton Town Centre known as the “Mini Park.”

Hetton Town Council had commissioned the Directorate of Development & Regeneration, Landscape & Reclamation Section to prepare a design to reflect the history of the Coalfield Area whilst providing a setting suitable for the future.

Funding from other sources had also been requested as follows with a total (including SIB) of £180,000:

BIFFA Environmental Trust	£45,000
CDent County Durham Environmental Trust	£45,000
Heritage Lottery, Our Heritage Our future	£40,000
Hetton Town Council Feasibility study	£5,000
Hetton Town Council Capital	£15,000

However, Mr Hamilton advised the Committee that CDent had been unable to support the project and that Biffa had revised their proposal. There was also a delay in the Heritage Lottery, Our Heritage Our future funding. There was approximately 9 months left to secure funding.

Mr Hamilton therefore advised that there were three (time limited) options available to the Committee:-

- i) Commence a scaled down, lower cost scheme
- ii) Abandon the project
- iii) Wait to see if other funding sources become available

Following discussion on the merits of the project, Members agreed to wait and see if other funding does become available and, if necessary, re submit an application if the deadline date expires.

Ms Hopper advised that she had received written responses regarding the following and agreed to forward them to Members:

- i) Further information about the Skills Academy (IT Academy at Sunderland College)
- ii) Concerns raised regarding colleges preventing borderline students taking challenging subjects in order to maintain league table positions
- iii) the Patient Transport Service

Councillor Heron requested the statistics on the number of young people that were resident in Sunderland and attending colleges outside of the city.

Ms Hopper presented the financial statements and funding requests informing Members of the following recommendations as detailed in the report:-

- (i) note the financial statement for Area Committee funding for 2010/11.
- (ii) to approve the granting of SIB funding of £10,000 as a contribution to the Houghton Feast Opening Ceremony.

- (iii) to approve the granting of SIB funding of £13,162 as a contribution to Eppleton CC Training Facilities.
- (iv) to approve the granting of SIB funding of £9,000 as a contribution to Philadelphia CC Training Facilities.
- (v) to approve the granting of SIB funding of £5,500 as a contribution to 3G Camera addition.
- (vi) to approve the granting of SIP funding of £7,500 as a contribution to South View Phase 2.
- (vii) to approve the 26 proposals for support from the 2010/11 Community Chest.

In relation to funding for Monument View Workshop/Classroom, Ms Hopper advised that the Youth Opportunity Fund had been withdrawn and therefore there would be no match funding for the agreed SIB funding of £25,000. The builder could provide a reduced estimate which may also mean a reduction in the specification and scale of the project in order to still utilize the £25,000. A revised proposal would come back to the Committee.

With regard to the Community Chest applications, Councillor Heron advised that a number of applications were missing from the Copt Hill Ward in relation to Princess Gardens Community Centre and Eppleton CC. Councillor Heron asked if these applications could be awarded at the meeting as there would not be another opportunity to consider the matter until the next meeting in September.

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

Accordingly, it was:-

3. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the report be received and noted and that approval be given to the Community Action Next Steps/Actions as detailed in Annex 1 of the report;
- (ii) approval be given to the granting of SIB funding of £10,000 from the 2010/11 SIB budget to the Houghton Feast Opening Ceremony;
- (iii) approval be given to the granting of SIB funding of £13,162 from the 2010/11 SIB budget to Eppleton CC Training Facilities;
- (iv) approval be given to the granting of SIB funding of £9,000 from the 2010/11 SIB budget to Philadelphia CC Training Facilities;

- (v) approval be given to the granting of SIB funding of £5,500 from the 2010/11 budget as a contribution to 3G Camera addition;
- (vi) approval be given to the granting of SIP funding of £7,500 from the 2010/11 budget as a contribution to South View Phase 2;
- (vii) the granting of £400 Community Chest funding from the Copt Hill Ward to Princess Garden Community Centre be approved;
- (viii) the granting of £1,000 Community Chest funding from the Copt Hill Ward to Eppleton CC be approved; and
- (ix) approval be given to the remaining 26 Community Chest proposals.
- (x) In relation to the Hetton Memorial Gardens, Members agreed to wait and see if other funding becomes available and, if necessary, re submit an application if the deadline date expires.
- (xi) Members agreed to receive a revised proposal in relation to the Monument View Project.

### **Influencing Practice, Policy, Strategy**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided Members with a detailed child poverty profile in relation to the Coalfield Area.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

To complement the report Raj Singh, Extended Services and Attendance Group Manager, provided Members with a powerpoint presentation on the consultation process for Sunderland’s Child Poverty Strategy and Action Plan – “Giving Every Child an Equal Chance”. Members were informed that the vision behind the Strategy was “to ensure that all Council Services and Local Partners were working in a joined up way to do everything possible to reduce child poverty and mitigate its effects in the City and ensure that today’s children don’t become parents of poor children in 2005”.

The Timeline for the Child Poverty Strategy would be as follows:-

<b>Draft Sunderland Child Poverty Strategy Consultation</b> Consultation will take place from 25 <sup>th</sup> June to 17 September 2010. Formal and informal consultation via e-mail and focus groups.	June 2010
<b>Local Child Needs Assessment</b> Poverty Needs Assessment being completed between July and September 2010.	July 2010
<b>Analysis of the Consultation responses and Needs</b>	September 2010

**Assessment**

Analysis of the Consultation and Needs Assessment, with revisions made to the Draft Sunderland Child Poverty Strategy.

**Sunderland Child Poverty Strategy**

December 2010

Revised Strategy to Cabinet and Sunderland Partnership  
December 2010.

**National Strategy**

Jan/Feb 2011

A National Strategy is expected by Spring 2011.

Mr. Singh concluded his presentation by advising Members that any comments on the consultation could be e-mailed directly to him by the closing date.

Councillor F. Anderson, the City's Child Poverty Champion advised that the establishment of the Child Poverty Board had helped significantly in driving the agenda forward on behalf of the Sunderland Partnership and she informed the Committee that when the Board had originally been set up, according to the definition of poverty used at the time, over 50% of the children in Sunderland were living in relative poverty.

Councillors Anderson and Heron commented that recent Government announcements would have a negative impact on the employment prospects of families on low incomes.

The Chairman having thanked Mr. Singh for his presentation, it was:-

4. RESOLVED that the report and presentation be received and noted.

(Signed) D. RICHARDSON,  
Chairman.

## COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE

### REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

9 SEPTEMBER 2010

#### Community Action in the Coalfield area: Identifying New Issues and Agreeing Actions (2010/11 Work Plan)

##### 1. Why has it come to Committee?

- 1.1 To enable the future development of area based working, the Area Committee requires detailed information to be freely available from a number of different sources. An 'Intelligence Hub' has been established that will act as a repository for information available. Officers will have access to relevant up-to-date information required to make effective decision making at an area level and provide Area Committees with the detailed analysis required to identify key priorities and future waves of Responsive Local Services activity.
- 1.2 Information has been sourced from other Committee meetings, Community Leadership Programme, Responsive Local Services, which includes the Customer Service Network, the Area Co-ordination Team, Members Query Management System, Questions to Area Committee, Safer Communities Team and the Consultation Team, including resident surveys. Additional links have also been made with the LMAPS, in particular the Data Analyst Team from Northumbria Police.

