

**At a meeting of the EAST SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE held at PORTLAND SCHOOL, SUNDERLAND on MONDAY, 7<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2009 at 5.30 p.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor Wares in the Chair

Councillors Ball, P. Dixon, Errington, M. Forbes, E. Gibson, Paul Maddison, T. Martin, M. Smith and Vardy

**Also Present:-**

John Allison	- Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service
Graeme Wilson	- Asst. Housing and Neighbourhood Renewal Manager, Sunderland City Council
Jane Peverley	- Senior Marketing Officer, Sunderland City Council
Ray Leonard	- Chief Executive, Back on the Map
Sgt. G. Hall	- Northumbria Police Neighbourhood Team
Insp. M. Ord	- Neighbourhood Inspector Sunderland East
Insp. C. Warcup	- Neighbourhood Inspector Doxford Ward
Colin Bowman	- Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service
Vince Taylor	- Head of Strategic Economic Development, Sunderland City Council
Jeremy Wicking	- Media Officer, Sunderland City Council
Dawn Osborne	- Policy Officer (Inclusion), Sunderland City Council
Eddy Moore	- Long Streets Association
Dave Leonard	- Area Co-ordinator, Sunderland City Council
John Smith	- Environmental Health Manager (commercial), Sunderland City Council

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Peter Maddison, O'Connor and Wood and also Sandra Kenny, Lucy Malarkey and Julie Raine

**Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Committee held on 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2009**

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

## **Declarations of Interest**

### Item 6 – East Sunderland – A learning Area

Councillor Errington declared a personal interest as a council appointed member of the Box Youth Project

### Item 7 – Feedback from working groups

Councillor Ball declared a personal and prejudicial interest as a Council appointed member of the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue service board.

Councillor M. Forbes declared a personal interest as a Council appointed Member of the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service

### Item 10 – Financial Statements and Funding Requests

Councillor E. Gibson declared a personal and prejudicial interest as a Governor of Mill Hill Primary School

Councillor Paul Maddison declared a personal interest as a Council appointed member of the Mayor's Fund and declared a personal and prejudicial interest as a resident of Nelson Close.

## **Economic Masterplan**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which updated Members on the progress that had been made on developing an Economic Masterplan for Sunderland and sought the views of the Members on the Economic vision that is emerging.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Vince Taylor, Head of Strategic Economic Development, presented the report. He advised that a consortium of consultants led by GENECON was appointed in April 2009 following a competitive procurement process. They proposed a pragmatic approach following four key principles:

- Realistic – ambitious but credible
- Outward-looking – collaborate to compete
- Demand-led – market shift through perceptual change
- Innovative – new models for delivery and economic governance.

Mr Taylor explained the three scenarios developed, these were:

- Northern Gateway – building on the strength of the city's location in the region and positioning the city as a regional gateway
- Entrepreneurial Nimble City – Building on the city's strengths in manufacturing and associated services and positioning the city as a

‘smart city’ that is attractive to knowledge workers and has high levels of enterprise and innovation.

- Creative Park City – building on the strengths of the environmental assets and focusing on low carbon technologies and creative industries.

These scenarios were not designed as options where one should be picked; they were designed to set out possible parameters for the city’s development.

Councillor Paul Maddison asked what effect there would be should the Vaux site be developed as the Council desired.

Mr Taylor advised that this was a high priority which needed to go ahead; it would provide new employment opportunities for the city. There was a need for new employment opportunities in the City Centre; Newcastle had approximately 50,000 jobs in the city centre while Sunderland only had 15,000.

Councillor Errington asked whether the University had been involved in the process and whether their aspirations had been considered.

Mr Taylor stated that the Chancellor of the University was on the steering group and there was a working relationship with the university.

Councillor M. Forbes stated that there was a problem with transport links in the city and there was insufficient car parking. She felt it would be difficult to progress the aims and ambitions without there being a suitable infrastructure in place.

Mr Taylor advised that road development was driven by economic need and was prompted by congestion rather than future need. The city was not as busy as others and had spare capacity in the road network.

2. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

### **East Sunderland a Learning Area Summary**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided Members with a summary of the priorities and actions identified.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Judith Hay, Head of PC&EWB, presented the report and introduced the priorities.

Councillor T. Martin asked what contribution there had been from ETEC in delivering Priority One – encouraging young people into further education and targeting those not in education, employment or training (NEET).

