

**At a meeting of the NORTH SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE held in the BUNNY HILL CENTRE, HYLTON LANE, SUNDERLAND on MONDAY, 8<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER, 2010 at 5.30 p.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor Bell in the Chair

Councillors Bonallie, Charlton, Copeland, Foster, G. Hall, Howe, MacKnight, Shattock, J. Walton, L. Walton and Wilson

**Also in Attendance:-**

Ms. Alison Aisbett	- Advice Manager, Sunderland City Council
Ms. Lynda Brown	- Head of Standards, Sunderland City Council
Ms. Amanda Cattle	- Area Community Coordinator, Sunderland City Council
Mr. Les Clark	- Head of Streetscene, Sunderland City Council
Mr. Bill Forster	- Station Manager, Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Services
Revd Tom Gibbons	- St. Peter's Church
Mr. Dan Hattle	- Principal Planner, Sunderland City Council
Mr. Dave Leonard	- Area Co-ordinator, Sunderland City Council
Ms. Julie Lynn	- Area Officer (North), Sunderland City Council
Ms. Vivienne Metcalfe	- Area Community Coordinator East, Sunderland City Council
Insp. Lisa Musgrove	- Northumbria Police
Mr. Ron Odunaiya	- Executive Director City Services, ALE (Area Lead Executive), Sunderland City Council
Mr. Les Platt	- Senior Policy Officer (Diversity), Sunderland City Council
Ms. Dawn Rugman	- Policy Officer (Diversity), Sunderland City Council
Ms. Joanne Stewart	- Senior Democratic Services Officer, Sunderland City Council
Mr. Ken Tears	- Strategic Development Director, SAFC Foundation
Mr. Ben Winter	- Senior Planner, Sunderland City Council

**Chairman's Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed everyone, invited introductions around the room and opened the meeting.

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillor Stewart

## **Declarations of Interest**

Item 3 – Community Action in Sunderland North – Progress Review : vi. Community Chest, Strategic Initiative Budget (SIB) and Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) – Financial Statements and Proposals for Further Allocation of Resources

Councillor Charlton declared a personal interest in the SIP application towards lighting at the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) and Carpark at Redhouse Academy.

Item 4 – Influencing Practice, Policy, Strategy : i. Draft Community Assets Policy

Councillor G. Hall declared a personal interest in the item as he was involved with a number of organisations in the voluntary and community sector.

## **Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Committee held on 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2010**

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2010 (copy circulated) be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

## **Community Action in Sunderland North : Identifying New Issues and Agreeing Actions**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided Members with information on the Creative Communities (Community Philosophy) project that has recently started in the Southwick Area and also provided an up to date version of the New Issues Log.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Les Platt, Senior Policy Officer (Diversity) presented the report advising that the aim of the Community Philosophy project was to promote conversation and develop positive relationships between different groups of people to get local people talking about the interests, issues and problems they see affecting their local area.

He took Members through a number of activities that had already taken place, including a ‘walkabout’ at Thompson’s Park, three ‘play ranger’ style activities in Marley Potts and a Lantern Parade project in conjunction with Southwick Community Primary School and advised that there were three main intended outcomes to the Community Philosophy projects; namely to:-

- empower young people and make them feel respected and that their views are being heard;
- ensure that intergenerational tensions are aired and understood and any possible ways of tackling them are explored; and
- leave something tangible behind to remind people of the process and what they achieved.

Councillor Shattock advised the Committee that the Lantern Parade had not been allowed to go ahead due to high winds on the day. It had been a well organised event and had involved families working together to make large lanterns that they would then have paraded around the streets. It had been unfortunate that it could not be carried out fully due to health and safety concerns.

Mr. Platt also informed the Committee that to aid with the project, training sessions for all of the partners involved had been arranged to enable the process and learning to be continued well after the formal project ended on 31 December, 2010. Members asked if they could be advised of the dates of training sessions planned for November and any future ones that were to be arranged. Mr. Platt explained that the training sessions were arranged for the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> November so may be short notice for Members to attend but that he would get information from the sessions circulated and keep them advised of future dates.

In response to a question from Councillor Francis asking what projects had happened or were planned for the Fulwell Ward, Mr. Platt advised that the project was focussing on the more deprived areas of the city, although it was intended that lessons would be learned from projects that were undertaken and potentially these could then be rolled out to other areas of the city once the project had been completed.

2. RESOLVED that the report and New Issues Log be noted and proposals from the Community Philosophy project be received at future meetings of the Committee.

### **Community Action in Sunderland North – Progress Review**

#### Work Plan 2010/2011 : Heritage Task and Finish Group

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which advised Members of the work of the Heritage Task and Finish Group to date, including the agreed terms of reference for the group.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

3. RESOLVED that the update from the Task and Finish Group be noted and further updates / proposals be submitted to future meetings of the Committee

## Work Plan 2010/2011 : The Greening of the North Area

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided an update of outstanding issues from the 2009/2010 work plan and show progress against agreed actions in the current work plan with regard to the Greening of the North Area Task and Finish Group.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

With regards to a question from Councillor Hall on land along the riverside area, Mr. Les Clark, Head of Streetscene advised that work was progressing for the transfer of the land adjacent to either side of the Glass Centre and they were trying to move this forward as quickly as possible. They were hopeful that the agreement was set in principle for the transfer to complete by the beginning of the next financial year and an amount had included in the sum being paid to maintain the area over the long term.

Councillor Francis asked for confirmation that the allotments land would remain and was informed that any changes to land used needed to be done legally so wherever there was an allotment site at present it would continue to be used for allotments.

Councillor Copeland referred to the River Rubbish Relay (previously Ramble) and advised that it was hoped to take place in December, 2010. Ms. Amanda Cattle, Community Coordinator for the North Area informed Members that there were three organisations from the Voluntary Community Sector as well as representatives from Children's Services involved in the organisation of the project and it was aimed at being quite a family affair.

Risk assessments had been carried out on the proposed route to ensure its safety and it would no longer be going off road, which is why the name of the project had been amended. The Relay would start at the Billy Hardy Sports Complex, Castletown and finish at the Glass Centre. They were hopeful the event would be a success and could continue to be undertaken on a regular basis in the future.

Councillor Howe referred to paragraph 2.5 of the report and the cleansing of land and asked if the Cutthroat Dene area could be considered as a proposal for future works and Mr. Clark agreed to take this back as a possibility, and it was :-

#### 4. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the report be noted;
- (ii) the proposed sites on which Community Allotments could be developed of the Downhill Primary School site, 8 unlettable sites at Summerbell Allotments and 4 sites on Shields Road Allotments be agreed;

- (iii) SIB funding to support the development of Community Allotments pending the full application being submitted be agreed;
- (iv) the proposal to work with private landlords to achieve the cleansing of private land be agreed; and
- (v) the investigation into the feasibility of the River Rubbish Relay be agreed.

### Responsive Local Services (RLS)

The Executive Director of City Services submitted a report (copy circulated) to inform the Committee of the current scope of Responsive Local Services covering service areas such as litter, graffiti, refuse, grass cutting and dog fouling. It also provided the opportunity for a wider range of issues to be considered within a context of local problem solving.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Mr. Clark advised the Committee that the Winter Maintenance Plan for 2010/2011 had been prepared and was now available on the Sunderland website which highlighted the gritting routes and locations of salt/grit bins.

Councillor Howe asked if there would be sufficient amounts of salt/grit for the winter period and Mr. Clark advised that they were fully stocked at the Trimdon Street and Houghton sites with over 14,000 tonnes of salt and 1,000 tonnes of grit which they were confident would be ample.

In response to a query from Councillor L. Walton with regard to the location of grit bins in her ward, Mr. Clark agreed to provide her with a list of the exact locations.

Councillor Shattock advised that she had been asked by the Wearmouth Cricket Club if they could purchase their own grit bin and Mr. Clark agreed to arrange for someone to contact them directly.

She also referred to the reporting of noise as an issue on page 20 of the report and asked for a breakdown of the type of complaints the service had been receiving. Mr. Clark advised that most complaints around noise were with regard to night time noise from both residential and business properties.

5. RESOLVED that the report be noted and further updates regarding any issues arising from the intelligence group be submitted to future meetings of the Committee.

### Distribution of Food Parcels

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which had been prepared as a result of a matter arising at a previous Committee meeting where further information was requested on the distribution of food parcels in the North East.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Ms. Alison Aisbitt, Advice Manager presented the report advising Member that there did not appear to be a significant number of families from the North Sunderland area applying for emergency food parcels but that food parcels were becoming a more increasingly widespread issue as the country faces welfare and housing reform over the coming years and it was suggested that a dataset of information be established and monitored on a city wide basis.

Councillor Shattock welcomed the report and was in support of the number of food parcels being handed out being closely monitored so that any arising issues could be flagged up and addressed quickly. Councillor Copeland agreed and asked that the issue be given a high profile and information continue to be submitted to them.

In response to a question from Councillor MacKnight regarding the issuing of vouchers to Looked After Children and the families, Ms. Brown informed the Committee she would gather further information on where they could be spent and arrange for it to be forwarded to Members.

6. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

#### Community Action : Review Progress

Councillor MacKnight referred to the first action in the table and asked if the licenses premises being encouraged to sign up to 21+ scheme should be changed to the Challenge 25 scheme that was now in place.

Councillor Foster informed Members that where the action in relation to promoting heritage referred to the Castletown Cricket Club it should be amended to the Hylton Cricket Club who were based in Castletown.

7. RESOLVED that the table be received and noted and that the Area Officer make the above amendments as set out.

#### Community Chest, Strategic Initiative Budget (SIB) and Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) – Financial Statement and Proposals for further allocation of Resources

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to request the Committee's 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.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Ms. Lynn advised that the application for Community Chest funding of £1,600 from No Limits Theatre Group had been withdrawn so this left six applications for funding from the Community Chest totalling £3,265.

Councillor J. Walton referred to the application for SIB funding from St Peter's Church for £98,876.25 as a contribution towards a heating system and spoke in support of awarding the amount to them. He felt strongly that as the site was one of such important heritage to the city it was vital to go against the recommendation to reject the application to ensure in keeping the church in its entirety and stopping it from falling into any state of disrepair. He had experienced that during the winter months the church was bitterly cold and if heating was installed this could encourage visitors to the site all year round. He urged colleagues to go against the recommendation and approve the application.

A lengthy discussion ensued around the application and the importance of the site to the city and whether SIB funding should be awarded. SIB guidelines clearly state that funding is available for the use of local organisations to develop projects that meet the requirements of the Local Area Plan of the Area Committee and the church did not comply with this.