##### 2. New Issues

###### 2.1 Forward Planning

To ensure the Committee is kept up to date with current events and developments in its neighbourhoods, the Area Officer will monitor the key decisions made by other Council Committees, for example, Cabinet via the Forward Plan publication and will consider if future decisions affect the Coalfield's work plan. When this occurs, information will be highlighted in the issues log, see Annex 1, along with recommendations for next steps, or will be circulated to Committee members via the ward bulletin service. In addition to monitoring the Forward Plan the Area Officer will systematically monitor the decisions made under Delegated Powers, again to consider and update area Councillors on developments relating to their wards, via the ward bulletin.

###### 2.2 Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation

As Committee is aware the Local Development Framework is a suite of documents providing guidance and policies for meeting the community's economic, environmental and social aims of the development of land in Sunderland for the next 10-15 years, which is currently under review.

Included within this suite of documents is the Green Space Topic Paper which provides an analysis of the City's green space by combining a wide variety of information available from various sources including Sunderland City Council, Office of National Statistics, 2001 Census, The Sunderland City Council Consultation Database and key internet resources.

The Council's Planning Policy Team, within Office of the Chief Executive would like Committee to consider the opportunity for Councillors, Officers, Partners and Residents to work collectively to refresh the green space survey from 2002. It is proposed that the refresh of the survey would be completed in two stages:

1. Workshop style events to engage the community in an interactive format, involving key stakeholders from across the area. Large scale maps will be provided at the workshops in order to identify new open spaces. This stage will raise awareness,



identify new open spaces and build a sense of community ownership in the planning process.

2. Stakeholders to complete a participatory appraisal for each open space assessing the 'value of area/land to the community'. Support and guidance will be provided by Planning Policy Team. This technique has already been used with some success by the Council. It is highly flexible for both small groups and whole communities where a cycle of data collection, reflection and learning and action planning is desired. The process will be supported by the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Network, via the Community Co-ordinator.

Information gained from both the workshop and appraisal process will be included in the Green Space Topic Paper which will be presented to Cabinet for approval.

### **3. Recommendations**

3.1 Members are requested to:

Implement a two stage approach to refresh the Green Space Topic paper, which forms part of the Local Development Framework:-

Stage One: host workshops to identify new open spaces not shown on the survey/large detailed maps provided, with key stakeholders across the Coalfield area during September/October 2010.

Stage Two: complete a participatory appraisal for each open space to assess the open space against the recommended criteria to measure the value of area/land to the community by December 2010.

### **Background papers**

Local Development Framework  
Coalfield Local Area Plan

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Annex 1: Community Action: New Issues

**Community Action: New Issues Log**

Priority	Issue	Date raised/ to be discussed	Evidence and/or Data Source	Next steps	Lead Agent(s)
<p>Make the streets and environment more attractive</p> <p>Provide more accessible sporting and exercise facilities</p>	<p>Planning for open space, sport and recreation.</p>	<p>28.07.10</p>	<p>1. Local Development Framework.</p>	<p>There is a need to revisit the green space survey from 2002, which illustrates the broad range of open spaces that may be of public value, for example, green corridors, parks, allotments, etc.</p> <p>The option is to host an initial workshop inviting representatives along to identify spaces in the Coalfield area which match the planning policy guidelines for open spaces. After the workshop each recognised open space would then be assessed against the recommended criteria to assess the value of area/land to the community. This exercise could involve Councillors, Friends Groups, VCS groups and Officers working together, with an overall report being presented to Committee.</p>	<p>Pauline Hopper, Office of the Chief Executive (OCE), with support from Clive Greenwood, OCE.</p>

**Sunderland East Area Committee  
9 September 2010  
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I**

**Title of Report:**

Community Action in Coalfield – Progress Review

**Author(s):**

Chief Executive

**Purpose of Report:**

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

**Description of Decision:**

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

1. Main report: Approve £10,000 from the SIB 2010/11 budget (subject to a full detailed application and appraisal) to produce an audit, feasibility and action plan for the Heritage priority
2. Annex 2a: Note the financial statement for Area Committee funding for 2010/11
3. Annex 2b: Approve four proposals for support from the 2010/11 SIP budget totalling £33,126
4. Annex 2c: Approve 24 proposals for support from the 2010/11 Community Chest budget

Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework?

Yes

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

The Community Chest forms part of the Strategic Initiatives Budget and that £250,000 is available for the scheme in 2010/2011, £10,000 for each Ward. This scheme is operated under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

SIP was approved at Cabinet in March 2008. Included within the plan was an additional one-off allocation of £1.426m to Area Committees. The amount allocated to each Area Committee was the same as SIB allocation for 2008-09. SIP can only be used to deliver capital projects, deliver key priorities identified in the LAP with its main purpose to attract other funding into the area.

Each Regeneration Framework area has been allocated a minimum of £200,000 per annum over the last thirteen years from the Strategic Initiatives Budget to promote action on key priorities identified in the relevant Local Area Plan to benefit the local community 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

**Is it included in the Forward Plan?** No

**Relevant Scrutiny Committees:**

*Environment and Attractive City Scrutiny Committee  
Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee  
Community and Safety City Scrutiny Committee  
Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny*

## COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE

### REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

9 SEPTEMBER 2010

#### Community Action in Coalfield – Progress Review

##### 1. Why has it come to Committee?

- 1.1 **Annex 1a** provides an update of outstanding issues from the 2009/10 work plan and shows progress against agreed actions in the current year's (2010/11) work plan. It also identifies where Area Committee can consider funding application proposals to address their work plan.

**Annex 1b** highlights the progress achieved by the Play and Urban Games Strategy (PUGS): 'Moving Forward 2007-2012'. It outlines the process to review the existing Strategy and identifies the priorities for investment for the period 2010-12.

- 1.2 **Annex 2** provides an Executive Summary and main report outlining recommendations for approval for Strategic Initiative Budget (SIB), Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) and Community Chest.

**Annex 2a** provides the financial statement for Area Committee's funding streams.

**Annex 2b** provides summaries for SIB and SIP applications for approval.

**Annex 2c** provides detail of the 24 Community Chest applications for approval.

##### 2. Background to the Progress Review

###### 2.1 Work Plan 2010-11: Heritage Task and Result Group

The Task and Result Group met in July 2010 and discussed the way forward to address the heritage agenda. An audit of current provision, project feasibility and action plan will be produced. This will a) review current heritage assets b) assess current demand and usage c) set out a proposed way forward, identifying resources, risk and benefits. This will have a financial implication (approximately £10,000), which the group propose will be funded by SIB.

Once the audit is complete the Task & Result group will consider the results to inform the next steps. It was identified that Coalfield area Heritage needs to be marketed and promoted much more, with local groups being encouraged to contribute to an 'info pack'. It was proposed that the VCS network, via Susan Brown, Area Community Co-ordinator, be asked to consider Heritage as a piece of work they will support.

Suggestions for future projects included production of a 'historic atlas', educational resources, marketing and promotion and collaborative working with the Community and Voluntary Sector.

If Committee agree the proposed approach, including allocation of £10,000, a further detailed funding application, with costings, will be developed to carry out further work around the heritage priority.

## 2.2 Work Plan 2010-11: Local Shopping Centres, Task and Result Group

The Task and Result Group met in July 2010. The group discussed why this issue had been chosen as a priority and various suggested solutions were proposed, such as: rates relief; more consideration for what type of businesses are brought into the centres; grants; start up support; improvement of public realm; 'test trading' property at a reduced rent; enforcement regarding derelict properties.

It was agreed that the focus of the work would centre around Front Street, Hetton, Newbottle Street, Houghton and Shiney Row shopping centre.

It is proposed that a project be developed for an initial period of 18-24 months, costing approximately £130,000. There are five elements to the proposed project.