Ms. Hay advised that ETEC were a training provider who provided opportunities for Apprenticeships, they were highly active in the East End. Most young people were not NEET and those who were often moved in and out of NEET status however there was a small cohort who were NEET long term. There was a need for the facilities to be in place to allow people to engage in some form of education, employment or training.

Councillor Errington queried whether the youth provision would be linked in with other areas. Would young people be encouraged to go to facilities in their ward rather than going to other areas.

Ms. Hay stated that where young people went to would be monitored. They normally used the facilities closest to home as they identified it as being theirs. Most young people in the Doxford area used the Box Youth Project rather than the A690 Youth Project. There was a record kept of everyone who used the facilities and their postcode.

Councillor Errington asked for information on the number of young people from Doxford who attended the A690 Youth Project. Kath Butchert, Integrated Youth Officer, agreed to provide this information.

The Chairman queried the funding requested for the mobile youth villages.

Ms. Hay replied that there was a significant core funding of £300,000 however everyone wanted further provision, as a result there was a need for additional funding to enable more resources to be provided. The provision could be moved quickly and easily. There were workers present who were qualified to help young people if necessary. Young people were banned from the provisions if drunk and often the people turned away were sober the week after. There was a reduction in anti social behaviour in the areas covered by the youth villages.

Councillor M. Forbes raised concerns that there was a large amount of funding being requested and that this could have a detrimental effect as there would be less ability to provide for other projects. She felt that the funding should come from mainstream funding as a Council wide project. What costs would be incurred by the Wards buying in local provision.

Ms. Hay stated that it was important to involve all partners and operational groups would be set up for each area which would look at who to target in each area. The youth villages were mobile which would allow them to be moved to the areas where they are needed most. Elected Members would be included when deciding where to deploy the provision.

Councillor P. Dixon commented that he felt that Millfield was lacking in provision for Young People when compared with the other Wards in the area. He suggested that anti social behaviour figures were used when deciding where the provisions should be used.

Ms. Hay advised that there would be provision across the city however there needed to be more funding in order to help provide this full coverage. It was intended that every area would be covered on Fridays and Saturdays. There needed to be information provided so that the provision could be provided in the areas where there were the greatest problems. The facilities would be provided for a period of 10 weeks and then reviewed.

Councillor T. Martin commented that he had attended the XL Youth Village at Grangetown, an area where there had been gaps in youth provision. There had been children of all ages attending and he felt that they were a good thing to have in the area.

Councillor Errington stated that location was important. The Youth Village in Doxford was close to the Ward boundary; there was a need for co-ordination between the areas to ensure that there was no overlap of facilities.

Ms. Hay stated that the provision was delivered by an overall steering group and then regional groups; this would ensure that there was no overlap between the areas while ensuring that all of the areas are represented.

The Chairman stated that there were a lot of good youth projects in the area; he was reluctant to take money away from these projects to give to the youth villages without properly evaluating the project beforehand. The Blue Watch Youth Project do good work for the area and it was possible that there would be problems caused for them should the money be given to the youth village instead.

Ms. Hay stated that there was evidence that different people used the youth villages and youth centres.

3. RESOLVED that:-

- a. The report be received and noted
- b. The actions identified be noted
- c. The information surrounding the mobile youth provision be developed further before a bid for funding is received.

### **Feedback from Working Groups**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which updated Members on the work that had been carried out by the working groups.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Nicol Trueman, Area Officer, presented the report and introduced the officers who were presenting the feedback reports and would be able to answer any questions from Members.

John Allison, Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority, presented the report from the Phoenix Project, he advised that there was a disproportionately high

amount of deliberate fires in the East Area. The project had reduced the amount of offending, 48 percent of attendees did not reoffend within 12 months and 86 percent showed a decrease in the seriousness of their offending.

Eddy Moore asked whether there was a correlation between empty properties and fires.

Mr Allison advised that there was always the problem of empty houses becoming targets.

Councillor T. Martin commented that empty properties and fly tipping was a major cause of deliberate fires. There had been notices sent out to residents of the long streets to tell people to keep the area tidy to prevent fires.

Mr Allison advised that there was an arson officer who would be looking for these problems.

Councillor P. Dixon asked how many of the young people involved in the project had been involved in arson.

Mr Allison advised that most of the participants in the scheme had been referred by the Youth Offending Service; it was likely that many of these young people were involved in anti social behaviour.

Councillor P. Dixon then asked whether there was still a problem with wheelie bin fires.