Reverend Tom Gibbons, St Peter's Church was invited to speak to the Committee regarding the application and advised that there were a number of works pending at the church at present which funding had been sought for. Unfortunately the funding that was available to the church was to aid in the conservation of the site and would not be applicable to cover the installation of the heating system.

Councillor Howe requested that the decision to grant the funding be put to the vote and the Chairman suggested that the application be deferred to allow more investigations be undertaken into finding other funding opportunities that may be accessible by the church. Councillor Howe disagreed with this proposal in its entirety and requested that the actual decision be put to the vote.

The Chairman having moved that the application be deferred it was put to the vote, and with eight Members having voted for and five Members having voted against, it was:-

8. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the application for SIB funding of £98,876.25 as a contribution towards St. Peter's Heating and Lightning Conductor be deferred to seek further information;
- (ii) the financial statement as set out in section 2.1 of the report be noted;
- (iii) approval be given to the 6 proposals for funding from the Community Chest totalling £3,265 from the 2010/2011 budget, as set out in annex 1b of the report;

- (iv) approval be given to the allocation of SIP funding from the 2010/2011 budget as a contribution towards a footpath at Cockermouth Road and Washington Road of £4,260 from the Castle Ward;
- (v) approval be given to the allocation of SIP funding from the 2010/2011 budget as a contribution towards parking bays at Hylton Castle Road from the Castle Ward;
- (vi) approval be given to the allocation of SIP funding from the 2010/2011 budget as a contribution towards the gateway lights at Washington Road from the Castle Ward;
- (vii) approval be given to the allocation of SIP funding from the 2010/2011 budget as a contribution towards reducing the speed limit at Newcastle Road of £7,000, £3,500 from both Fulwell and Southwick wards;
- (viii) approval be given to the allocation of SIP funding from the 2010/2011 budget as a contribution towards lighting at the Multi Use Games Area and Car park at Redhouse Academy of £43,308 from the Redhill Ward;
- (ix) approval be given to the allocation of SIP funding from the 2010/2011 budget as a contribution towards the play area at Grosvenor Street of £15,000 from the Southwick Ward;
- (x) approval be given to the allocation of SIP funding from the 2010/2011 budget as a contribution towards the Christmas Tree at Southwick of £6,542 from the Southwick Ward;
- (xi) approval be given to the allocation of SIB funding from the 2010/2011 budget as a contribution towards the SAFC Foundation Tackle It project of £14,000 ;
- (xii) approval be given to the allocation of SIB funding from the 2010/2011 budget as a contribution towards Sunderland University's Great North Big Band Festival of £5,000;
- (xiii) approval be given to the allocation of SIB funding from the 2010/2011 budget as a contribution towards Health Scented Holistic Approach to Physical and Emotional Wellbeing of £2,300;
- (xiv) approval be given to reject the application from Elite Fitness for SIB funding of £6,000 from the 2010/2011 budget; and
- (xv) approval be given to reject the application from Elite Family Specialists for SIB funding of £29,247 from the 2010/2011 budget.



Strategic Initiative Budget (SIB) and Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) Interim Report covering the period April to September 2010

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide detail on how the Area Committee had allocated its resources to date (April 2010 - September 2010) and to enable consideration of how those initiatives were performing against agreed objectives.

(for copy report – see original minutes).

9. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

**Influencing Practice, Policy and Strategy**

Draft Community Assets Policy

The City Services Directorate submitted a report (copy circulated) which offered Members the opportunity for consultation on plans and strategies relevant to the North Sunderland area. It also provided information and updates to encourage Members to feed into proposals for service or policy change.

(for copy report – see original minutes).

Vivienne Metcalfe, Area Community Co-ordinator (East), presented the report, advising Members of consultations with the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) on the draft Community Assets Policy in order to receive their comments on a Council policy which would have a direct impact on them.

10. RESOLVED that Members considered the draft Community Assets Policy which was subject to consultation and would participate in the consultation process to ensure that the strategy would effectively address the requirements of the Voluntary and Community Sector in the North Sunderland area of the City.

Draft Seaburn Masterplan and Design Code

The Office of the Chief Executive Directorate submitted a report (copy circulated) which outlined for Members the purpose and approach of the draft Seaburn Masterplan and Design Code Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) and provided details of the associated statutory public consultation.

(for copy report – see original minutes).

Mr. Dan Hattle, Principal Planner attended the meeting and provided Members with an aerial photograph of the area which gave indications of which sites could be considered for leisure, residential and retail developments.

Members having discussed the Masterplan, it was:-

11. RESOLVED that the draft Seaburn Masterplan and Design Code which is currently subject to consultation be received and noted.

The Chairman then thanked the Committee, Officers and Partners for their worthwhile contributions and closed the meeting.

(Signed) R. BELL,  
Chairman.

## **Sunderland North Area Committee**

**6th January 2011**

### **Report of the Office of the Chief Executive**

#### **Community Action in Sunderland North: 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 Motorcycle Disorder**

- 2.1.1 Motorcycle disorder across the North area has been identified, discussed and addressed through LMAPS for a number of months. The main areas of disorder occurs on the Downhill Sports complex area and Fulwell Quarry with motorcyclists cutting between both areas. There are also pockets of disorder throughout the North Area in residential areas.
- 2.1.2 Through LMAPS, a number of solutions have been put into place to address disorder in the area. Barriers to reduce or prevent the disorder, increased police patrols and targeted work in areas where the disorder is known to be occurring, education and improving the knowledge of motorcyclists regarding the law and where they are allowed to use motorcycles are some examples of actions already taken.
- 2.1.3 The disorder has now escalated particularly at the Downhill site, with motorcyclists riding on the football pitches whilst games are in progress causing major concerns for the safety of those using the pitch. The escalation of this disorder may impact on the football leagues using this site in the future if the issue is not adequately resolved.
- 2.1.4 Through LMAPS, a problem solving meeting is being set up to focus on this disorder and identify further long term sustainable solutions to the problem in the North Area.
- 2.1.5 This has also been identified as a citywide issue and the matter is being escalated to the Business Support Group of the Safer City Delivery Board to look at additional means of addressing the problem.

###### **2.2 Byelaws Review**

- 2.2.1 The Head of Law and Governance is leading a review of City Byelaws. A group of officers representing different parts of the Council have formed a Task and Finish Group

to review existing byelaws in place and areas which are not currently covered by existing byelaws. The areas included in the review include:

- Cemeteries
- Resorts and Foreshores
- Countryside
- Parks
- Rights of Way

2.2.2 The review will look to update existing byelaws, implement byelaws where none currently exist and establish consistency and a standard in byelaws and their application.

2.2.3 The same group is reviewing the rules on dogs and considering the introduction of appropriate Dog Control Orders.

### **2.3 Sunderland 'The Place'**

2.3.1 This year the Environment and Attractive City Scrutiny Committee is carrying out a policy review into Sunderland 'the Place', with the overall aim of understanding the concept of Sunderland as a place and the associated issues around its identity and image, as well as the perceptions people have of Sunderland. Attached at **ANNEX 1**, for information, is the Terms of Reference for the policy review.

2.3.2 At its meeting of 18 October 2010 the Environment and Attractive City Scrutiny Committee agreed the approach to be taken in regard to gathering the evidence for the Policy Review and is particularly keen to receive a contribution from each of the Area Committees to understand more about the individual areas that make up the city and the perceptions and experiences of residents living in each area. This evidence will be one part of a much wider policy review.

2.3.3 It is proposed that any members wishing to take part in this phase of evidence gathering are offered the opportunity to take part in an informal discussion in order to feed in key messages to the Area Chair who will attend a facilitated discussion group with the other Area Chairs and members of the Environment and Attractive City Scrutiny Committee. The discussion will be facilitated by the lead officers for the policy review.

2.3.4 The proposal for the discussion will be focused around:  
What is Sunderland's 'story'?

- What makes residents passionate about their area?
- What are the unique elements of each area and how does each area contribute to the city?
- What role do Area Committees play in developing the city's sense of place?
- What can be done to recognise the unique contributions of each area to the overall city?

A strong sense of 'place' for Sunderland is crucial for our economic viability and the ongoing improvement of the city. This opportunity to feed in to the process is one element of a wider policy review into Sunderland as a place.

## **3. Recommendations**

3.1 Note the content of the reports.

3.2 Receive updates and recommendations for action from LMAPS and the problem solving meetings regarding motorcycle disorder.

3.3 Receive updates via ward bulletins regarding the byelaw review.

3.4 Note the information regarding Sunderland 'The Place' and agree to hold an informal discussion for those North members who wish to participate, before 17 January 2011.

**Background papers**

Sunderland North Local Area Plan  
Sunderland North Work plan 2010/11

**Contact Officers**

Julie Lynn, Sunderland North Area Officer  
Tel: 0191 5611932 e-mail: [julie.lynn@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:julie.lynn@sunderland.gov.uk)

Helen Lancaster, Assistant Scrutiny Officer  
Tel: 0191 561 1233 e-mail: [helen.lancaster@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:helen.lancaster@sunderland.gov.uk)

## SUNDERLAND NORTH AREA COMMITTEE

6<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2011

### REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

#### COMMUNITY ACTION IN SUNDERLAND NORTH – PROGRESS REVIEW Work Plan 2010/11: Heritage Task and Finish Group

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

1.1 The report 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, **Annex 1a**.

##### 2. Work plan 2010/11: Heritage

2.1 The group have met and discussed the priorities of the Heritage Task and Finish Group and projects that may be developed to support the achievement of the priorities.

2.2 Work that is currently ongoing is as follows:

- Development of Fulwell Quarry to be progressed through Greening Task and Finish Group and Green Space Topic Paper project.
- Hylton Dene litter pick completed on a monthly basis, partners involved include SNCBC, local schools, the Community Development Co-ordinator, Durham Wildlife Trust and Community Wardens.
- Development and expansion of the use of Marine Activities Centre, and meetings are ongoing.
- Heritage Lottery bid to be submitted in March for development of Hylton Castle.
- Development of Roker Lighthouse being considered as part of Seafront redevelopment work.
- Development and submission of World Heritage application for St Peter's Church.

2.3 The Local Studies group have collated information on heritage sites and areas of interest across the North Area, this information was discussed and updates provided within the Task and Finish Group meetings.

2.3 The group discussed various sites in detail and what activity or work can be developed around individual sites relating to heritage. It was acknowledged that the Council is developing work across other areas of the City and that anything developed by the North Area group would need to link into that work.