- 1 Knowledge and understanding – we need to know a) what have we already got and b) what we want or need
- 2 Support for existing traders
- 3 Support for new traders
- 4 Environmental and public realm improvements
- 5 Marketing and promotion

If Committee agree the proposed approach, a detailed project specification/application will be developed.

## 3. Financial Statement

- 3.1 A financial statement detailing all SIB, SIP and Community Chest approvals up to September 2010 is attached as Annex 2a. There are four proposals to approve from SIP attached as Annex 2b, and 24 from Community Chest attached as Annex 2c.

## 4. Recommendations

- 4.1 Members are requested to:
- Agree the proposed approach of the Heritage Task & Result group as outlined in **2.1 of this report**
  - Provide £10,000 SIB funding to produce an audit and action plan for heritage
  - Agree the proposed approach of the Shopping Centre Task & Result group as outlined in **2.2 of this report**
  
  - Note the progress on outstanding issues contained in **Annex 1a** attached
  - Consider the recommendations on the PUGS contained in **Annex 1b** attached
  - Note the financial statement in **Annex 2a** attached
  - Agree the recommendations for SIB/SIP funding contained in **Annex 2b** attached
  - Approve the 24 Community Chest applications outlined in **Annex 2c** attached

## Appendices

- Annex 1a: Community Action: Outstanding Issues - progress  
Annex 1b: Play and Urban Games Strategy Review  
Annex 2: Financial Statements and Funding Requests  
Annex 2a: Financial Statement for 2010-11  
Annex 2b: Summary of SIB and SIP funding applications  
Annex 2c: Summary of Community Chest Applications

**Contact Officer:** Pauline Hopper, Coalfield Area Officer  
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**Community Action: Outstanding Issues Log from 2009/10**

Priority	Issue/Action	Action taken and next steps	Funding request	Progress
Provide more/better facilities/activities for young people	Provide costings of delivering the Youth Fire Fighters Association (YFA) across the area.	A review of the YFA has been undertaken. Due to funding and other constraints there will be no new Youth schemes developed. If the situation changes Area Committee will be informed.	NO	complete
Improve local shopping centres	Receive update/progress report regarding the Hetton Memorial Garden	Lead Agent addressed Area Committee at the July 2010 meeting to provide an update. Additional funding options are still being explored. The status of the project will be reviewed in Nov 2010	£30,000 March 09	
Improve local shopping centres	Receive updates regarding the Hetton Area Action Plan	An update was given in March 2010. A report will be presented to Cabinet later in the year, after which a further update will be provided.	NO	
Improve local shopping centres	Provide update on the provision of public toilets in Houghton Town Centre	A meeting was held in May 2010 regarding possible solutions to the lack of public toilet provision in Houghton. The options of a community toilet scheme are being explored. The head of Street Scene is now taking the issue forward in conjunction with Scrutiny. A meeting on 2 September 2010 will consider future actions.	NO	
Bring empty properties back into use	Area Committee receive Empty Homes strategy and targets	The Housing and Renewal Team are finalising the strategy and will provide info by September 2010	NO	
Adequate youth provision to be available for all wards	Explore the opportunities for cross border working with Durham County Council (e.g. Fencehouses crosses boundaries)	Cross border working on 14-19 provision already in place with Headways Sixth Form (Seaham and Hetton). Kath Butchert has met with Paul Hebron, Head of Positive Activities in Durham to discuss the possibilities of cross working in Fencehouses regarding the youth mobile resources. Discussions are ongoing and Durham may provide some in-kind support to the delivery of the joint working. Further updates once progress has been made.	NO	
Prepare young people for adult life through encouragement and building of confidence	Review anti bullying provision in schools and explore the need to extend anti-bullying programmes in primary schools in the Coalfield area.	Sunderland has set up an Anti-Bullying group which is part of the Regional Anti-Bullying Alliance. The Group look at provision, policies in schools and anti-bullying initiatives across the City. The recently appointed Anti-Bullying Co-ordinator will work with schools and their representatives. A further update will be given by the Head of Safeguarding in October/November 2010	NO	
Raise aspirations of children/young people and their families	Review FACL (Family, Adult and Community Learning) Programme	Meetings between FACL, the Area Co-ordination Team and Procurement have reviewed current arrangements. Agreement has been reached on a new procurement process that will enable more local VCS providers to deliver adult learning. Meetings with VCS Networks in Sept/Oct to progress		
Raise attainment levels and skills of young people	Provide more information about the Skills Academy (IT Academy at Sunderland College)	Information provided by the College in July 2010. Details circulated to Committee on 19 July 2010.	NO	complete

Raise attainment levels and skills of young people	Follow up concerns raised regarding colleges preventing borderline students taking challenging subjects in order to maintain league table positions	Information provided by the College in July 2010. Details circulated to Committee on 19 July 2010.	NO	complete
Provide adequate support to improve wellness (including mental wellbeing)	Gather more information regarding healthy lifestyle activities	As part of the review of priorities, a report was presented to Area Committee at the April 2010 meeting. A detailed health profile for the area will be produced for the end of year report in April 2011. This will inform future priorities for Area Committee.	NO	complete
Address issues around lack of public transport in some areas	Nexus to ensure full consultation with the Committee and local residents on the Secured Services Network	Nexus will attend all future AC meetings and provide information when required. A consultation exercise was carried out at the March 2010 meeting. Committee members requested a number of venues for public meetings to be held. These were carried out during April and May 2010. Nexus will feed back the results of the consultation exercise once analysed.	NO	
Address issues around lack of public transport in some areas	Find out more about the Patient Transport Service provided by City Hospitals. It does not appear to be needs led.	Information sent to Committee 24 August 2010. Members can contact the North East Ambulance Service directly if there are any queries or issues.	NO	complete
Provide support to local businesses	Provide results of visible workspace survey to inform any future action for Area Committee	The report was circulated to Area Committee members on 27 August. The report will also be circulated to the Shopping Centres Task and Result Group	NO	complete
Raise skills levels and aspirations of adults in relation to employability	Review the apprenticeship opportunities available in the public sector - escalate to 14-19 partnership	The Learning Partnership have prepared a position statement for the Coalfield area. This was circulated to Committee on 24 August 2010	NO	complete
Provide support to local businesses/increase employment opportunities	Provide information on the Markets Feasibility Study (including Houghton, Shiney Row and Hetton)	A copy of the executive summary was sent to Committee on 6 August 2010. The information will be referred to the Task & Result Group for Shopping Centres	NO	complete
Raise skills levels and aspirations of adults in relation to employability	Engage partners from Sunderland College and Sunderland University to encourage entrepreneurship. Provide feedback to Area Committee regarding support available	As part of the Working Neighbourhood Strategy, the City have deployed an Enterprise Talent Scout at the College (Shiney Row) who acts as an enterprise champion, promoting self-employment and assisting students who have business ideas in progressing them, and directing individuals to the right support and assistance, such as business planning, business finance and marketing. The Economic Prosperity Group have worked with the University to promote the enterprise facilities and activities to encourage wider interaction, such as St Petersgate and the Software Hatchery. The University are also engaged with the Sunderland Enterprise Consortium, the contract provider for the Working Neighbourhood Fund (WNF) Talent Scouts and Business Advisors.	NO	Complete