Mr Allison confirmed that this was the case; the majority of arson was refuse fires.

Councillor P. Dixon then commented that it cost £2 million to attend deliberate fires; the Council's Environmental Health department should be involved to help prevent bins from being left out.

Inspector Mark Ord advised that Hendon accounted for 50 percent of all anti social behaviour fires. Operation Heat was in place to help combat this, there would be a police investigation of all refuse fires. This was a six month pilot to see what impact there would be.

Councillor Vardy commented that youth projects normally reduce anti social behaviour. He asked whether these projects reduced fires.

Mr Allison advised that the projects had made a difference, the youth villages would be used in the approach to bonfire night.

The Chairman stated that young people often did not understand the dangers or implications of starting fires. They did not appreciate the potential for damage to houses in the surrounding area.

Mr Allison advised that there was a schools education programme in place. Year 1 and Year 5 were targeted along with secondary schools where there had been a problem identified. Counselling was available for anyone who needed it.

Inspector Mark Ord, Neighbourhood Inspector for Sunderland East, presented the report from Northumbria Police.

Councillor T. Martin asked whether undercover officers were used as part of the neighbourhood policing.

Insp. Ord stated that 18 months ago there had been an undercover operation based in a second hand shop in Hendon.

Insp. Ord then commented that during the summer holidays there was traditionally an increase in anti social behaviour. There had been a high visibility police operation in Hendon which had focussed on preventing anti social behaviour and had reassured the public.

4. RESOLVED that the feedback reports be received and noted and that the Phoenix Project be encouraged to submit an application for SIB/SIP funding.

### **Back on the Map Ltd – Succession Strategy**

The Chief Executive of Back on the Map Ltd submitted a report (copy circulated) which informed Members of the development of Back on the Map's succession strategy in conjunction with the Council and Local Strategic Partnership.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Ray Leonard, Chief Executive of Back on the Map, presented the report. He advised that the submission of this strategy was the beginning of the process. Back on the Map was one of 39 New Deal For Communities (NDCs) initiatives comprising a £2 billion Government investment to regenerate communities. The company looked at five main areas: Education; Employment; Community Safety; Health and; Housing and Environment. The company was buying houses in problem areas and the land at Harrogate Street and Amberley Street was ready to be developed once the economy was ready, they currently owned 39 houses and they were aiming to own 60.

Councillor T. Martin congratulated Back on the Map for their hard work. He stated that he had attended the first meeting in 2001 and since then there had been a lot of progress made, there were three new schools in the area. He was pleased to see that the empty houses were being bought and he hoped that the plans for the central Hendon area would go ahead.

Councillor M. Forbes commented that the amount of information Back on the Map held was a strength of the company; she asked whether the information was fed into other agencies.

Mr Leonard advised that they were lucky enough to get the information for free. The company was data rich. There was information provided by residents and sometimes this life experience contradicted the figures. Information was shared as much as possible however some information needed to be ratified by the government before it could be shared and there was some information was six months old and was still not ratified.

Councillor M. Forbes then commented that worklessness was a big problem and asked whether the education programme was linked in to worklessness.

Mr Leonard advised that the education programme was ongoing; there was always room for improvement. He also stated that people aspire to own their own home and if the housing in the area was not suitable then people would move away. There was over 1100 people had found employment and had then left the area.

5. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

### **Update on Community Communications to support Area Committees 2009/10**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which updated the committee on the development of the Community Communications action plan.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Jeremy Wicking, Area Communications Link Officer, presented the report and advised Members of the communication methods being developed.

The Chairman commented that a fold out map could be produced showing the facilities, such as youth clubs, throughout the area. It was necessary to ensure that good news stories were published.

Councillor P. Dixon asked whether the Members would be contacted to provide information for the Ward pages in the newsletter.

Mr Wicking advised that this was the case; it was important to ensure that groups and events within the ward were publicised.

Councillor M. Forbes raised concerns over the costs involved for producing the merchandise; there was a need to have a responsible attitude. She then commented that most areas had a Community Association, the newsletter should provide a list of what events and activities were taking place.



Mr Wicking advised that a staple part of the newsletter would be showing what was taking place in the area.

Councillor Errington asked whether it would be possible to produce an East Area web page to provide information on what is happening in the area.

The Chair stated that the address for the web page could be included in the newsletter.