- 2.4 The priorities for the North area were considered and how projects developed as part of the Task and Finish Group should contribute to the achievement of these priorities.
- 2.5 Two projects were proposed for development as part of the Task and Finish Group and their intentions are set out in 2.6 and 2.7.
- 2.6 Learning
- Engage the schools across the North area to support the development of heritage as part of the school curriculum, in order to educate children and their extended families on the heritage and history with a view to raise pride in the area and aspirations.
  - Investigate the development of 'Adopting a Heritage Site'. This would involve linking a school with a particular heritage site and relevant friend/history group in order to support the promotion/fund raising and development of heritage sites.
  - Engage with pupils to understand what they would want from the heritage sites and areas of interest within the North area and consider how this can be developed.
  - Whilst the main priority is around learning and education, the development of this project would also support improving access, promotion of heritage provision and utilising the volunteers and voluntary groups already in existence.
- 2.7 Provision
- Develop and extend the use of the Marine Activities Centre to create improved and accessible Youth Provision based around the coastal heritage site.
  - Develop the use of the Marine Activities Centre as part of a citywide angling club engaging with young people, voluntary and community groups.
  - Consider the use of the Marine Activity Centre in supporting the promotion of other heritage activities within the area e.g. rest and changing facilities for Coast to Coast riders.
  - Develop and extend the access of the Marine Activities Centre to support schools across the city to access coastal heritage.
- 2.8 Specific Projects – International Oral History Conference.  
Living History North East has secured the International Oral History Conference for Sunderland to take place in July 2011 at St Peter's Campus and the Glass Centre.

The conference will be attended by national delegates and possibly international delegates. Living History North East would like to engage with Local history/friends groups to participate in the conference in order to promote the City to delegates.

The local history/friends groups can support the conference delivery in a variety of ways, e.g. an exhibition at the conference, delivery of a heritage or tourist walk. The involvement of the local groups in the Conference will require a level of SIB funding to support them.

## 2.9 Specific Projects – Football Heritage Trail

A joint project with the SAFC foundation to develop a football heritage trail across the North and East areas of the city.

There are seven sites across two areas, four of which are in the North area and are of significance to the history of football. Plaques have been developed for each site and are funded by the SAFC foundation and Conservation. These plaques will be located at the sites across the North and East areas.

In order to develop the trail it is proposed that a leaflet and associated web page is developed. The leaflet will provide information on the trail, how it can be followed, together with information on the history of each site.

The football heritage trail will be promoted via the PR and marketing team at SAFC foundation as well as the Council's newsletters and internet sites.

Funding is being sought to support the development of the leaflet through Community Chest applications to the wards in which the sites are located.

### **Recommendation**

- Note the report provided.
- Agree the engagement of local schools and development of the curriculum to include heritage.
- Agree the development of 'Adopt a Heritage Site'
- Agree the consultation with children and young people on what they would like to see or develop with heritage.
- Agree the development of use of the MAC to support youth provision and improved access for schools and visitors.
- Agree the development of a city angling club at various sites throughout the North.
- Agree in principle the proposal to support local history/friends groups to participate in the International Oral History Conference pending an SIB application.



## SUNDERLAND NORTH AREA COMMITTEE

6<sup>th</sup> January 2011

### REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

#### COMMUNITY ACTION IN SUNDERLAND NORTH – PROGRESS REVIEW Work Plan 2010/11: The Greening of the North Area

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

1.1 The report 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, **Annex 1a**.

##### 2. Work plan 2010/11: The Greening of the North Area

###### 2.1 Community Allotments

The Community Allotment sites were agreed within the last Committee and the following funding applications have been made to support the development of the sites:

1. Community Spaces	£45,000
2. Reaching Communities	£40,000
3. SIB	£57,050

2.2 The SIB application will be presented to the Committee later as part of the financial information and applications.

###### 2.2 Council Allotments

In October 2010 the Police launched the Allotment Watch scheme on Summerbell allotments, this scheme would see plot holders, the Police and the Council work together to make allotment sites even safer. This scheme has raised a number of issues regarding the allotment site and potential problems witnessed and reported to the police during the launch of the scheme.

2.3 In addition to this an Allotment Review was undertaken as part of the Attractive and Inclusive Scrutiny Committee and an action plan developed to address the findings of the review, some of which overlapped with some of the concerns and issues highlighted by the Police.

2.4 The Sunderland North LMAPS have agreed a plan of action to address the issues and concerns raised as a result of the Allotment Watch Scheme working with the Allotment Officer and the Council's enforcement team.

2.5 In order for Area Committee to support the work being undertaken as part of LMAPS and the action plan developed to address the Allotment Review the following actions have been identified to be considered as part of a phased approach:

- Write out to all tenants to arrange to meet and validate the tenancy and confirm there are no subletting arrangements in place.
- Inspect all sites with high and inaccessible fencing to ensure sites are being used appropriately.
- Where tenants are unable to validate the tenancy agreement, these will be terminated.
- Where access is not given to sites or it is discovered the site is being used inappropriately the tenancy agreement will be terminated.
- The current tenancy agreement will be reviewed with Legal advice.
- All unlettable sites will be identified.
- Letters will be issued to individuals waiting for an allotment site to offer them an unlettable site with an agreement that they would not pay rent for an agreed number of years and potentially be provided with a financial subsidy up to an agreed amount to assist the refurbishment of the site (skips/equipment/fencing).
- The VCS network to be engaged to allow them the same opportunity or to support the refurbishment as a volunteer and commitment to improving their local area.
- The private sector will be engaged to undertake “Team Challenges” to clear sites and support bringing them back into use.
- The Probation Service and Youth Offending Service will be engaged to assist the clearance of sites and support bringing them back into use.

### 3. Cleansing of Sites

3.1 Contact has been made with private landlords regarding a joint approach to cleaning up sites identified.

3.2 A proposal was made to investigate the community use of the old Southwick School, while the site is currently unused. This would look at consideration being given to opening up the grassed area, adding signage and dog bins and incorporating the site onto the enforcement round. The site would need to be fully investigated for risk and health and safety issues but could potentially have good outcomes.

### 4 Specific Projects

#### 4.1 River Rubbish Relay

The River Rubbish Relay has been arranged to take place on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2011. The event will be an organised litter pick with educational heritage elements along the way.

4.2 The Community and Voluntary Sector have been engaged and will provide support, including walk leaders, community transport, information and education on heritage as part of the walk.

- 4.3 City Services are providing the equipment to litter pick.
- 4.4 At the end of the walk a mini event will be held indoors with some activities for children and adults.
- 4.5 As the event is being held on a Sunday volunteers are being asked to support the event it enables the walk to become self managed and reduce any issues regarding Health and Safety.
- 4.6 Fulwell Quarry  
This area was identified as part of the Greenspace Topic Paper as an area that could be developed to be of benefit to local communities. This area has also experienced anti social behaviour and motor cycle disorder so any developments considered need to address or reduce the behaviours.
- 4.7 The area includes Sites of Special Scientific Interest and Sites of Nature Conservation Importance which restricts the development and use of these areas and buffer areas, meaning that restricting motorcycle activity could not be formally put into place.
- 4.8 Maps of the Fulwell Quarry site will be reviewed to identify areas where development is prevented or restricted and draft improvement proposals identified to encourage Community use.
- 4.6 Sunderland North Community Sports Complex  
CEED have been engaged to review and assess the pond area at Sunderland North Community Sports Complex to establish the area as a natural wildlife area and natural play area of benefit to local communities.
- 4.7 An Expression of Interest for SIB funding has been received from CEED in order to progress this work.

**Recommendation**

- Note the content of the report.
- Agree the recommendations regarding the works to improve Council allotment sites.
- Agree the work to progress a natural wildlife and play area at Sunderland North Community Sports Complex pending a full funding application.
- Agree the River Rubbish Relay pending full application to Community Chest budgets for funding.

## North Area Committee

6 January 2011

### Report of the Executive Director of City Services

#### Priority: Responsive Local Services (RLS)

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

- 1.1 RLS is a method of area working designed to:
- Increase levels of resident satisfaction through providing services that are responsive to community needs and effectively communicating improvements
  - Tailor services in recognition of differing area/locality circumstances either through local problem solving or adapting service standards
  - Recognise and enhance the community leadership role of elected members.
- 1.2 The current scope of RLS covers the service areas of Litter, Graffiti, Refuse, Grass Cutting, Dumping of Waste and Dog Fouling. It also provides the opportunity for a wider range of issues to be considered within a context of local problem solving.
- 1.3 The Street Lighting service requests – as noted within the November committee report are to be addressed via the Intelligence Group. The PFI Contract Monitoring Officer receives the Street Lighting issues and addresses them as required.
- 1.4 The Noise service requests – as noted within the November committee report are to be addressed via an Out of Hours Noise Service pilot. Details of which can be found within the body of this report.

#### 2. Service Requests

- 2.1 The tables below provide a view of the volume of service requests for the services in scope for October and November 2010.

<b>Service Area – Oct 2010</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>Washington</b>	<b>Coalfield</b>
Animal Fouling	22	13	16	17	15
Grass Cutting	2	0	2	4	10
Graffiti	1	14	3	7	12
Rubbish and Litter	107	92	94	93	91
Refuse and recycling	201	218	247	223	208
Dumping of Waste	211	281	154	124	96

<b>Service Area – Nov 2010</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>Washington</b>	<b>Coalfield</b>
Animal Fouling	24	12	14	4	7
Grass Cutting	0	0	0	0	0
Graffiti	5	14	6	3	5
Rubbish and Litter	51	75	70	77	47
Refuse and recycling	189	233	265	257	262
Dumping of Waste	220	264	142	146	81

### 3. What does the analysis tell us and what action are we taking?

- 3.1 **Refuse and Recycling** - In relation to the number of refuse and recycling service requests – analysis has highlighted that the increase in service requests is linked to the transitional arrangements for the new dry recycling scheme. Increased monitoring of the new scheme during initial collections as they commence, will be applied by Refuse Managers to ensure service satisfaction increases.
- 3.2 **Animal fouling** – remains an issue in the rear lanes to terraces in Roker and Fulwell
- 3.3 **Rubbish and litter** – remains issue in some lanes at Roker and Fulwell as well as parts of Southwick
- 3.4 **Graffiti** - The Graffiti Service is addressing service requests more efficiently due to the introduction of mobile technology. Calls from residents asking the Council to carry out clean-ups have fallen over the last year since Sunderland City Council issued 250 frontline staff with mobile telephones and some with handheld computers. This new way of working means that in many cases staff able to nip problems in the bud, resulting in quicker and more efficient service for residents. In some cases graffiti is being removed within minutes of being identified.
- 3.6 **Dumping of Waste** - Some specific examples of enforcement activity in the North area to address the dumping of waste are detailed below:
  - 3.7 **Station Road, Fulwell** - Fly-tipping commercial waste - enquiries ongoing. Documentation relating to waste disposal requested – formal action to follow.
  - 3.8 **Roker Ave** – Waste on land. Landowner traced and requests to clear land have been made. Notice to be served if necessary.
  - 3.9 **Church Street North** – excessive waste to rear of flats. Land owner working with team to rectify.
  - 3.10 **Mitford Street** – storage of commercial waste receptacles. Matter resolved.
  - 3.11 **Seafront** – dog fouling continues to be an issue. Officers patrol regularly issuing FPN's for failing to remove faeces.