**Community Action: Work Plan for 2010/11**

Priority	Issue	Date raised	Evidence and/or Data Source	Next steps/Options	Funding request	Lead Agent(s)	RAG
Bulb planting and landscaping	Machine planting scheme	June 2010	Area Committee Place Survey VCS Network Residents Gentoo	The Lead Agent will provide a finalised list of locations for planting to be agreed by Area Committee. Contractors will work on site during October to complete the works during the planting season	Yes - £50,000 SIB approved in July 2010. A summary of the application is attached in Annex 2b	Les Clark, Head of Street Scene	
	Community planting scheme	June 2010	Area Committee VCS Network Gentoo customer panel	Work will commence with voluntary, community and school groups to develop a local planting project. Susan Brown, Community Co-ordinator and Melanie Caldwell, Gentoo will work with the lead agent to deliver the scheme. Further updates will be brought to Committee. Suggestions for groups to be involved can be forwarded to Susan.	As above	Les Clark, Head of Street Scene	
Heritage	Audit of current provision	June 2010	Area Committee VCS Network Local Area Plan	The Task & Result Group have proposed a way forward (see 2.1 of main report)	Yes – £10,000 with a detailed application to November 2010 meeting for further work	Vicki Medhurst, City Services	
Local Shopping Centres		June 2010	Local Development Framework Retail needs assessment	The Task and Result Group have met to discuss various projects which could be developed to support local centres (see Item 2.2 of main report).	Yes – application to November 2010 meeting	Andrew Perkin, Business and Investment Team	
Child Poverty (CP)	High levels of children in families with low income	June 2010	Area Committee Draft Child Poverty strategy Child Poverty Area Profile Income data IMD 2007	An area profile with regard to child poverty was circulated to Committee in July 2010. The July meeting discussed this issue and members agreed to take part in the consultation with regard to the draft strategy. An update will be provided by the Lead Agent at the November 2010 meeting.	No	Raj Singh, Children's Services	



**Item 3: Annex 1a**

Unadopted Roads	Review the current policy and alternative options regarding unadopted roads	<i>September 2009</i>	Cabinet report LAP Area Committee	The Chief Executive has requested an in depth survey be carried out. The results will be available in late 2010. The Deputy Executive Director of City Services to provide an update once survey is complete.	No	Stephen Pickering/ Graham Carr, City Services	
Play Provision	Review Play and Urban Games Strategy	<i>July 2010</i>	PUGS strategy Community Consultation LAP	A report is attached as Annex 1b. Area Committee to consider recommendations contained therein	Possibly to a future Area Committee	Julie Gray, Head of Community Services	
	Receive more information on play provision services in the Coalfield area	<i>July 2010</i>	Area Committee	Area Officer has met with Childrens Centres and will meet with Extended Services and other relevant partners to establish the most appropriate method of updating Area Committee	No	Children's Services (To be confirmed)	

## COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE

### REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CITY SERVICES

9 SEPTEMBER 2010

#### PLAY AND URBAN GAMES STRATEGY REVIEW

##### **1. Why has this report come to committee?**

- 1.1 This report has been presented to Area Committee to highlight the progress achieved against priority actions within the Play and Urban Games Strategy (PUGS) – Moving Forward 2007-2012.
- 1.2 The report will outline the process to be undertaken to review the existing Strategy and identify the priorities for investment for the period 2010-2012 for inclusion within an addendum to the Strategy.

##### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 Area Committee Members are requested to;
  - i. Note the content of the report
  - ii. Provide feedback on the achievements to date
  - iii. Comment on the consultation framework
  - iv. Agree to the priorities for future investment in the Coalfield area.

##### **3. Current Position**

- 3.1 Members will recall receiving a report consulting on the city's play provision in March 2010. The report requested members to provide feedback on locations they considered would benefit from future investment in play provision. Members were additionally advised that following significant progress against the action plan within the current PUGS, an addendum to the document was to be prepared. The addendum will consider national guidance issued by Play England, seek to review progress and update the action plan.
- 3.2 Members will recall that the PUGS strategic vision is;

“Sunderland will work in partnership to provide, support and sustain a variety of high quality and accessible play environments and opportunities for all children and young people up to 19 years. The city aspires to a core offer of free provision citywide, which may be supported by affordable supervised provision as appropriate”.
- 3.3 The Strategy recognises six main priorities:
  - i. Ensure play is strategically planned and resourced in partnership
  - ii. Involve children and young people in the development of their play opportunities and services
  - iii. Work in partnership to develop, support and promote high standards for play
  - iv. Create, improve and develop free and inclusive play spaces
  - v. Seek greater innovation in the development of varied and sustainable play opportunities
  - vi. Ensure that in partnership, the city monitors and evaluates the impact of play developments citywide to deliver this Strategy

- 3.4 Since the Strategy was produced in 2007 and endorsed by Cabinet, the Children's Trust and the Sunderland Partnership, substantial progress has been made, primarily due to the success in achieving Play Pathfinder status and the additional financial support available from the City Council and from developer contributions.
- 3.5 In January 2008, Sunderland City Council was one of 20 authorities to be awarded Play Pathfinder status, a £2.1 million capital investment accompanied by revenue support. The award has resulted in an 18 month transformation programme in the delivery of play and urban games city wide and subsequently, the over achievement against key actions identified within the PUGS in 2007, necessitating the update to the strategy.

#### **4. Performance Management**

- 4.1 Sunderland has exceeded against many of the agreed strategic priorities within the Play and Urban Game Strategy. The key achievements include:

##### **Objective 1: Ensure that that play is strategically planned and resourced in partnership**

- Play developments have been undertaken in line with the priorities identified in the PUGS. Investment for the development of play has totalled £6m and been achieved through successful attraction of external funding through Big Lottery (£761,000), Play Pathfinder (£2.1M), Section 106 developer contributions (£2.3M), SRB (£147,000), SIB (£147,000), SIP (£12,000) and a contribution from the capital programme (£545,000).

##### **Objective 2: Create, improve and develop free and inclusive play spaces**

- Since 2004, £6 million funds have been invested in the development of play and urban games facilities. Within the lifespan of the current PUGS there has been £4.9 million invested since 2007.
- The development of new or significant refurbishment of 58 plays areas since 2004. Within 34 being completed between 2007 and spring/summer 2010.
- The PUGS updated in 2007, indicated that just **19% (12,856)** of children and young people had access to high quality play 1km from their door. By the end of March 2010, **70% (47,366)** children and young people have access to high quality play facilities.
- Wheeled sports provision has risen from three facilities in 2004 to six facilities in 2010, which has provided increased access for C&YP. The standard being to develop one wheeled sports facility in each regeneration area of the city.

##### **Objective 3: Seek greater innovation in the development of varied and sustainable play opportunities**

- Developments have included the city Adventure Play Park which provides a challenging and exciting play environment with facilitated play sessions. The development features of the new provision include indoor, sensory and outdoor play facilities. The Adventure Play Park was developed through a partnership with the Aiming High Pathfinder, from short breaks for disabled children to creating a supportive environment for young people with disabilities.
- The design and development of play spaces has developed significantly, by using more natural features mixed with traditional fixed play.

#### **Objective 4: Involve children and young people in the development of their play opportunities and services**

- Elected Member involvement at ward level has been actively encouraged throughout the consultation process, with a main focus to provide links with residents at neighbourhood level. This involvement has included attendance at consultation events, meetings, financial support through SIB and SIP and play area design suggestions.
- Over 6,000 people have been involved in the consultation and engagement process, including children and young people, their families, residents and local communities. Over 500 disabled children, their families and carers have participated in play consultation. 25 schools, community organisations and youth groups involved in delivering consultation arrangements for neighbourhood facilities.

#### **Objective 5: Work in partnership to develop, support and promote high standards for play**

- A range of services have been commissioned from the voluntary and community sector to support the development of play eg. neighbourhood consultation, direct delivery of play activities.
- Launch of the 'Lets Play' campaign, to inspire families to enjoy their local play spaces and to challenge negative perceptions of children playing.