Nicol Trueman stated that Corporate Communications had provided help throughout the development of the Local Area Plans and that the Area Officer would be able to provide information for the newsletter.

6. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

### **Financial Statements and Funding Request**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which outlined the current expenditure from SIB, SIP and Community Chest and requested Members approval of the applications for the budgets.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Nicol Trueman, Area Officer, presented the report and advised that the Committee was being requested to:

- Approve the 16 proposals for support from Community Chest as detailed in Annex 1 to the report
- Agree the approved SIB budget for 2009/10 as detailed in Annex 2
- Approve the new emergency protocols for accessing SIB and SIP funding subject to the amendment of paragraph 7.4 to read “The Deputy Chief Executive in conjunction with the Chairman and Vice Chairman”

The Chairman expressed concerns regarding the Emergency protocols, he felt that the time involved was too long as there was the potential for it to take 15 days before the money was released; emergencies should receive the funding within a week.

The Members echoed the Chairman’s concerns.

Ms. Trueman explained the reasoning behind the time taken for the decision to be made. There had been two possible ways for determining applications outside of the normal committee cycle. The first possibility was for an extra meeting to be called which would take a long time due to legal constraints. The other option was for the decision to be taken using the scheme of delegated powers; the Deputy Chief Executive would then action the decision in accordance with the Council’s Constitution and in consultation with the Chair and Vice-chair. It was expected that this procedure would take no more than 7 to 10 days. The applicant would be informed of the decision

immediately and the Committee would be updated at the next meeting. It was recommended that the Committee agree to have decisions taken by the Deputy Chief Executive using the Scheme of Delegation.

Councillor P. Dixon stated that there was a need for the process to be quicker; using modern technology it would be possible to have a meeting within a day.

Councillor Paul Maddison asked whether all Members would be required to attend.

Ms Trueman stated that all Members would be expected to attend and all Members would be given the opportunity to attend however it was not necessary for all Members to be present.

Dave Leonard advised that for a meeting to be arranged there was a legal requirement to provide at least five working days notice.

Councillor M. Forbes stated that emergencies needed to be immediate; it was inadequate if power was taken away from the Chairman. She moved that the decision was deferred to enable further information to be received.

Councillor T. Martin seconded this motion.

In response to a query from Councillor Vardy regarding the Community Chest, the Chairman advised that any funding that was not used would be reclaimed so that it could be reallocated.

Councillor E. Gibson asked what would happen if applications were not directly related to the priorities.

Ms Trueman advised that the Local Area Plans did not encompass every priority, if an application did not fit one of the priorities in the plan then there would need to be proof that it is a priority and how it would fit in with the other priorities.

7. RESOLVED that:

- a. Approval be given to all 16 proposals for support from the 2009/10 Community Chest totalling £10,285 from the 2009/10 budget.
- b. Approval be given to the SIB budget for 2009/10 as detailed in Annex 2.
- c. The emergency protocols be deferred to allow further information to be received and to work on reducing the timescales involved as far as is possible.

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

(Signed) D.R. WARES,  
Chairman.

# Sunderland East Area Committee

9<sup>th</sup> November 2009

## Report of the Chief Executive

### Sunderland East an Attractive and Inclusive Area Summary

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

1.1 At its meeting in June 2009, the committee agreed its work plan for the 2009/10 municipal year and Attractive and Inclusive priority is the third to come to committee for discussion and consideration.

#### 2. Description of Decision (Recommendations)

2.1 Area Committee is asked to:-

- Note the **actions** identified in Annex 1
- Agree which of the following **proposals** (also identified in Annex 1) will be developed
  - Review
    - Committee is requested to note the contents of the information contained under priority 1 and 2, and agree to accept a further report specifically focusing on private landlords, ASB and empty properties. Lead: Health, Housing and Adult Services
    - Establish a two way communication process for the City Centre Strategy Group and the City Centre Programme Board to update Area Committee on developments and vice versa, to complement each others work plans and priorities. Lead: City Centre Programme Board.
    - Consider opportunities to support Holmeside developer in marketing the scheme/City centre. Lead: Sunderland arc.
    - Monitor needs and effectiveness of Sunnyside Business Forum. Lead: Sunderland arc.
    - Investigate and feedback the costs involved in developing a City Heritage Strategy, enabling the Forum and the Council to indicate a number of identified priorities which will need consideration on how they are taken forward. Lead: Sunderland Heritage Forum.
    - Members are asked to identify opportunities for further potential improvements to public transport routes and walking access across the area, and to receive a further report to a future meeting of the Sunderland East Area Committee.
- Bring forward **further proposals and ideas** to strengthen the quality of life for residents in Sunderland East.