### 4. INTELLIGENCE GROUP

- 4.1 The Intelligence Group which meets on a monthly basis – attended by Sunderland City Council, Gentoo and the Police, discussed local issues using various information tools including service requests, staff reporting line, estate walkabouts and councillor and community group enquiries. Voluntary and community sector (VCS) groups in the area have welcomed this opportunity to share information and intelligence. It was clear from the discussions that the current local issues within the North area relate to Allotments and Traffic and Highways Services.
- 4.2 **Allotments** – the service requests relating to Allotments continues to rise, as local people aspire to grow their own. A pilot is currently running within the North Area, working with Groundworks to deliver new community allotments and community gardens. The Sunderland.gov.uk website has also been updated, enabling residents to request an allotment online as well as post general enquiries.

- 4.3 **Traffic and Highways** – Large number of service requests have been received in relation to traffic and highway issues. Streetscene are currently restructuring and improving processes to ensure a more timely response to service requests. The service is also developing a system to prioritise service requests, which will be of increased importance in light of anticipated further reductions in LTP funding.
- 4.4 **Issues identified by the VCS** – Southwick Community Association members and service users have expressed concern over graffiti and litter in the surrounding area. Removal of graffiti and provision of bins outside the Community Association has been suggested as a response.

## **5. CITY SERVICES – AREA RESPONSE MANAGERS**

- 5.1 All of the new Area Response Managers for Streetscene should be appointed by the date of the Area Committee.
- 5.2 The Area Response Manager for the North Area will attend each Area Committee.
- 5.3 The Area Response Manager will make them self known to each of the Committee members and will also promote their role within each ward, holding drop-in sessions for local residents to talk to them about any issues they may have. The Area Response Manager will ensure local councillors are aware of any issues raised and address issues as appropriate, directing resources and coordinating activity, as required within the local area.

## **6. LOCALLY TARGETED COMMUNICATION MESSAGES**

- 6.1 It is important that feedback is given to residents to ensure they understand what services have been delivered within their area and how Sunderland Council is developing its service offer to ensure value for money.
- 6.2 The Area Response Managers and Area Regeneration Officer, alongside the area Communications Team representative, who attend each Area Committee, will work together to ensure local news stories, relating to services delivered, are shared with the media and within the Area Newsletters – which will have a dedicated Responsive Local Services page within each issue.
- 6.3 This approach will be supported by a targeted campaign to promote the appointment of the Area Response Manager and the local response team. Postcards will also be used to promote local activity, encouraging residents to get involved in the improvement of their city.
- 6.4 Due to the number of service requests relating to the dumping of waste, it is proposed to develop a campaign to promote the services available from the council to remove white goods for free throughout the year, the bulky collection service as well as the recycling sites across the city.

## **7. OUT OF HOURS NOISE SERVICE – PILOT APPROACH**

- 7.1 Evidence suggests that noise nuisance affects all areas of the city to some degree and as such it is proposed to provide a pilot Out of Hours Noise Response Team to all areas of the City.

- 7.2 The pilot involves collaborative working with Northumbria Police in support of the Noisy Party Pilot Scheme. The scheme was in place from 25<sup>th</sup> October and continued until December 19<sup>th</sup>, across the City as an initial response to noise complaints.
- 7.3 The results of the pilot are being used to consider how the noise service should operate in future in terms of the most effective means to deliver the service and improve customer satisfaction.

## **8. WORKING TOGETHER WITH GENTOO**

- 8.1 The Area Response Managers are now meeting with their counterpart within Gentoo on a bi-monthly basis to share information and to ensure close working arrangements. The purpose of the meeting is to address day-to-day service issues and to work together to support service delivery alignment where possible – sharing work programmes in particular. Training has been delivered to Gentoo front line staff explaining Sunderland City Council's service delivery methodology and to communicate staffing structures.
- 8.2 The Customer Services section from Sunderland City Council is also working together with their counterparts at Gentoo to share customer intelligence to support service delivery – particularly sharing messages and improving response times to address service requests.

## **9. STRATEGIC LAND MANAGEMENT**

- 9.1 Phase 2 of the Strategic Land Management Project is well underway. All council owned land has now been inspected and work has begun with Land & Property Services to carry out the data cleansing with help of 2 Officers from the SWITCH Team.
- 9.2 The next step is to use the gathered data to prepare the GIS information layers that will populate the initial SLM viewer. This will include layers showing land maintenance costs, Gentoo land ownership, leasehold and Customer Service data. The completed SLM viewer will be tested and then presented to area committees in March 2011.

### **Recommendation**

Area Committee are requested to:

- Note the report and receive further updates regarding any issues arising from the intelligence group.

Contact Officer: Helen Peverley, City Services, Tel: 0191 561 7532  
Email: [Helen.peverley@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:Helen.peverley@sunderland.gov.uk)

**Community Action: Review Progress**

Issue	Priority or Theme	Date	Evidence and/or Data Source	Next steps/Action Taken	Funding Application (SIB/SIP)	Lead Agent	RAG
				2009/10			
Tighter control on the sale of alcohol and reduce underage drinking	Safe	Sept 2009	1. Police 2. Members Queries 3. Issues Log & 2009/10 Work Plan 4. Local Confidence Survey	1. Licensed premises should be encouraged to sign up to 25+ scheme. 2. Community Police – patrols in position 3. The police have undertaken a number of operations and continue to do so including: Griffin Protocols – Stop and confiscation of alcohol from underage children Funding through LMAPS to fund increased security on licensed premises. Advertisement campaign regarding adults purchasing alcohol for children and the action that will be taken. 3G cameras funded for hotspot areas – significant improvement seen. Joint working with licensing officers targeting known problem premises or areas. Overall the operations have seen a decline in the amount of alcohol confiscated from children. 3. Trading Standards carrying out a number of initiatives - Advisory visits to premises, test purchases. 4. Policy review on Alcohol and Anti-Social behaviour reported to June cabinet. Recommendations made: Members to agree scope of policy review. Agree membership of task and finish group to look at the licensing policy and enforcement. 5. A review of the current licensing policy was issued at July scrutiny meeting and consultation will run until 24.8.2010.		Safer Communities Team  Police	A
Community Payback Scheme	Safe	Jan 2010	1. Members queries 2. Issues Log & 2009/10 Work Plan 3. Local Confidence Survey	1. Youth Offending Service provided with locations by Area Committee to clean up hotspots in the North. Dundas Street, Southwick and St Andrews Church were selected. Sites risk assessed as appropriate have now been cleaned up.		Simon Smart	G
Specialist and generalist youth provision to be available in all wards in the North	Learning	Nov 2009	1. Police Statistics 2. Customer Insight 3. Issues Log & 2009/10 Work Plan 4. Members queries	1. Commissioning process of youth services 2. XL villages rolled out across the North area 3. Business Transformation Programme (Service Assessment and Commissioning) reviews underway re youth and play provision – Play and Urban Games Strategy review presented to	SIP Grosvenor Play Park	Andy Neal  City Services	G



Issue	Priority or Theme	Date	Evidence and/or Data Source	Next steps/Action Taken	Funding Application (SIB/SIP)	Lead Agent	RAG
				September AC and next steps agreed. 4. Review current policy of community use of school buildings – Various depts within Council met regarding guidance for schools around community use and 'Lettings Pack' under development. Pack to be presented at AC once complete. 5. Review the use of under utilised youth and sports facilities, e.g. North Community Sports Centre. 6. Provision of lighting for the MUGA and car park at Redhouse Academy. 7. Provision of new play area at Grosvenor St		Stacy Hodkinson  Victoria Smith/Ian Parkin	
Raise aspirations of children, young people and their families	Learning	Nov 2009	1. Family Adult and Community Learning statistics 2. Connexions 3. College stats 4. 09/10 work plan	1. Area Committee to receive updates on the current review of learning provision, 2010/11 work plan 2. 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. 3. Steering Group established to take forward actions to support, train and encourage the voluntary sector to engage with Sunderland First and tender for adult learning. Initial engagement to be made with CVS and VCS network.		Sandra Kenny Area Community Co-ordinators and Steering Group members	A
Raise attainment levels and skills of young people	Learning	Nov 2009	1. Family Adult and Community Learning statistics 2. Connexions 3. College stats 4. 09/10 work plan	1. The Curriculum group of the 14-19 Partnership have been asked to carry out research into apprenticeship opportunities in the City and plans for future increases. 2. The report will include the role that the City Council is taking in increasing Apprenticeship opportunities. 3. Sunderland City Council has one of the highest rates of Apprentices in the North East. 4. A policy review will be undertaken into Young People (NEET) with particular reference to apprenticeships to July Scrutiny Committee and a draft to be available in March 2011.		Lynda Brown	A
Promote heritage and existing attractions (e.g. Fulwell Mill, Hylton Castle, St Peter's Church)	Attractive and Inclusive	July 2009	1. AC Issues Log & 2009/10 Work Plan	1. Business plan for Hylton Castle completed. Steering group now reviewing 1 <sup>st</sup> stage Heritage Lottery application Family fun days are being promoted across the North area Hylton Castle battle re-enactment successfully took place in August 2010. 2. Cross city Angling Festival planned for 4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> of December 2010. Due to inclement weather, this date has now been changed to February. 3. Relocation and refurbishment of coal tubs from Bowes Museum to Hylton Cricket Club as a memorial. 4. Funding provided for the Seaburn masterplan, work to commence end of September 2010 for completion December 2010 to include granite steps, renewal of seating, litter bins and	Delegated SIB decision  SIP  SIP	Estelle Brown  Angling Trust  Breandan King Claire Jones	G