#### **Objective 6: Ensure that in partnership, the city monitors and evaluates the impact of play developments citywide to deliver the strategy**

- The developments have led to a sustained improvement in resident satisfaction levels. Since 2003, annual resident satisfaction levels have risen from 26% to 50% in 2008. The 2008 measure was taken prior to the Pathfinder investment and it is hoped that satisfaction levels will increase following the next resident survey which will be published late in 2010.
- The PUGS updated in 2007, indicated that just 19% of children and young people had access to high quality play 1km from their door. By the end of March 2010, 70% children and young people in the city have access to high quality play.

4.2 More locally, significant progress has been made and this is shown in the performance table below.

Note

C&YP = Children and Young People

MUGA = Multi Use Games Area

DUGA = Dual Use Games Area

<b>Coalfield</b> Total number of play facilities in the area = 30	<b>2004-2006</b>	<b>2007- spring/summer 2010</b>	<b>Total</b>
Number of new play areas Peat Carr, Hetton Lyons, Houghton WSP, Herrington CP WSP, Herrington CP, Biddick	5	1	6
Number of refurbished play areas Low Moorsley, Hetton Park, Newbottle, Rectory Park, Grangewood, Barnwell, Easington Lane, Keir Hardie	2	6	8
	<b>As at April 2007</b>	<b>As at April 2010</b>	
Percentage of C&YP with access to high quality play 1km	7%	83%	
Investment	£492,600	£718,360	£1,210,960
Number of C&YP consulted		1153	1153
Number of VCS organisations engaged		2	2
Lets Play celebration events	1	2	3
Highlights	<p>Newbottle play area developed and well used for positive play activities. 200 children and families attend Lets Play event.</p> <p>Successful partnership working with local school and VCS to develop Kier Hardie as the first Pathfinder play area.</p>		

**5. Review Process – An Addendum**

5.1 The PUGS 2007-2012 sets out a clear vision for play and recognises key principles which demonstrate a commitment to ensuring that children and young people are able to enjoy their free time and play freely. It is proposed that the six key objectives remain unchanged, but the priority actions are being reviewed in light of achievements since 2007. The challenge within the review is to maintain the vision and principles whilst taking into consideration the rapidly changing environment, including for example, national policy and guidance documents which have emerged since 2007. The addendum will set out the revised national, regional and local context for play.

5.2 The case for play remains valid and the importance play makes to ‘improving life chances and aspirations for each child and young person in Sunderland’ (Children and Young People’s Plan (CYPP) 2010-2025). The CYPP delivery plan for 2010-2013, highlights the priority 10 outcome as being ‘to have locally accessible and affordable fun, play and physical activities’.

- 5.3 Consultation has and will remain key to the development of play facilities and a clear framework for consultation is proposed within the addendum which, will ensure that all Elected Members, stakeholders and partners have an opportunity to be informed of and importantly influence play developments. The consultation framework is included in **Appendix 1**.
- 5.4 Since 2007, Play England have provided through their national support and challenge guidance, new approaches to play in terms of design guidance and managing risk. As a Play Pathfinder, these guidance documents have been considered and moving forward play development will include these frameworks related to design principles and risk benefit.
- 5.5 One of the main priorities in the PUGS is to 'Create, improve and develop free and inclusive play spaces'. Our progress to date (outlined in 3.1) demonstrates significant achievements and **Appendix 2** details for the proposed new priorities for 2010 – 2012. The criteria applied to identify the priorities are as follows;
- Feedback from Elected Members on locations they consider would benefit from investment. Consultation will also be undertaken with other city partners such as Safer Communities Partnership, Children's Services, Voluntary & Community Sector, Gentoos before finalising arrangements with members
  - Access - Gaps in high quality provision relating to the core standard of 1km access to high quality play from the doorstep
  - Funding – Investment opportunities for the provision ie. a developer contribution (Section 106 payment), other potential opportunities for funding
  - Proximity to other services – supported by informal oversight and/or other ancillary services.
- 5.6 This PUGS review is being presented to Area Committee prior to presentation at Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee (October 2010) and for endorsement by Cabinet in December 2010, as an addendum to the existing PUGS.

## **6. Background Papers**

- 6.1 The following background papers were relied upon to compile this report.
- i. Play and Urban Games Strategy 2007-2012
  - ii. Children and Young People's Plan 2010-2025
  - iii. Children and Young People's Three Year Delivery Plan 2010-2013
  - iv. Play England - Design for Play 2008
  - v. Play England - Managing Risk in Play Provision 2008
  - vi. Big Lottery Fund Children's Play Programme Guidance 2006
  - vii. Play Pathfinder Programme Guidance 2008

### **Contact officer**

Julie D, Gray, Head of Community Services

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## **Appendix 1: Consultation Framework**

Consultation is a key part of developing high quality play provision and in the spirit of the Principles of Play (within the existing Play and Urban Games Strategy), with children and young people at the heart of consultation. What does this mean to children and young people? From our research they describe participation as 'working together, having fun, sharing ideas, communicating, making decisions, being asked, solving problems, needing some support, giving an opinion, being listened to, and having a choice.

However, it is recognised that the whole community must be engaged and have the opportunity to participate in play consultation. The wider community must be encouraged to understand the value of play space and where reservations are evident, these need to be resolved.

Consultation and community engagement are therefore essential pre-requisites for good play space design. In order to ensure an inclusive approach a consultation framework will be applied. The framework shall be used for all play refurbishments /developments valued at £20,000 and over.

### **Stage 1**

Elected Members\* advised of project plan and requested to make suggestions of local partners, organisations, children and young people (C&YP), and residents who should be included in consultation.

\* Local projects shall consult Ward Members, Area Chair, Vice Chair and the Portfolio Holder for Attractive and Inclusive City. Area provisions shall consult the Area Chair, Vice Chair, all area Elected Area Members and the Portfolio Holder for Attractive and Inclusive City.

### **Stage 2**

To advise partners, organisations, C&YP, residents of the project plan, including 'when', 'how' and 'on what' they will be consulted about. The numbers of C&YP involved will be proportionate to the catchment area and the value of the project. For example, play area developments may engage 20 C&YP and larger wheeled sports parks may involve 50 C&YP. As a minimum, residents whose properties directly overlook or adjoin the area will be consulted. Planning applications for new provisions (where required), will be coordinated by the Council's Planning Section and will be informed by statutory planning obligations.

### **Stage 3**

Participation and engagement with C&YP to develop ideas and a design brief. Design developed by appointed designers. Design developed and checked with C&YP to ensure that it matches their design brief.

### **Stage 4**

Elected Members, local partners including the Local Area Multi Problem Solving Group (LMAPS), organisations and residents consulted on design. Feedback captured and design refined.

### **Stage 5**

Final design provided to Elected Members prior to the release to, local partners, C&YP and residents. The project plan for development widely communicated.

### **Stage 6**

Elected Members advised of progress on developments.

The methods of consultation will be appropriate to scope of the project and may consist of, meetings, letter drops, open days, workshops, surveys, media releases, and on-line activities.