#### 3. Background

3.1 Sunderland East is the historical heart of the City and is rich in heritage. The area includes City Centre, with its major commercial leisure, cultural and retail facilities including The Bridges indoor shopping centre; Sunnyside; the Port; the old heart of Sunderland, the East End; the central campus of the City's University and City's major hospital.

- 3.2 Parts of the Hendon area have benefited from New Deal for the Communities funding in recent years and there has been substantial investment and redevelopment of the City Centre and Sunnyside areas.
- 3.3 There is a programme of Neighbourhood Renewal Assessments to improve housing conditions and liveability across the City which includes Hendon.
- 3.3 Within the Area there are a range of neighbourhoods and natural communities. These are areas that were identified by our Councillors, partners and residents throughout consultation. There are 20 of these natural neighbourhoods in the Sunderland East Area.
- 3.4 The area lies immediately South of the mouth of the River Wear, extending southwards along the North Sea coast to the City's boundary with the neighbouring local authority District of Easington.
- 3.5 The residential population of around 59,000 positions it within the mid-range population of Sunderland's five Areas but, accommodating Sunderland City Centre, the daytime and evening populations rise significantly higher than this.
- 3.6 Following the extensive programme of consultation with members, partners, community stakeholders and the wider community, the agreed priorities for this theme are:
1. Encourage private landlords to become registered.
  2. Bring empty properties back into use.
  3. Deliver activities along the river corridor.
  4. Promote and clean up the City Centre.
  5. Celebrate our heritage.
  6. Improve recycling facilities.
  7. Improve public transport routes and walk ability across the area.
- 3.7 Who has been involved with the Attractive and Inclusive Priority?
- Sunderland arc
  - Sunnyside partnership
  - Back of the Map
  - Gentoo
  - Sunderland City Council
- 3.8 Key Dates
- Aug 09 Initial meeting held with key partners
  - 07.10.09 Pre meeting for Area Committee
  - 22.10.09 Report deadline for Area Committee
  - **09.11.09 Area Committee, discuss and agreed recommendations**
  - 21.12.09 Deadline for action plan to be developed
  - 04.01.10 Area Committee: Action plan presented
  - 30.03.10 Deadline for End of year report for Area Committee
  - 12.04.10 Area Committee End of Year report presented

#### 4. Attractive and Inclusive Theme Area Summary

- 4.1 Attached as Annex 1 is the area summary for the Attractive and Inclusive theme. The annex covers:
- Priorities agreed at Area Committee
  - Key Facts

- Current activity delivered day to day from services
- Any gaps, identified needs or general comments
- Actions and proposals

## **5. Background papers**

- Sunderland Strategy Delivery Plans
- Local Area Agreements Delivery Plans
- Local Area Plans
- Information provided by partners and officers at workshop event August 2009 and one to one meetings

**6. Contact Officer:** Nicol Trueman, Area Officer for Sunderland East and Washington  
Tel: 0191 5611162 e-mail: [Nicol.trueman@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:Nicol.trueman@sunderland.gov.uk)

**Annex 1:** Sunderland East Attractive and Inclusive Area Summary

## Priority One and Priority two:

**Encourage private landlords to become registered and, (priority two), bring empty properties back into use.**

### Key Facts

Evidence suggests that a clear link between Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) and a poor housing environment exists across all tenures. Where poor quality housing is evident, a higher than average level of ASB is likely to be experienced resulting in a poorer quality of life for all local residents. This is often exacerbated in areas of low demand where a high level of empty homes is apparent. Often poor quality housing in the private rented sector becomes the housing of last resort for the most vulnerable individuals in society.

Strategically, the Council and the Local Strategic Partnership have identified ASB, empty homes and poor landlord practices in the private rented sector as key issues requiring further intervention. This is highlighted in a number of local strategies including the Sunderland Strategy, Safer Sunderland Strategy, Empty Property Strategy and the Housing Strategy.