Issue	Priority or Theme	Date	Evidence and/or Data Source	Next steps/Action Taken	Funding Application (SIB/SIP)	Lead Agent	RAG
				<p>signage and tidy up of area in front of Seaburn Centre.</p> <p>5. Renovations to St Peter's Church, heating, electrical conductor.</p> <p>6. World Heritage bid for St Peter's under preparation and presented to Scrutiny Committee.</p> <p>7. Development of heritage through school curriculum and engagement.</p> <p>8. Development of MAC as part of coastal heritage.</p> <p>9. Development of football heritage trail.</p> <p>10. Delivery of International oral history conference</p>	<p>SIB</p> <p>Community Chest SIB</p>	<p>Carl Richardson Jane Hall</p>	
Improve areas of rundown land	Attractive and Inclusive	July 2009	<p>1. Ward Visits</p> <p>2. Members queries</p> <p>3. AC Issues Log &amp; 2009/10 Work Plan</p>	<p>1. Thompson Park improvements agreed at September Committee, works to commence.</p> <p>2. Development of Grosvenor Play park at Southwick - to be presented to November Committee.</p>	<p>SIB</p> <p>SIP</p>	<p>Keith Hamilton</p> <p>Carol Lewis</p>	
Coordinated approach to enterprise support and development	Prosperous	Jan 2010	<p>1. Members queries</p> <p>2. AC Issues Log &amp; 2009/10 Work Plan</p> <p>3. Visible Workspace Project (Working Neighbourhoods Fund)</p> <p>4. City Council Industrial Estates Audit</p>	<p>1. A report on the Visible Workspaces has been provided to the Working Neighbourhoods Board recommending allocation of its funding. There were no applications involving the North area.</p> <p>2. Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Policy Review re Working Neighbourhood Strategy to June Cabinet</p>		Andrew Perkin	A
Coordinate the work of advice and support agencies	Prosperous	Jan 2010	<p>1. Members queries</p> <p>2. AC Issues Log &amp; 2009/10 Work Plan</p>	<p>1. Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Policy Review re Working Neighbourhood Strategy to June Cabinet will confirm what has worked in the area.</p> <p>2. A range of advice and support services available – Fiscus, Libra, SES</p> <p>3. Housing Policy review recommendations include a co-ordinated approach to accessing social housing and improvements to information and advice available regarding accessing housing.</p>		Andrew Perkin	G
Raise the skill levels and aspirations of adults in relation to employability	Prosperous	Jan 2010	<p>1. Members queries</p> <p>2. AC Issues Log &amp; 2009/10 Work Plan</p> <p>3. Hanlon data</p>	<p>1. City wide audit to identify skills gaps for vacancies being developed, report to scrutiny committee then project will be going out to tender. The audit will involve surveying 2000 businesses citywide with a report being available from March 2011.</p> <p>2. Sunderland Learning Partnership will continue to develop an holistic approach</p>		Andrew Perkin	A

Issue	Priority or Theme	Date	Evidence and/or Data Source	Next steps/Action Taken	Funding Application (SIB/SIP)	Lead Agent	RAG
Ensure adequate support for vulnerable adults	Health	March 2010	1. Mosaic Data TPCT, 2. Dir of P Health Report, 3. AC Issues Log & 2009/10 Work Plan	1. 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. 2. Note the progress made on the CQC action plan covering safeguarding and choice and control delivered to Health Scrutiny Committee. 3. Telecare Update report – reported success of service and how this supports vulnerable adults. 4. HHAS are procuring the provision of social care for adults with LD – reported to Health Scrutiny Committee. 5. Personalisation agenda.		Health, Housing and Adult Services	A
Address lack of public transport in some areas	Health	March 2010	1. Area Committee consulted 2. Public consultation	1. Nexus provided the committee with the Nexus Secured Strategy and Consultation. 2. A progress report was presented to Environment and Attractive City Scrutiny Committee in September 2010.		John Usher (Nexus)	G
2010/11							
<b>Raising Aspirations, Self Esteem and Pride</b>							
Heritage and Volunteering	Heritage	July 2010	1. Area Committee consulted 2. Task and Finish Group	1. Initial meetings have taken place to discuss involving heritage issues into the school curriculum through the use of projects, with the young people who are Not involved in Training, Employment or Education. 2. City Services are identifying volunteer development opportunities. 3. Local Studies are undertaking a piece of work to identify all heritage sites and places of interest in the North Area. 4. Local heritage community groups identified. 5. Heritage group met in October 2010 further meeting arranged for November 2010. 6. Recommendation for policy review into the role of Culture in supporting sustainable communities (including heritage) to Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee – final report to cabinet June 2011 7. Recommendations for projects to Jan Committee for a decision		Estelle Brown/Vicki Medhurst	G
Greening of the North Area	Attractive and Inclusive	July 2010	1. Area Committee consulted 2. Task and Finish Group 3. Members queries 4. Customer complaints	1. Initial meetings have taken place to look at opportunities for the development of unused land into community gardens and allotment sites. 2. Available land is being identified 3. Model SIB applications have been developed for three sites throughout the North Area 4. VCS group have identified greening/volunteering opportunities	Model proposal provided ready for when appropriate sites identified.	Les Clark, City Services	G

Issue	Priority or Theme	Date	Evidence and/or Data Source	Next steps/Action Taken	Funding Application (SIB/SIP)	Lead Agent	RAG
				and ways in which to engage educational and other groups. 5. Greening T & F group to met in October, actions to present to Committee agreed.			
To make the streets more attractive, landscaping rundown areas, removing litter and graffiti	Attractive and Inclusive	Sept 2010	1. Area Committee consulted. 2. Greenspace survey 3. Local Development Framework	1. Revisit the green space survey from 2002 to identify open spaces of public value via workshops, first workshop took place on 26.10.2010. 2. Assessment of identified open spaces against recommended criteria to assess value of area to the community. 3. Ward maps available in Councillor workroom or individually for Cllr's to identify areas within their wards.		Julie Lynn Clive Greenwood	A
Community Philosophy	Attractive and Inclusive	Nov 2010	1. Area Committee 2. NEEP 3. LSP	1. Identification of CVS groups. 2. Thompson Park Walkabout. 3. Play ranger activities at Marley Potts. 4. Training on Community Philosophy to CVS 5. Supporting the development and extension of St Andrews Church Community Gardens and the youth and community engagement		Groundworks Les Platt	A

**SUNDERLAND North AREA COMMITTEE MEETING  
6th January 2011**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I**

**Title of Report:**

Reviewing Progress

**Author(s):**

Chief Executive

**Purpose of Report:**

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

**This report denotes an item relating to an executive function**

**Description of Decision:**

The Committee is requested to approve the following:

- Financial Report: Note the financial statement for Area Committee funding for 2010/11
- Annex 1c:
  - i) Approve proposals from the 2010/11 SIB budget totalling £58,200;
    - 1. £40,000 Community Allotments **Approve**
    - 2. £5000 SMCT **Approve**
    - 3. £13,200 Ear 4 U **Approve**
  - ii) Approve proposals from the SIP budget project totalling
    - Castle Ward**
      - 1. £945 Castletown Community Heritage Monument **Approve**
      - 2. £2000 Perimeter Fencing Rainbow Tots **Approve**
    - Fulwell Ward**
      - 3. £6050 Dene Lane Footpath **Approve**
    - Southwick Ward**
      - 4. £7548 Studio IT **Approve**

Annex 1b: i) Approve 13 proposals for support from the 2010/11 Community Chest totalling £3,798.

**Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework?**

Yes

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

The Area Committee has been allocated £405,076 per annum from the Strategic Initiatives Budget to promote action on key priorities identified in the relevant Local Area Plan and to attract other funding into the area.

The Community Chest forms part of the Strategic Initiatives Budget and £250,000 is available for the scheme in 2010/2011; £10,000 for each Ward.

Strategic Investment Plan (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.

**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?**

**Relevant Scrutiny Committee:**

## SUNDERLAND NORTH AREA COMMITTEE

6<sup>th</sup> January 2011

### REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

#### Community Chest, Strategic Initiative Budget (SIB) and Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) – Financial Statement and Proposals for further allocation of Resources

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

1.1 Area Committee has delegated budgets to allocate to specific strategic priorities identified in the Local Area Plan, with the overall aim to benefit the wider community and to attract other funding into the area. The report provides a financial statement as an update position on progress in relation to allocating SIB, SIP and Community Chest.

#### 2 Financial statement North Area Committee Funding streams 2010 – 2011 as at 6<sup>th</sup> January 2011

2.1

<b>SIB: North SIB Statement 6th January 2011</b>				
* £288,548 was allocated for 2010-11, £116,528 was carried over from 2009-10: Balance £405,076				
	<b>Committee Date</b>	<b>Main Fund 80%</b>	<b>Opportunities: 20%</b>	<b>Total 100%</b>
<b>Available Funding 2010/11 *</b>	28.06.10	£324,061	£81,015	£405,076
Project Name	-	-	-	-
Thompson Park Improvements	13.09.10	£55,000	-	£350,076
Security Fence & Toilets - Wearside Allotments	13.09.10	£10,500	-	£339,576
Sensory Room - Town End Farm Primary School	13.09.10	£4,900		£334,676
Sunderland Angling Festival	08.10.10 (Under Delegated Decision Process)	£1,000	-	£333,676
Grace House North East	08.10.10 (Under Delegated Decision Process)	£1,675	-	£332,001
Tackle It	08.11.10	-	£14,000	£318,001
Great North Big Band Festival	08.11.10	-	£5,000	£313,001

Holistic Approach to Physical & Emotional Wellbeing	08.11.10	-	£2,300	£310,701
Parade Traffic Mangement Support	11.11.10 (Under Delegated Decision Process)	-	£1,353	£309,348
<b>NB:- £1,637 was recouped from Sunderland History Fair (included in remaining balance )</b>				
<b>Balance</b>	-	<b>£73,075</b>	<b>£22,653</b>	<b>£310,985</b>

<u>SIP: North Statement 6th January 2011</u>			
	<b>SIP Budget</b>	<b>Approvals</b>	<b>Balance</b>
<b>Available Funding 2010/2011</b>	<b>£170,540</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£170,540</b>
Castle	£43,308	£32,966	£10,342
Fulwell	£20,308	£3,500	£16,808
Redhill	£43,308	£43,308	£0
Southwick	£43,308	£25,042	£18,266
St Peter's	£20,308	£20,000	£308
<b>NB:- £9,200 from Washington Road Tree Light project has been recouped for Castle Ward (included in remaining balance)</b>			
<b>Balance</b>	<b>£170,540</b>	<b>£124,816</b>	<b>£45,724</b>

<u>Community Chest: North Statement 6th January 2011</u>			
*£10,000 was allocated per ward from 2010-11, Budget includes carry over from 2009-10 of £			
	<b>Community Chest Budget</b>	<b>Approvals</b>	<b>Balance</b>
<b>Available Funding 2010/11 *</b>			
Castle	£12,798	£11,476	£1,322
Fulwell	£11,312	£3,250	£8,062
Red Hill	£18,149	£13,371	£4,778
Southwick	£12,614	£7635	£4,979
St Peter's	£14,114	£5798	£8,316
<b>Total</b>	<b>£68,987</b>	<b>£41,530</b>	<b>£27,457</b>

## 2.2 Strategic Initiatives Budget

2.2.1 Following the September 2010 Committee meeting, £312,338 remained to be allocated during 2010/2011.

2.2.2 Since November 2010, emergency multi area SIB application bids were approved through delegated powers. These were £1353 to support the Remembrance Day Parade delivered on 14<sup>th</sup> November. This leaves a final balance of £310,985 to be allocated during 2010 – 2011, with two meetings remaining.