## Appendix 2: Identified Priorities for the Coalfield Area

### Elected Member suggestions:

Kirklee Field  
Old Durham Road  
Chilton Moor  
Hetton Park/Boggs

### Other suggestions received:

Hetton Park/Boggs

### Investment available:

Play Area	Section 106	Projected Funding Gap
Hetton Park	£38,786	£75,000
Kier Hardie or Chilton Moor, Dubmire School	£21,153	None – if enhances existing. £100K if new site
Kirklee Field	£19,040	£75,000

**Gaps in High Quality Provision:** Identified by applying the core standard of 1km access to high quality play from the doorstep to the nearest facility. Research has identified the current gaps in provision;

Chilton Moor – no site currently  
Brinkburn Crescent (Gentoo)  
Kirkee Field  
Hetton Park  
Elemore View or Quarry House Gardens  
Boundary Field

### Recommended Priorities:

Taking into account the above the following play areas are identified as priority development opportunities. However, in order to enable such development to be undertaken additional funding would be required.

- Undertake consultation on need and possible location for play in the Chilton Moor area
- Refurbishment of Kirklee Field
- Refurbishment of Hetton Park/Boggs
- Refurbishment of Boundary Field
- Undertake consultation on preferred location for play in the East Rainton area (Elemore View/Quarry House Gardens)
- Consult with Gentoo on play provision and longer term developments to identify further gaps and agree how these will be narrowed
- Undertake consultation on the need and potential upgrade of Old Durham Road
- Undertake discussions with developers and the Council's Planning Section in relation to potential new provision in the Easington Lane area, associated with the Murton Lane development.
- Consider funding options



## REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

### Financial Statements and Funding Request

#### 1. Financial Statement

- 1.1 A statement of finance, **Annex 2a**, provides a record of the Coalfield area funding streams Strategic Initiatives Budget, Strategic Investment Plan and Community Chest available for allocation.

#### 2. Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB)

- 2.1 At the July 2010 Committee approved £50,000 for the Coalfield in Bloom bulb planting project. A summary of the project is provided in **Annex 2b** to this report.
- 2.2 £222,423 remains to be allocated during 2010/11.

#### 3. Strategic Investment Plan (SIP)

- 3.1 Following the July 2010 Committee meeting, £137,640 remained to be allocated during 2010/11.
- 3.2 There are four projects detailed in **Annex 2b** which are recommended for approval as follows:

*Table 1: SIP applications for approval*

Project	Ward	Total
Bird Terrace Environmental Scheme	Shiney Row	£3,262
Hetton Lyons Country Park Car Park	Hetton	£11,864
Traffic calming – Robin Lane/Hazard Lane	Hetton	£10,000
Dropped kerbs in Houghton ward	Houghton	£8,000

- 3.3 The projects recommended for approval from the 2010/11 budget total £33,126. Should Committee approve this proposal the remaining balance for the 2010/11 allocation would be £104,514.

#### 4. Community Chest

- 4.1 The table below details balances remaining to be allocated following the last meeting in July, project proposals received as detailed in **Annex 2c**, and balance remaining should those proposals be approved.

*Table 2: Community Chest Balances*

Ward	Balance at July 2010	Project proposals	Community Chest Balance
Copt Hill	£8,853	£1,520	£7,333
Hetton	£5,977	£1,800	£4,177
Houghton	£10,468	£4,523	£5,945
Shiney Row	£6,731	£2,450	£4,281
Total	£32,029	£11,500	£21,736

Item 3: Annex 2a

Financial Statement for 2010-11

<b>SIB: Coalfield SIB Statement 9th September 2010</b>				
* £241,514 was allocated for 2010-11, £62,422 was carried over from 2009 -10: Balance £303,936				
	<b>Committee Date</b>	<b>Main SIB Fund Approvals</b>	<b>Opportunities Approvals</b>	<b>Total 100%</b>
Available Funding 2010/11 *	-	-	-	<b>£303,936</b>
<b>Project Name</b>	-	-	-	-
Coalfields 3G Camera Addition	14.07.10	£5,500	-	£298,436
Eppleton Cricket Club Practice Facilities	14.07.10	-	£13,162	£285,274
Philadelphia Cricket Club Practice Facilities	14.07.10	-	£9,000	£276,274
Houghton Feast Opening Ceremony	14.07.10	-	£10,000	£266,274
Coalfield in Bloom - bulb planting project	14.07.10	£50,000	-	£216,274
<b>Total allocated</b>		<b>£55,500</b>	<b>£32,162</b>	
<b>NB:- £6,149 was recouped from The Hive Project (included in remaining balance)</b>				
<b>Balance</b>	-	-	-	<b>£222,423</b>

<b>SIP: Coalfield Statement 9th September 2010</b>			
	<b>SIP Budget</b>	<b>Approvals</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Available Funding 2010/11	<b>£145,140</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£145,140</b>
Copt Hill	£59,285	£0	£59,285
Houghton	£29,285	£0	£29,285
Hetton	£36,085	£0	£36,085
Shiney Row	£20,485	£7,500	£12,985
<b>Balance</b>	<b>£145,140</b>	<b>£7,500</b>	<b>£137,640</b>

<b>Community Chest: Coalfield Statement 9th September 2010</b>			
* £10,000 was allocated per ward from 2010-11, Budget includes carry over from previous years			
	<b>Community Chest Budget</b>	<b>Approvals</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Available Funding 2010/11			
Copt Hill	£11,744	£2,891	£8,853
Houghton	£11,940	£1,472	£10,468
Hetton	£10,916	£4,939	£5,977
Shiney Row	£11,071	£4,340	£6,731
<b>Total</b>	<b>£45,671</b>	<b>£13,642</b>	<b>£32,029</b>

## SIB/SIP funding applications

Application No.1 - SIB

<b>Name of Project</b>	Coalfield in Bloom	
<b>Total cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total SIB requested</b>
£58,000 (to be confirmed once in-kind contribution has been calculated)	£4,500 plus staff time and other resources in kind (Gentoo)	£50,000
<b>Project Duration</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
4 Months	September 2010	December 2011

**The Project**

The project will consist of two elements

a) A large scale machine planting of bulbs across around 30 locations in the area. The bulbs are of two varieties and as one die off the other will come into flower, usually during March and April, however this could vary as a consequence of the prevailing weather conditions. The bulbs are left in place and cut down as part of the usual maintenance programme. Therefore the bulbs will flower each year without the need for re-planting. Gentoo will be working in partnership with the Lead Agent to ensure a joined up approach to the maintenance programme. The final list of locations is to be agreed by Area Committee before the planting commences.

b) A community planting scheme for areas which are not suitable to be machine planted. The locations selected will be dependent on consultation and input from the VCS network and local community and voluntary sector organisations including schools. Gentoo and the VCS Network, via the Community Co-ordinator, will lead on this element of the project.

**Need for Project**

The project has been developed by Area Committee in line with the Local Area Plan and the refreshing of priorities for 2010/11. Bulb planting and landscaping was selected by elected members as one of the 6 priorities for this year and the need to engage the community was considered as part of a workshop held in June 2010. The Committee members developed the project as a result of community consultation and the need to make the area more attractive.

**Outputs of the Project**

<b>Output Code</b>	<b>Target 2010/11</b>
A1 – New or improved community facilities	30
A6 – Community or educational events held	6

**£50,000 SIB funding was approved in July 2010**

Application No.2 - SIP

<b>Name of Project</b>	Bird Terrace Environmental Scheme – Shiney Row	
<b>Total cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total SIP requested</b>
£3,262	Nil	£3,262
<b>Project Duration</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
3 months	September 2010	November 2010

**The Project**

The project will deliver a small area of landscaping at Bird Terrace, Peshaw next to Peshaw Tandoori. The purpose of the project is to develop an area of land that is currently not being

maintained. There will be both hard and soft landscaping within the project to remove a concrete base, extend and develop an existing footpath and then landscape the area to an amenity area. The LAP theme and priority will be addressed by these improvements turning an eyesore into an attractive area.