With regard to empty properties, it is recognised that long-term empty homes represent a wasted resource. As of August 2009, **2314 (2.5% of the total private stock in the Sunderland)** private properties were classed as long term (over six months) empty residential homes. On an area basis the breakdown is as follows;

North – 385 (2.1% of the private stock in that area)

East – 722 (3.6% of the private stock in that area)

West – 403 (2% of the private stock in that area)

Coalfield – 513 (3.3% of the private stock in that area)

Washington – 291 (1.7% of the private stock in that area)

Given that the national average for long term empty properties in the private sector is **1.3%** it is evident that all areas exceed this; over double in some areas.

In 2008/09, **406** empty properties across the City were brought back into use or demolished against a key PI target of 360 (339 were brought back into use and 77 were demolished as part of the Councils Area Renewal Programme).

A breakdown of those premises across the area committees is as follows:-

East Area	80
North Area	137 (77 demolitions)
Coalfield Area	55
West Area	112
Washington Area	22

As part of the Empty Property Strategy review, the Council is developing an Empty Property Action Plan which will detail how empty properties will be brought back into use and this plan will set targets for each local area.

Within Sunderland there are almost 125,000 homes, of which 91,000 or 73% are in the private sector. In the East this figure rises to 79%. Across Sunderland 6% of the stock is privately rented but in the East this figure rises to 11%.

In order to tackle problems associated with the private rented sector, the Council's Housing and Neighbourhood Renewal Team pro-actively engage with landlords, managing agents and tenants in the area to provide support, advice and guidance on health, safety and housing related matters. In addition, formal action is taken where both landlord and tenant fail to improve conditions.

With regard to ASB, the Team also hold the responsibility for investigating and resolving all such incidents in the private sector. The Anti-Social Behaviour Unit investigated approximately **500** cases during 08/09. On an area basis the breakdown is as follows;

North – 55

East – 148

West – 98

Coalfield – 57

Washington – 133

### **Current Activity**

Interventions currently in place to tackle problems associated with the private rented sector and empty properties include:

**Landlord Accreditation Scheme** – Currently there are limited powers to regulate the Private Rented Sector however Sunderland, along with other authorities, operates a voluntary Accreditation Scheme with the aim of promoting good landlord practices. 228 landlords are currently accredited, 81 of whom have property in the Hendon area. Landlords are vetted prior to being accepted as an accredited landlord. The Scheme operates across the city and is currently delivered by one Officer.

**Dedicated team to investigate cases of ASB within the private rented sector** - With regard to ASB, although the Council's Housing and Neighbourhood Renewal Team holds the responsibility for investigating and resolving cases across all housing tenures their main focus relates to the owner occupied and private rented sectors.

**Dedicated team to carry out enforcement activity associated with housing standards** – Where officers have been unable to resolve issues informally, formal action can be taken to ensure housing standards are improved. This can range from defective drains to dangerous conditions in the home. The team also inspect the City's 1500 Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) to ensure they provide a safe and healthy home for tenants. Over recent years the government has introduced mandatory licensing for larger HMOs and Sunderland currently licence 120 such properties. Licensing strengthens the authority's powers in relation to the management of such properties.

**Tenant/landlord vetting** - In addition, the team is responsible for carrying out 'vetting checks' on behalf of landlords who are members of the City Council's Voluntary Accreditation Scheme and on average almost 30 such requests are received each month.

**Dedicated Empty Property Officer** - The Empty Property Officer and a Private Sector Housing Officer work across the whole of the city to bring empty properties in the private sector back into use. This can be through working with owners to renovate and sell or rent out, use of enforcement powers, demolishing the most unfit housing or by working with the Housing Options Team to match homeless people with empty properties.

The City wide target for 2009/10 is 375. This is a 'stretching' target given limited staffing resources and the length of time it takes to bring empty properties back into use. To the end of September 2009 there have been 117 properties brought back into use or demolished across the city. The breakdown is as follows:-

East Area	51
North Area	17
Coalfield Area	25
West Area	14
Washington Area	10

As part of the Empty Property Strategy review, the Council is developing an Empty Property Action Plan which will detail how empty properties will be brought back into use and will set targets for each of the 5 Area Committees. It is intended that the review will involve relevant partners and be completed before April 2010.

Previously a targeted approach was adopted in the Hendon area, when Back on the Map funded a dedicated Empty Property Officer for three years. This project terminated in March 2009 during which time 178 empty homes had been brought back into use. As part of this initiative a 'Smartwater' scheme was successful in protecting properties and their contents from theft.

If early intervention is not implemented and enforcement tools are not utilised, this can result in an area declining very rapidly and communities being destroyed.