2.2.3 The following projects detailed in **Annex 1b** are presented to Committee for approval:

1. Sunderland North Community Allotments	£40,000	<b>Approve</b>
2. SMCT	£5000	<b>Approve</b>
3. Ear 4 U	£13200	<b>Approve</b>

2.2.4 Projects presented total £58,200. Should all of the proposals be approved the remaining balance for the 2010/2011 allocation would be £252,785.

## 2.3 Strategic Investment Plan

2.3.1 Following the November 2010 Committee meeting, £36,524 remained to be allocated during 2010/2011. The following projects detailed in **Annex 1b** are recommended for approval:

### Castle Ward

1. Castletown Community Heritage Monument	£945	<b>Approve</b>
2. Rainbow Tots Perimeter Fencing	£2000	<b>Approve</b>

### Fulwell Ward

3. Dene Lane Footpath	£6050	<b>Approve</b>
-----------------------	-------	----------------

### Southwick Ward

4. Studio IT	£7548	<b>Approve</b>
--------------	-------	----------------

## 2.4 Community Chest

2.4.1 The table below details the balances remaining to be allocated following the last meeting. The total project proposals received are set out in **Annex 1c**, together with the balances remaining should these proposals be approved.

Ward	Budget Remaining	Project Proposals	Balance
Castle	£1,322	£600	£722
Fulwell	£8,062	£405	£7657
Redhill	£4778	£100	£4678
Southwick	£4979	£1018	£3961
St Peters	£8316	£1675	£6641
<b>Total</b>	<b>£27,457</b>	<b>£3693</b>	<b>£23,659</b>



**Recommendations**

Committee is requested to:

- Note the financial statement set out in section 2.1.
- Approve the recommendations set out in Annex 1b (SIB/SIP applications) .
- Approve the 13 proposals support 2010/2011 Community Chest set out in Annex 1c.

**ITEM 3 ANNEX 1b  
SIB/SIP FUNDING APPLICATIONS**

**Application No.1 – SIB**

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>SIB</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	Community Allotments
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	SCC – Les Clark

<b>Total cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total SIB requested</b>
£174,350	£117,300	£40,000
<b>Project Duration</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
1 year	Feb 2011	Jan 2011

**The Project**

The Community Allotment Project has been developed to support the Greening of the North Area. This project will bring back into use overgrown and run down land through the creation of community gardens and allotments. The allotments will be much smaller than the standard allotment site widening the opportunity for involvement of local people.

Groundworks will manage the project to refurbish the areas of land and enable them to be used as community gardens.

A squad supervisor will be employed to manage and support the training and development of 12 young people from the North Area through the Future Jobs Fund. These young people will be given the opportunity of a paid 'apprenticeship' during which time they will train and develop skills and experience that will support them to move into paid employment in the future.

A community engagement/project officer will be employed to develop the community allotments with local residents, schools, youth groups and the local community offering people the opportunity to become involved, whether it be to take up a community allotment, share knowledge and skills regarding growing plants/vegetables or health eating or other subjects or help with the initial clearing and building of individual sites. The officer will also support the local community, volunteers and voluntary groups to become constituted and set up a sustainable management committee on each community allotment site to ensure the maintenance and future success of the Community Allotments

The project will support the delivery of the Greening priority on the Local Area Plan as well as the following local and strategic priorities:

**Health** - Assist individuals and families to exercise through allotment use and develop an understanding and awareness of healthy eating through grow your own.

**Learning** - Offer children and adults the opportunity to learn how to manage a garden/allotment, growing and maintaining vegetables and flowers and sharing knowledge and experience.

**Increase volunteering** - Engaging with communities and community groups to develop a management committee and group of individuals who assist with the development of the sites on a voluntary basis.

**Prosperous** - Provide training and experience to young people to support the move into paid employment

**Community Cohesion** - Engaging with a wide range of the community with varying backgrounds to promote working together, sharing skills, experience and knowledge.

The economic downturn has contributed to the rise in popularity of allotments as people look to produce their own food more cheaply. There is also evidence to suggest a changing age demographic in the use of allotments, historically it has been retired or semi retired people it is acknowledged that younger people are now applying for and taking on allotment plots.

#### Example of Good Practice

##### **Washington Ayton**

This site and the management committee have played an active role in the community, by developing a community garden for use by Age Concern, as well as an allotment used by the Oxclose Multi-Purpose Centre, a centre for people with disabilities. 'Growing Clubs' have been developed with four local schools; St Joseph's; St John Boste; Lambton Primary and Glebe Wessington School. In addition to visiting these schools to offer advice and practical support to promote the growing of organic vegetables, the site was successful last year in bidding for funding to obtain a cabin for use as a classroom. School children are invited onto the site and are given practical demonstrations on all aspects of growing vegetables, from seed sowing to planting and looking after crops.

#### **The Need for the Project**

Residents and Local Councillors have identified a need to improve the run down areas and make better use of the greenspaces available through Area Committee as part of the Local Area Plan and the consultation that was completed with residents and local community and voluntary groups validated this information.

There are currently 7 council owned/managed allotment sites on the North area with 263 plots and people currently on the waiting list stands at 179.

Southwick Primary School, Bexhill and Town End Farm Primary school have all expressed an interest in developing community allotments for use of the school and children, with Bexhill and Town End Farm having submitted an expression of interest form to SIB.

The Salvation Army have expressed an interest in developing/accessing a Community Allotment site.

Fulwell Day Ctr currently have a small Community Allotment on the Shields Road site but have confirmed they wish to expand the site in order to take over several gardens.

#### **The Outputs for the Project**

Output Code	Description	Number
A1	Number of new or improved community facilities and equipment	3
A2	Number of people using new and improved community facilities	120
H1	Number of people benefiting from healthy lifestyle projects	120
L1	Number of people receiving job training	12

<b>Milestones and Key Events</b>	<b>Forecast Dates</b>
Clearance of sites	Feb 2011, May 2011, Aug 2011
Refurbishment of sites	April 2011, July 2011, Oct 2011
Community Engagement	April 2011

**Recommendation: Approve**

This project supports the Attractive and Inclusive Theme within the Local Area Plan as well as the identified priorities of Greening of the North Area, raising aspirations of young people and families and raising attainment and skills of young people and improving areas of run down land. The project also supports the identified actions within the Allotment Review.

**Application No. 2 – SIB**

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>SIB</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	SMCT
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	SMCT

<b>Total cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total SIB requested</b>
£32,958	£27,958	£5000
<b>Project Duration</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
3 months	Jan 2011	March 2011

**The Project**

Provision of appropriate transport to allow residents to travel safely without the worry of crime. SMCT was set up on a voluntary basis in 1975 to meet the needs of local residents. It has three wheelchair-accessible, 15 seat minibuses available for use by community organisations and not for profit groups in the North of Sunderland. The project enables young people, the elderly and other community groups, to benefit from experiences that are only accessible because the appropriate transport allows them to travel safely at an affordable cost. Volunteers from each group undertake MiDAS sessions (Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme). And on completion are awarded a nationally recognised certificate. The minibuses can be used from as little as a couple of hours to a full week, this means it is cost effective and suited to the needs of each group. Yearly membership is £30.00 per group and sessions are £12.00 at present. Each day is broken into 3 sessions; morning, afternoon and evening. There are two part-time paid workers, managed by a voluntary management committee, made up from local residents and representatives of member groups.

**The Need for the Project**

There is a need for the project because feedback from our users tells us there is no other community transport in the area that operates in the same way. There is also a continuous demand for the minibuses. We feel we have a duty, as part of the community, to make sure that those who do not have their own transport, and are disadvantaged by financial or health problems have some chance of equality and opportunity. Community projects such as SMCT have a vital role, removing barriers for the socially excluded – often the most vulnerable members of society. Organisations such as the Young Carers and the local youth project (which are also charities) would not be able to offer the programmes that they do without transport, meaning that the majority of their work would be building-based instead of introducing the young people to new experiences.

**The Outputs for the Project**

Output Code	Description	Number
L1	Number of people receiving training	45
P2	Number of jobs safeguarded	18
P3	Number of people volunteering	180

Milestones and Key Events	Forecast Dates
MIDAS training for new volunteers	Feb 2011
Publicity to attract new business	March 2011

### Recommendation: Approve

This project supports the Prosperous theme of the Local Area Plan as well as the identified priorities of raising aspirations in young people and their families, ensuring adequate support for vulnerable adults and addressing the lack of public transport in some areas.

### Application No.3 – SIB

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>SIB</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	Ear 4 U
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	Impact

<b>Total cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total SIP requested</b>
£19,200	£6000	13,200
<b>Project Duration</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
7 mths	Jan 2011	July 2011

### The Project

Development of a service offering one to one support for children and young people who have/are experiencing bullying issues, or other social issues (eg domestic violence, family breakdown or family substance use), which is then affecting their attendance at school. Advice and support is also provided for their parents. Impact will meet with the child or young person to discuss the issues, meet with the family members to give coping strategies and offer support. They will liaise with the school to put together a support package to allow the young person to return safely to school. For those children who are identified as isolated, suitable youth provision would be sourced in their area and support provided to enable access. Monitoring would be put into place to ensure plans are effective. In addition to providing non academic support and advice it the project also meets the strategic aim raising attainment levels and skills of children and young people, as they are more likely to achieve academically and be more self confident.

### The Need for the Project

Over the school year September 09 - July, 10 the Anti Bullying Service received 19 requests for individual support from children living in the North area. Impact were only able to offer basic intervention to a small number of these and advice only to the others. In May a member of ABS attended the Integrated Referral Service Panel Meeting to discuss the range of referrals they receive. (The panel consists of representatives from health, education, mental health, behaviour team and disability teams and considers referrals on children requiring additional support). It was clear at this meeting that bullying was a recurring theme, but again no one service is available to offer a holistic approach to tackling the issues.

### The Outputs for the Project

Output Code	Description	Number
L2	Number of people accessing improved advice and support	46
L8	Number of additional young people engaged and participation in youth provision	8

<b>Milestones and Key Events</b>	<b>Forecast Dates</b>
Information/publicity for project and referral processes	Jan 2011
Launch Events	Jan/Feb 2011
Referrals accepted	Feb 2011
Sessions Delivered	Feb 2011
Final evaluation report	Aug 2011

**Recommendation: Approve**

The project supports the Learning Theme of the local area plan and the priority for raising attainment and skills of young people.