**Need for Project**

Councillor concerns and resident feedback

**Outputs for Projects**

Output Code	Target 2010/11
A1 – New or improved community facilities	1
A4 – Works to improve appearance of streets	1

**Recommendation**

**Approve**, subject to future maintenance being part of City Services mainstream programme

**Application No.3 - SIP**

<b>Name of Project</b>	Hetton Lyons Country Park Car Park
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Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total SIP requested
£11,864	Nil	£11,864
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
3 months	October 2010	December 2010

**The Project**

The Project will provide installation of tarmac road including disabled parking bays, speed humps and warning signs which will provide a better entrance and access to Hetton Lyons Country Park for park visitors. Hetton Lyons is also very popular for cycling events on weekends which attracts visitors from all over the country and the improved car parking will be welcomed by park users.

The proposed works will also provide a safer car parking facility with the introduction of road humps as there is currently a problem with some drivers speeding in the park.

**Need for Project**

The condition of the existing car park has been discussed by the Friends of Hetton Lyons Country Park due to damage caused by joyriders and the current poor quality surface. Also local Ward Members have expressed a concern about the poor condition of the car parking facilities. Springboard Adventure deliver Environmental Land Based Studies Diploma courses from the park building and the improved car park facilities will be appreciated by the students.

**Outputs for Projects**

Output Code	Target 2010/11
A1 – New or improved community facilities	1

**Recommendation**

**Approve**

**Application No.4 -SIP**

<b>Name of Project</b>	Traffic Calming – Robin Lane/Hazard Lane, Hetton
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Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total SIP requested
£20,000	£10,000	£10,000
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
6 Months	October 2010	April 2011

### The Project

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

A Traffic Regulation Order will be applied for on commencement of the project (October 2010). The order will be finalised within 3-6 months and the road markings and traffic signs will then be installed

### Need for Project

The need has been identified by local ward councillors as a result of resident requests and ward surgeries. The accident records for Robin Lane and Hazard Lane indicate that the frequency of traffic accidents is above the normal level for rural roads of this nature.

### Outputs for Projects

Output Code	Target 2010/11
A4 – Works to improve streets	1

**Recommendation**                      **Approve**

### Application No.5 - SIP

<b>Name of Project</b>	Dropped kerbs - Houghton
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Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total SIP requested
£8,000	Nil	£8,000
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
3 months	September 2010	November 2010

### The Project

The SIP will pay for the provision of dropped kerbs in three locations across the Houghton ward:  
Four pairs in Station Avenue North/South  
Three pairs in Brinkburn Cres/Leyburn Grove  
Two pairs in Britannia Terrace/Front Street

The purpose is to improve access for those with mobility problems and pushchair and wheelchair users. This will contribute to the outcomes set out in the Local Area Plan by improving footpaths on residential and retail streets and supporting safer mobility for local people who may previously have had difficulty accessing services.

### Need for Project

The need has been identified by local ward councillors as a result of resident requests and ward surgeries.

### Outputs for Projects

Output Code	Target 2010/11
A1 – improved community facilities	3

**Recommendation**                      **Approve**, subject to consultation with residents

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

Ward	Project	Amount	Allocation 2010/2011	Project Proposals	Previous Approvals	Balance Remaining
<b>Copt Hill</b>	<b>Bernard Gilpin Primary School</b> – Purchase of waterproof clothing.	130				
	<b>Houghton le Spring &amp; District Piping Society</b> – Purchase of drums and harnesses.	250				
	<b>Houghton Comrades F.C.</b> – Contribution towards strips, fees, equipment etc.,	500				
	<b>Houghton Racecourse Community Access Point</b> – Purchase of computer equipment and fax machine.	340				
	<b>Age UK</b> – Contribution towards Houghton Feast Rally,	100				
	<b>Y Horticulture &amp; Allotment Scheme</b> – Purchase of horticultural equipment.	200				
	<b>Totals</b>		<b>11,744</b>	<b>1,520</b>	<b>2,891</b>	<b>7,333</b>
<b>Hetton</b>	<b>Easington Lane Volunteers</b> – Contribution towards hire of P.A. system, venue etc.,	300				
	<b>Hetton School Allotment Garden</b> – Purchase of water butt and compost bin.	450				
	<b>Hetton Ladies Club</b> – Contribution towards Christmas lunch and entertainment.	700				
	<b>Nidderdale Community Centre</b> – Contribution towards Christmas outing.	350				
	<b>Totals</b>		<b>10,916</b>	<b>1,800</b>	<b>4,939</b>	<b>4,177</b>
<b>Houghton</b>	<b>Houghton C.W. Cricket Club Junior Section</b> – Purchase of cricket equipment for new under 13's team.	643				
	<b>Houghton Older People's Enterprise (H.O.P.E.)</b> Contribution towards guest speakers, entertainers etc.,	600				
	<b>Bernard Gilpin Primary School</b> – Purchase of waterproof clothing.	130				
	<b>Houghton le Spring &amp; District Piping Society</b> – Purchase of drums and harnesses.	250				

	<b>Grasswell House</b> – Contribution towards activities during half term, Christmas etc.,	500				
	<b>Houghton Comrades F.C.</b> – Contribution towards strips, fees, equipment etc.,	500				
	<b>Fencehouses Dubmire F.C.</b> – Contribution towards equipment, strips, fees etc.,	800				
	<b>Houghton &amp; District Centre for the Blind</b> – Purchase of gas boiler.	1000				
	<b>Age UK</b> – Contribution towards Houghton Feast Rally.	100				
	<b>Totals</b>		<b>11,940</b>	<b>4,523</b>	<b>1,472</b>	<b>5,945</b>
<b>Shiney Row</b>	<b>Monument View</b> – Purchase of satellite phone.	500				
	<b>Houghton le Spring &amp; District Piping Society</b> – Purchase of drums and harnesses.	250				
	<b>Barnwell Primary School After School Activities</b> – Contribution towards activities for the children.	1000				
	<b>Y Horticulture &amp; Allotment Scheme</b> – Purchase of horticultural equipment.	600				
	<b>Age UK</b> – Contribution towards Houghton Feast Rally.	100				
	<b>Totals</b>		<b>11,071</b>	<b>2,450</b>	<b>4,340</b>	<b>4,281</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>45,671</b>	<b>10,293</b>	<b>13,642</b>	<b>21,736</b>

**COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE****REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE****9 SEPTEMBER 2010****Influencing Practice, Policy and Strategy****1. Why has it come to Committee?**

- 1.1. This report offers Members the opportunity for consultation on plans and strategies relevant to the Coalfield area. It also provides information and updates which will encourage Members to feed into proposals for service or policy change.

**2. Recommendation**

- 2.1 Members are requested to consider the draft Sunderland Partnership Volunteering Strategy and Action Plan, which is currently subject to consultation, and to participate in the consultation process to ensure that the strategy will effectively address the volunteering needs of the Coalfield area.

**3. Information and Updates**

- 3.1 The Committee will be aware that the Sunderland Partnership Volunteering Strategy and Action Plan consultation process is currently ongoing. A draft document has now been produced to seek views through a formal consultation process. An extract from the document is attached as Annex 1. The Annex is the action plan which indicates proposed actions to reflect the changing landscape of volunteering at both the national and local level, and to build upon existing good practice in Sunderland. The Strategy and accompanying action plan will provide the basis for partners and organisations to work together to raise the profile of volunteering and increase the number and diversity of volunteers in the City.