**Area Renewal** – In certain areas it has been essential to provide additional support in relation to home and environmental improvements. These have been targeted schemes as part of a wider regeneration package. In particular landlords have benefited from participation in Block Improvement Schemes on the condition that the property is brought up to the Accreditation standard. Should participating Landlords allow their properties to remain empty for longer than 3 months they have to pay back their grant allocation in full.

Recently a pilot project was undertaken by the Housing and Neighbourhood Renewal Team which saw officers proactively tackling issues of empty homes, ASB and poor rented housing standards and management in two pilot areas. Initial feedback from residents welcomed this approach but more work to determine the outcomes, impact and hopefully the reduction in the fear of crime expressed by residents initially is required. Officers intend to return to the two pilot areas after 6 months to measure and learn from the exercise.

In addition, the team is currently finalising an application to the Secretary of State to introduce Selective Licensing in the Hendon area. Selective Licensing allows a targeted approach to be taken in a set geographical area that is suffering from low demand and/or ASB. All private landlords operating in the area are required to pass a 'fit and proper test' and be issued with a licence. Operating without such a licence is a criminal offence. Should Sunderland's application be successful it will be one of only 12 authorities in the country to have introduced Selective Licensing.

### **Gaps/Needs/General Comment**

With regard to empty properties, it is recognised that long-term empty homes represent a wasted resource and re-occupation results in the following mutual benefits: making a valuable contribution to meeting the housing needs of local people; generating additional revenue through Council Tax; preventing empty properties becoming the focus of anti-social behaviour and enhancing the appearance of the local environment.

As there are currently only **two** officers employed to reduce the number of empty homes across the whole of Sunderland, ensuring empty homes are secured against unauthorised access, free from anti social behaviour, vandalism and illegal dumping often takes resources away from the proactive work to bring those homes back into use.

There was a dedicated Private Sector Housing Officer that promoted the Voluntary Private Landlord Accreditation Scheme in the Hendon area, funded by Back on the Map for three years but this project terminated in March 2009.

With regard to ASB, there are currently only **three** Officers employed to cover the whole of Sunderland. Officers are committed to reducing the level of ASB within the private sector and regularly work outside of their contracted hours (9-5) to investigate cases and attend community



meetings. Given that approximately 76% or 210,000 of Sunderland's residents live in the private sector and that the majority of ASB occurs on evenings and weekends, difficulties can arise when trying to resolve cases.

### **Actions**

Lead: Sunderland City Council, Health, Housing and Adult Services

In addition to each of the Area Committees requesting information regarding the current position and work of the Council in tackling empty homes, anti social behaviour and the private rented sector, a similar request has been made by the Community and Safer City Scrutiny Committee in respect to the Council's role in tackling ASB issues..

A report is being prepared by the Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services for submission to the Scrutiny Community this month. The report will not only set out details as described above, but will also detail the level of resource required to expand the existing minimal Council service.

### **Proposal**

Lead: Health, Housing and Adult Services

Committee is requested to note the contents of the information contained under priority one and two, and agree to accept a further report specifically focusing on private landlords, ASB and empty properties.

### **Priority Three:**

#### **Deliver activities along the river corridor**

#### **Key Facts:**

The riverbanks show evidence of past industrialisation, with former collieries, engineering works and dozens of shipyards. In their time, Wearside shipbuilders were some of the most famous and productive shipyards in the world.

The artist L. S. Lowry visited Sunderland repeatedly and painted pictures of the industrial landscape around the river. Three bridges cross the Wear in Sunderland: the Queen Alexandra Bridge to the west, and the Wearmouth rail and road bridges in the city centre.

The river is occupied by what remains of the Port of Sunderland. The River Wear flows out of Sunderland between Roker Pier and South Pier, and into the North Sea.

#### **Current Activity**

There are no known activities or events being delivered along the river on the East side. There is however a varied programme happening in the City centre.

Theatre restaurant

Is a unique venue in the North East of England, which combines a meal with an evening of entertainment. Performances change weekly. For further information log onto [www.theatrerestaurant.co.uk](http://www.theatrerestaurant.co.uk)

Sunderland Museum and Winter Gardens

Deliver a varied programme of events, displays and workshops and increase activity during the school holidays.

City Library and Arts Centre

There are a range of permanent attractions, temporary exhibitions and useful resources that anyone can use, including the City's main library.