**Application No.4 – SIP Castle Ward**

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>SIP</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	Castletown Community Heritage Monument
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	Breandan King

<b>Total cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total SIP requested</b>
£1445	£500	£945
<b>Project Duration</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
3 mths	January 2011	April 2011

**The Project**

The Project's aim is to celebrate and raise awareness of the mining heritage and history of the local area. The proposed Coal Tub would provide a fitting tribute to the miners of Castletown and the wards mining heritage.

The Coal Tub will sit within the grounds of the Billy Hardy Centre, a well used sports complex situated in the heart of Castletown. The complex's facilities include a football pitch, cricket pitch, bowling green, play area and a social facility and it is utilised by a range of community groups, local residents and families using the play area and function rooms as well as visitors from around the UK who participate in competitions and events held at the centre. The complex attracts over 5,000 visitors per annum from across the region.

**The Need for the Project**

The local community suggested the project through the Castletown Neighbourhood Action Group (CNAG). CNAG is a local problem solving forum set up by Northumbria Police with Local residents working in partnership with Local Authority, Neighbourhood Wardens, Gentoo, Local Schools, Fire and Rescue to benefit the residents of Castletown.

**The Outputs for the Project**

Output Code	Description	Number
A1	Number of new or improved community facilities and equipment	1
A6	Number of community or educational events held	1

<b>Milestones and Key Events</b>	<b>Forecast Dates</b>
Refurbish coaltub	Jan 2011
Launch Event	April 2011

**Recommendation: Approve**

This project supports the Attractive and Inclusive theme and the Heritage Priority within the Local Area Plan.

**Application No.5 – SIP Castle Ward**

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>SIP</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	Perimeter Fencing
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	Rainbow Tots

<b>Total cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total SIP requested</b>
£7630	£5630	£2000
<b>Project Duration</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
3mth	November 2010	January 2010

**The Project**

This project will deliver the aims of the LAP theme, attractive and inclusive: to make the streets more attractive etc, and safer for the children using and accessing Rainbow Tots.

Rainbow Tots is a childcare/nursery facility based within the old Hylton Castle Library, offering affordable and quality childcare and provision for children and adults to learn and have fun together. Currently children who access and use Rainbow Tots have access to an outside area. The outside area currently does not have a perimeter fence and people not using the facility are accessing the outside area and dropping litter and bottles making the area unsafe. A perimeter fence would restrict access to those children and families using Rainbow Tots and reduce the litter and other items disposed of to enable the area to become a safe and accessible outside space for Rainbow Tots and its users.

**The Need for the Project**

A survey of users has been completed and parents having been making comments to the nursery. There is clear evidence of people using the space inappropriately, leaving litter making the area dangerous.

**The Outputs for the Project**

Output Code	Description	Number
A1	Number of new or physically improved community facilities as the result of a SIP/SIB subsidised activity. This includes the provision of equipment such as sports and games equipment.	1
A2	Number of people using new and improved community facilities	3330

<b>Milestones and Key Events</b>	<b>Forecast Dates</b>
Purchase fencing	Nov 2010
Install fencing	Jan 2010

**Recommendation: Approve**

This project supports the Attractive and Inclusive theme within the Local Area Plan and would enable a safe accessible environment for young children to access for play and activities.

## Application No.6 – SIP Fulwell

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>SIP</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	Dene Lane Footpath
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	Sunderland City Council (Graham Carr)

<b>Total cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total SIP requested</b>
£6050	£0	£6050
<b>Project Duration</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
3 months	January 2011	March 2011

### **The Project**

This project will deliver the aims of the LAP theme, attractive and inclusive to make the streets more attractive etc, as well as safer for the local residents/community.

Currently pedestrians use the grassed area on Dene Lane as a short cut to link with the main road. Pedestrian movements across this area will cause damage to the grassed area which is both unsafe and will become unsightly.

If funding is secured for the proposed scheme, it will provide a new 'tarmac' footway across the grassed area for the safe passage of pedestrians and reduce the visual 'eye-sore' that a dirt track will have upon the street.

Not only will the project improve the visual appearance of the street, it will also provide local residents and visitors with a safe passage from Dene Lane.

### **The Need for the Project**

The issue has been highlighted by the residents to their elected Ward Members.

Local Ward Councillors have been consulted on the Project and are supportive of the Project.

### **The Outputs for the Project**

Output Code	Description	Number
A4	Number of programmes of work to improve the appearance of the streets	1

<b>Milestones and Key Events</b>	<b>Forecast Dates</b>
Install proposed footpath	Feb 2011

### **Recommendation: Approve**

This project will make the area more attractive and supports the Attractive and Inclusive theme within the Local Area Plan.



### Application No.7 – SIP Southwick

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>SIP</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	Studio IT
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	SNYP

<b>Total cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total SIP requested</b>
£7548	£7548	£7548
<b>Project Duration</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
3 mths	Jan 2011	March 2011

#### **The Project**

The project will refurbish the computer workshop. This will involve redecoration of the walls, new flooring and computer benches and seating. There will also be the purchase of 8 computers, monitors, keyboards etc. and two wireless printers to serve all computers. There will also be headphones so that those using the computers can listen to music, etc., without disturbing others working. The completed project will deliver an updated and physically more effective service and access to Studio I.T. by young people aged 8 -25. The young people of the project will be involved throughout in respect of the choice and purchase of the new resources. We envisage that these improvements will increase the usage of this area and the services we are currently able to offer.

#### **The Need for the Project**

SNYP has had a computer workshop for several years, the current computers are now so outdated they frequently break down or do not respond. This area of work has been identified as a need by the young people of the area. Due to the age and state of the resources SNYP are no longer able to offer equality of opportunity to Southwick young people. SNYP has been unable to offer the holiday programmes and provide what is required by those seeking employment.

#### **The Outputs for the Project**

Output Code	Description	Number
A1	Number of new or improved community facilities and equipment	1
A2	Number of people using new and improved community facilities	30

<b>Milestones and Key Events</b>	<b>Forecast Dates</b>
Room preparation	Jan 2011
Room refurbishment	Feb 2011
Purchase and installation of computer equipment	March 2011

#### **Recommendation: Approve**

The project supports the Attractive and Inclusive Theme of the local area plan as well as identified priorities regarding youth provision and the raising of aspirations of young people.

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

Ward	Project	Amount	Allocation 2010/2011	Project Proposals	Previous Approvals	Balance Remaining
Castle	Hylton Castle Seniors F.C. – Purchase of tracksuits.	500				
	River Rubbish Relay	100				
	<b>Total</b>		<b>12,798</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>11,476</b>	<b>722</b>
Fulwell	SAFC Heritage Trail – Contribution towards production of promotional leaflet.	200				
	Grit Bin – Purchase of a grit bin for Dene Lane and Dacre Rd	105				
	River Rubbish Relay	100				
	<b>Total</b>		<b>11,312</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>3,250</b>	<b>7657</b>
Redhill	River Rubbish Relay	100				
	<b>Total</b>		<b>18,149</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>13,371</b>	<b>4678</b>
Southwick	SAFC Heritage Trail – Contribution towards production of promotional leaflet.	200				
	Southwick Karate Group – Contribution towards purchase of equipment.	718				
	River Rubbish Relay	100				
	<b>Total</b>		<b>12,614</b>	<b>1018</b>	<b>7,635</b>	<b>3961</b>
St. Peter's	Roker Park Model Boat Club – Purchase of portable multimedia projector.	380				
	SAFC Heritage Trail – Contribution towards production of promotional leaflet.	200				
	Monk's Kitchen – Contribution towards purchase of kitchen equipment.	500				
	'Books for Life' – Contribution towards room hire, travel, refreshments, administration etc.,	495				
	River Rubbish Relay	100				
	<b>Total</b>		<b>14,114</b>	<b>1,675</b>	<b>5,798</b>	<b>6,641</b>
<b>Totals</b>			<b>68,987</b>	<b>3,798</b>	<b>41,530</b>	<b>23,659</b>

# SUNDERLAND NORTH AREA COMMITTEE

6 JANUARY 2011

## REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

### INFLUENCING PRACTICE, POLICY AND STRATEGY

#### Refreshing North Sunderland Local Area Plan (LAP)

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

- 1.1 It was agreed at the beginning of the municipal year that Committee would lead on refreshing their LAP between January 2011 and March 2011. To support Committee throughout this process information has been provided on four main elements; what people are telling us, developments to consider, proposed framework for managing the refresh and recommendations, including terms of reference.
- 1.2 The Area Committee over the last 3 years has been provided with significant citywide and local strategic information. In addition, partners including the community and voluntary sector have fed information into the Committee process that has resulted in the development of the North Local Area Plan and the Committee's annual work plans. The Plans have not only identified key priorities, but through the establishment of task and finish groups supported the Committee in influencing the provision of public sector service delivery at a local level and focussed the allocation of its delegated budgets to deliver actions to address those priorities.

##### 2. What residents are telling us?

- 2.1 By understanding what residents are saying we can start to build a picture of what really matters to people living in the neighbourhoods and communities within the North Area. We can then use this information to help inform decisions and meet local people's needs when planning and agreeing Area priorities.
- 2.2 As a baseline, the information provided by residents in the 2009/2010 Place Survey has been cross referenced with a number of other sources (as listed in the background papers) to identify emerging priority issues for the North area. Initial findings indicate that the priorities for residents in the North area are:
  - Activities for Teenagers
  - Job Prospects
  - Road and Pavement Repairs
  - An attractive cleaner and cared for environment
  - Reducing levels of crime
- 2.3 Activities for teenagers  
This has been identified as an emerging priority based upon information already held from residents and partners as detailed below. Further analysis and validation of this information will dictate whether this should be agreed as a priority for the area.
  - In the Castle and Southwick ward the highest number of enquiries made by elected members on behalf of residents related to ASB.
  - ASB was identified as an issue particularly in St Peter's ward.
  - Teenagers hanging around the streets was identified as a priority by residents.
  - Residents identified activities for teenagers need improvement.

- Residents identified activities for teenagers as an element of making an area a good place to live.
- Residents identified the following issues:
  - Teenagers hanging around the streets a top priority for the North area.
  - Castle ward is one of the top 3 wards for young offenders.
  - Downhill has the highest levels of youth related ASB, although this has decreased in the last year.
  - Residents in Sunderland most likely deem ASB to be a problem.
- Young People identified information on Sport and Leisure and the improvements required in this area.
- Satisfaction levels for facilities for young people have increased but remains the lowest of those reviewed.

#### 2.4 Job Prospects

This has been identified as an emerging priority based upon information already held from residents and partners as detailed below. Further analysis and validation of this information will dictate whether this should be agreed as a priority for the area.