The Council acknowledges the vitally important contribution volunteers make in Sunderland. The Sunderland Volunteering Strategy is a tool to steer future work around volunteering.

A copy of the full document is available at [www.sunderlandcompact.org.uk](http://www.sunderlandcompact.org.uk). The deadline for consultation comments is 17 September 2010.

Annex 1: Sunderland Volunteering Strategy Draft Action Plan

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Extract from the Sunderland Volunteering Strategy Draft Action Plan. Full document available at [www.sunderlandcompact.org.uk](http://www.sunderlandcompact.org.uk).  
 Deadline 17 September 2010, 5pm.

Objective 1 Increasing the number of people volunteering in the City of Sunderland (whether through formal or informal volunteering)				
Key: Short term 2011 Medium term 2011 – 2013, Long term 2013 onwards				
Outcome	Outputs or Deliverables	Timescale S/M/L	Key Partners (supporting partners)	Links to other actions and strategies
Improved access to information and understanding of volunteering	Providing greater choice of activities by encouraging more organisations to register or update volunteering opportunities with Sunderland Volunteer Centre.			
	Monitor and evaluate take-up of volunteering opportunities, ensuring volunteering meets individual and organisational needs.			
	Develop a co-ordinated approach to e-enabled volunteering opportunities (e.g. website links), through Sunderland Partnership organisations and the wider VCS.			
	Developing outreach services, targeted at identifying and meeting the needs and aspirations of geographical communities and communities of interest where there are barriers or low levels of volunteering.			
	Provide additional support mechanisms, including buddying schemes for new or less confident volunteers and those who may find it difficult to access services.			
	Support the promotion of volunteer opportunities through SVC.			
	A diverse range of local people involved in the review of Local Area Plans and other decision-making processes.			
	Developing programme of events to network potential volunteers with opportunities without reliance on Internet access (e.g. 'volunteer speed dating', and volunteer fairs).			
	Continue to promote awareness of existing volunteering resources, (targeted circulation of literature and high visibility promotions).			
	Continuing to work with government schemes designed to promoting volunteering opportunities for young people.			
	Continuing to work with groups to develop menu of volunteering activities for a diverse range of volunteers			
	Support the delivery and coordination of volunteering recruitment campaigns, with a specific focus on engaging under-represented groups (e.g. through the Sunderland Echo and Community Newsletters).			

<b>Objective 2</b>				
<b>Recognising and rewarding volunteers for their role in delivering services and improving the lives of people in the City</b>				
Key: Short term 2011, Medium term 2011 – 2013, Long term 2013 onwards				
<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Outputs or Deliverables</b>	<b>Timescale S/M/L</b>	<b>Key Partners</b>	<b>Links to other actions and strategies</b>
Recognition of the valuable contribution volunteers make to Sunderland and of the benefits to the individual	Co-ordinating high profile media campaigns, celebrating volunteering in Sunderland and profiling individual case studies and volunteering opportunities.			
	Using the Sunderland Partnership website/TV/ publications, including those of all Sunderland Partnership organisations, to profile the roles of volunteers.			
	Developing a partnership approach to Sunderland Volunteer Celebration events and awards at the area and City level.			
	Establishing how regional volunteer celebration events can link to the Sunderland perspective.			
<b>Objective 3</b>				
<b>Supporting volunteers to increase confidence, learning, skills and employability prospects</b>				
Key: Short term 2011, Medium term 2011 – 2013, Long term 2013 onwards				
<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Outputs or Deliverables</b>	<b>Timescale S/M/L</b>	<b>Key Partners</b>	<b>Links to other actions and strategies</b>
Increased confidence for those volunteering	Build upon current good practice, for example, Sunderland City Council's Health Housing and Adult Services Mentoring Scheme by encouraging more organisations to provide mentors to support the development of skills and knowledge of volunteers with disabilities, including mental health.			
	Encouraging organisations (including the private sector) to provide mentors & volunteering opportunities for those at risk of exclusion, (e.g. BME groups, young people Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) and disabled people).			
Organisations are able to provide volunteers with access to support, training and appropriate qualifications	Developing links between volunteer managers and employability support services to improve understanding the role of volunteering in improving employment prospects.			
	Developing the existing organisational Volunteers Network to share good practice for the benefit of the organisation and ultimately individual volunteers.			
	Providing guidance to smaller organisations supporting volunteers to help them make best use of potential and existing volunteers.			
	Enabling volunteers to progress into education, training, employment or other volunteering opportunities.			
	Working with local training providers and educational institutions to ensure that organisations are aware of opportunities for volunteers to			

	develop their skills (e.g. Basic Skills, English language), especially as a pathway to employment or further/higher education.			
Raise awareness of link with employability, in context of recession and increasing employment opportunities	Employment support services to advise clients on the important role of volunteering in gaining employment, and the implications on benefit entitlement.			

**Objective 4**  
**Increase number of organisations with Employer Supported Volunteering Schemes**

Key: Short term 2011, Medium term 2011 – 2013, Long term 2013 onwards

<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Outputs or Deliverables</b>	<b>Timescale S/M/L</b>	<b>Key Partners</b>	<b>Links to other actions and strategies</b>
Mechanisms in place that promote, assist and develop Employer Supported Volunteering	Promoting organisations with effective employer supported schemes supporting other organisations to develop volunteering opportunities.			
	Developing supported volunteering sessions to individuals interested in volunteering, providing them the opportunity to explore potential volunteer roles and activities.			
	Support Sunderland Partnership organisations to have employee volunteering opportunities and associated policies.			
	Celebrating employee volunteering through organisational celebration events and rewarding those who make a real difference in communities.			
Promote the benefits of employer supported volunteering in SMEs.	Employers understanding the benefits of volunteering to their organisation, sharing good news stories and case studies of successful schemes.			
	Developing the support mechanisms for SMEs to confidently instigate volunteering opportunities.			
Increased skills and capacity of voluntary-led management committees	Encourage employers and employees to become actively involved in voluntary-led management committees.			
	Voluntary-led management committees to identify skills shortages and actively seek to recruit into these through the Sunderland Volunteer Centre.			
	Develop role descriptions for volunteers and ensure appropriate support/supervision arrangements.			

**Objective 5**  
**To improve management of volunteers and delivery of volunteering programmes**

Key: Short term 2011, Medium term 2011 – 2013, Long term 2013 onwards

Outcome	Outputs or Deliverables	Timescale S/M/L	Key Partners	Links to other actions and strategies
Demonstrating how volunteers add value to organisations	Accessing relevant training and information for managers of volunteers (e.g. promotion of the Volunteering Toolkit and associated training) to promote good practice when managing volunteers and maintaining quality standards.			
Safe recruitment and induction of volunteers	Appropriate CRB and Vetting and Barring processes in place and volunteers provided with appropriate inductions by organisations who engage with volunteers.			
Appropriate support to existing volunteers	Determining the support needs of volunteers, and how organisations may assist (e.g. voluntary sector led management committee governance needs).			
A clear and accurate picture of volunteering within the City as a whole	Organisations recording information on volunteers (e.g. numbers, demographics, type of activity, hours and progression).			
	Coordinated approach to data collation, analysis and target setting.			
	Undertaking regular and accurate impact assessments of volunteer activity across the City.			
	Volunteer organisations carrying out satisfaction surveys of beneficiaries.			

**Question – The Sunderland Volunteering Strategy Action Plan**

**Are the actions outlined above relevant to the Sunderland Volunteering Strategy? Are there any additions?  
Are there any actions that your organisation can deliver upon? What are your thoughts on possible key partners and timescales? (Please populate above)**

**Answer:**