- Residents identified Job Prospects as an area that needs most improving
- Residents identified Job Prospects as an element of making an area a good place to live.
- Young people identified work, employment and careers as an area requiring improvement.
- 39.2% of residents aged 16 – 74 in the North area have no qualifications
- The percentage of children living in households dependent upon out of work benefits in the North area is considerably higher than the City in 3 of the 5 wards.
- 21.1% of working age people in the North area are claiming out of work benefits.

#### 2.5 Reducing levels of Crime

This has been identified as an emerging priority based upon information already held from residents and partners as detailed below. Further analysis and validation of this information will dictate whether this should be agreed as a priority for the area.

- A feature of a successful neighbourhood was identified as low crime and fear of crime.
- The percentage of residents worried about, burglary, car crime burglaries/thefts from outbuildings are higher than those for the city.
- The percentage of residents who agree the council/police are dealing with local crime/asb and that the council/police seek people's views on crime/asb is lower than that for the city.
- The percentage of residents who believe that local services are working to make the area safer is lower than that for the city.
- Low levels of crime were identified as an element of what makes an area a good place to live.
- Burglary other than dwelling in the North area is showing a significant increase in both year to date and daily figures.
- Southwick Ward has 1.7 times the average people arrested and charged who live in this ward, with an above average level in Castle and Redhill wards also.
- Redhill has the 4<sup>th</sup> highest number of offenders on probation living there.
- Southwick has the highest number of deliberate vehicle fires.
- A lack of visible police presence is one of the top reasons to worry in the North area.
- Castle ward is one of the top 3 wards for young offenders.
- Sunderland North has the highest number of racist incidents per BME population.

- Downhill has the highest levels of youth related ASB although this has decreased in the last year.
- Residents in Sunderland North are most likely to deem ASB a problem.
- The percentage of residents who feel safe in their own home at night is lower than the city average.

## 2.6 Road and Pavement Repairs

This has been identified as an emerging priority based upon information already held from residents and partners as detailed below. Further analysis and validation of this information will dictate whether this should be agreed as a priority for the area.

- Road and Footpath maintenance was one of the most reported issues made by Councillors in the last year on behalf of residents.
- Residents identified a feature of a successful neighbourhood being an attractive and cared for environment.
- Residents feel road and pavement repairs need improvements.

## 2.7 An attractive, clean and cared for environment

This has been identified as an emerging priority based upon information already held from residents and partners as detailed below. Further analysis and validation of this information will dictate whether this should be agreed as a priority for the area.

- Two of the most frequent enquiries made by Councillors on behalf of residents, was regarding litter and illegal dumping.
- The highest requested services by residents include dumping waste and litter.
- An attractive and cared for environment was identified by residents as a feature of a successful neighbourhood.
- Hotspots for rubbish and litter were identified in the North area.
- Rubbish and litter were identified by residents as a local problem.
- Rubbish and litter lying around was identified as a priority by residents.

## 3. Other Factors for Consideration

3.1 There are a number of strategic and service developments that need to be taken into consideration when developing the LAP, such as;

- Community Strategy
- Corporate Improvement Plan
- Environment and Attractive City Scrutiny Committee: Sunderland 'The Place' Policy Review 10/11
- Child and Family Poverty Strategy
- Economic Masterplan
- Budget Framework
- Local Development Framework
- Single Works Programme
- East Area Committee's Work Plan 2010-11
- Improvements to the City Centre
- Plans for the Vaux Cite, Crowtree Leisure Centre and the Port of Sunderland
- Attracting more tourists into the City

Such documents will both inform and be informed of the LAP and be strategically aligned to the work of the Area Committee.

#### **4. Proposed Consultation Framework**

- 4.1 Consultation is a key part of developing a well informed LAP. It is recognised that the whole community should have an opportunity to participate in the consultation process, with elected members, receiving support from partners to drive the consultation process forward.
- 4.2 Consultation and community engagement are therefore fundamental foundations in developing LAPs, which will inform the refreshed Sunderland Strategy. During November, the Area Co-ordination Team concentrated on reviewing resident surveys, requests for services, feedback from Community Spirit, outcomes from the State of the City Debate and Youth State of the City, VCS Area Networks and key facts and performance data as gathered through our Area Regeneration Framework Profiles, the findings of which are shown in Section two of this report. In order to ensure an inclusive approach a consultation framework will be applied.
- 4.3 **Stage One: 10 January 2011**  
Present desk top research to Sunderland North Area Committee, building a picture of what people are telling us needs improving and their top priorities to address.
- 4.4 **Stage Two: January-March 2011**  
Committee agree to establish a Task and Finish group made up of elected members and partners (see Annex 1). The group, if agreed, will commit to actively working outside of the Committee cycle between January and March 2011 to consider what people are telling us. They will bring information forward relevant to the area about key strategies and Partner/ Directorate delivery plans for the forthcoming year; raise the profile of any local research, project interventions or initiatives being delivered, quality control information supplied and propose suitable performance measures to enable the production of the first draft of the LAP. This will include key priorities that will be provided for the Area Committee to agree.
- 4.5 **Stage Three: March-April 2011**  
The Draft LAP, including key priorities, will be provided to the Area Committee for agreement. Consultation will be undertaken with a wide range of residents, for example, young and old, from different communities, and interests, to ensure the information collected is unbiased. Key groups to be included in the consultation process and an example of some the groups who may be engaged is detailed in Annex 2. Committee also have an opportunity to review the list of groups and amend as necessary. All elected members will receive notification of meetings held within the North.
- 4.6 **Stage Four: April 2011-May 2011**  
The Task and Finish Group will capture feedback, refine the LAP and develop an action plan, including performance measures reporting their findings to Area Committee for agreement.
- 4.6 **Stage Five: May 2011**  
The final design to be provided to Elected Members prior to its release to local partners and residents. The LAP will then be widely communicated with two versions produced, one version being a special edition of Community News for residents, the second, being a working document for Committee to deliver against throughout 2011.
- 4.7 **Stage Six: October – November 2011**  
Bi-annual performance report presented to Committee, to advise Committee on progress on activity.

## **5. Recommendation(s)**

Committee are asked to agree the following:

- Establish a LAP Task and Finish Group and note the terms of reference for the group, outlined in Annex 1.
- Nominate and agree the membership of the group.
- Agree the proposed consultation framework outlined in Section 4.
- Note the findings of the report and agree to receive a further report in March 2011.

**Annex 1:** Terms of Reference

**Annex 2:** List of Community and Voluntary Groups

### **Background papers**

- Place Survey 2009
- Safer Sunderland Partnership: Confidence Survey 2010
- Community Spirit Panel: Sustainable Communities
- State of the City Debate 2010
- Youth State of the City Debate 2010
- Mini Youth Inc Events 2009
- VCS Area Network 2010 meetings
- Customer Service Requests: Quarter three 2010
- Councillor Enquiries to key services 2010
- Area Regeneration Frameworks 2010
- Partnership Strategic Intelligence Assessment
- Annual Residents Survey

**Contact Officer:** Julie Lynn, Sunderland North Area Officer  
Tel: 5611932, [Julie.lynn@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:Julie.lynn@sunderland.gov.uk)

## **Item 4: Annex 1: Local Area Plan (LAP) Task and Finish Groups: Guidance Notes**

### **Membership**

The LAP Task and Finish group be chaired by the Area Chair or nominee and will include Councillors, LSP representatives, officers, and experts. Sub groups and advisors may be appointed, if necessary and their terms of reference will be agreed by the Task and Finish group.

### **Frequency of Meetings**

The group will agree the frequency and intervals of its meetings in order to achieve its purpose and specific duties within the timescale agreed by the Area Committee.

### **Purpose of group**

- Consider what local people are telling us about improvements, priorities and satisfaction levels of service delivery.
- Commit to actively work outside of Area Committee between January 2011 and March 2011.
- Act as a hub of area information and intelligence relating to strategies, delivery plans, research, interventions, and initiatives being delivered in the area.
- Quality control information supplied.
- Propose suitable performance measures against future priorities.
- Present draft priorities and LAP to Area Committee to agree before consultation framework applied.
- Consult on draft priorities and LAP with residents and partners.
- Capture feedback from consultation exercise and refine LAP.
- Present final LAP to Committee for consideration.

### **Budgetary responsibility**

No budget is assigned to the Task and Finish group. Individual Area Committees may agree to align a percentage of their SIB budget to a Task and Finish group to address the priority identified in the work plan, however requests for funding would need to be endorsed by Area Committee, or through the emergency protocol.

### **Communication by the Group**

- The group shall be responsible for keeping the Area Committee up to date on progress via the Area Officer using the following mechanisms:
  - Sunderland website and Area Action Plans
  - Ward e-bulletin and East Community Newsletter
  - Update reports at Area Committee meetings.
- Any other appropriate means identified by the task and finish group
- A schedule of action, identifying Lead and deadline dates will be produced within 7 working days of any meeting and circulated for action, with regular updates.

### **Limits of group**

The task and finish group have no decision making powers. Recommendations of the task and finish group will be discussed and endorsed by the Area Committee.



## **Item 4: Annex 2:**

### **Details of Community and Residents Groups within the North.**

Listed below are some of the community groups, forums and associations who may be involved in the consultation of the LAP.

#### **North Area**

1. Sunderland North VCS Area Network (Representatives attending Area Committee)
2. North Side Initiative
3. Gentoo North Local Customer Panel
4. Gentoo Young Persons Group
5. Sunderland North Family Zone
6. SNCBC
7. SAFC Foundation

#### **Fulwell Ward**

25. Fulwell Community Association
26. CEED
27. Fulwell Hard of Hearing and Lip Reading
28. St Benedict's Hospice

#### **Redhill Ward**

8. Redhouse Youthies
9. 47<sup>th</sup> Sunderland Scout Group
10. Redhouse Community Association
11. Redhouse Residents Association

#### **Castle Ward**

12. CNAG
13. Town End Farm Residents Association
14. Colliery Media Group
15. HC and TEF Boys and Girls Club
16. Durham Wildlife Trust
17. Friends of Hylton Dene
18. Hylton Castle in the Community
19. Castletown Community Association

#### **Southwick Ward**

20. SNYP
21. Southwick Community Association
22. Southwick History and Preservation Society
23. Community Furniture
24. Friends of Fulwell Mill
25. Wearmouth Colliery Welfare
26. Salvation Army
27. SMCT
28. Thompson Park Community Association

#### **St Peters Ward**

29. Redby Community Centre
30. St Andrews Sea Scouts Roker
31. Roker Park Bowling Club
32. Salvation Army
33. Springboard Trust