Sunniside Partnership is delivering a variety of free activities, for example, and outdoor 3D disco. Situated in Sunniside, is The Place, which incorporates business spaces and artists' studios, meeting rooms, performance space, a gallery and a café.

#### Sunderland Empire

Opened in 1907, the Sunderland Empire is the North East's largest theatre and a splendid example of Edwardian architecture. Following a £4.5million refurbishment in 2005, the Empire now boasts 21st Century facilities and is the only theatre between Manchester and Edinburgh capable of staging large West End productions.

#### **Gaps/Needs**

There are activities and events being held along the river corridor but these are held on the North side, e.g. St Peters Campus and the National Glass Centre. Currently Sunderland arc are currently implementing arc's Business Plan e.g. priority projects which have a link with the river corridor are Vaux, Farringdon Row and Stadium Village. Subject to funding this may also include high quality public realm and a new footbridge over the River Wear to link Stadium Village with the Vaux site and the City Centre.

#### **Actions**

Lead: Sunderland arc

As detailed development proposals evolve, ensure potential of river corridor is maximised and incorporate a high level of connectivity with city centre.

#### **Priority Four:**

#### **Promote and clean up the City Centre**

#### **Current Activity:**

Holmeside Development Agreement is completed, which will aid promotion of, and enhance the City centre as a retail destination. The Vaux scheme proposals designed to promote and create new business quarter in city centre. Arc are supporting Sunniside Business Forum to market and promote Sunniside area.

Sunderland City Council has introduced a significant level of job enrichment within Environmental Services to support the increased team of Environmental Enforcement Officers across the City to target litter, graffiti, etc.

City Centre Strategy Group are delivering the following projects which will benefits priority 4, 5 and 6:-

#### *Festival and Events:*

Develop, implement and deliver events throughout City Centre, including Christmas lighting.

#### *Street Scene Improvement:*

Identify limited number of key streets/routes that will benefit from basic improvements; including street cleaning; maintenance of the streetscape and other public realm, new street signing; de-cluttering where feasible and improve presentation.

#### *Marketing and Promotion:*

Improved approach to the marketing and branding of the City Centre.

#### *Response to Economic Downturn:*

Support city centre businesses, particularly independent retail sector. i.e. including car parking promotion and loyalty card scheme.

*Kwik Save Site:*

Temporary screening of a vacant site and visual improvement to the streetscene.

*Street Scene Audit:*

A pedestrian environment audit to be undertaken to provide the evidence base for the public realm strategy.

*Empire Fly Tower:*

Improve visual appearance of the fly tower.

*Market Square/Station Square Public Realm Improvement*

Public realm improvement scheme that involves the delivery of a comprehensive environmental scheme for Market and Station Square both of which adjoin Sunderland Station.

*Central Area Car Park:*

A Review of City centre parking

*Market Stalls Feasibility Study:*

Feasibility of the purchase of mobile market stalls to be used within the City Centre and city wide.

*Footfall Cameras Feasibility*

Install footfall cameras in strategic city centre locations to provide pedestrian flow data, to assist in strategic decision making for both the Council and City Centre retailers.

*City Library Development*

Arrivals Lounge on Fawcett Street Library, providing a welcoming and informative facility where people can find out more about the cultural heritage offer in Sunderland.

*Vacant Premises Utilisation*

Action required to tackle vacant premises and sites, work with owners to; bring buildings back into use, tidy up vacant sites and screen sites where possible.

Local Development Framework (LDF): The LDF is a suite of documents providing guidance and policies for meeting the community's economic, environmental and social aims the development of land in Sunderland for the next 10-15 years to ensure that sufficient houses of the right type and quality are being provided in the right place to meet the needs of the City's changing population. Consultation is now ongoing until early in the new year.

**Gaps/Needs**

Arc: Ensure Holmeside scheme progresses in accordance with provisions of development agreement. Conclude developer appointment process. Endeavour to get Sunnyside businesses to take more ownership of Business Forum and become more self-sufficient (ie less dependent on public sector partners)

**Actions**

City Centre Strategy Group, **proposed future projects but funding needs to be identified:**

*Public Realm Strategy:*

The document will set key actions, tasks and a coordinated work programme for public realm works in the City Centre over the lifetime of the new Sunderland Strategy.

*City Centre Health Check:*

An update is required from 2006 baseline position. The health check will consider overnight accommodation, office accommodation, retail trends, housing, transport and perceptions.

*Sunderland Railway Station:*

Improve visual appearance for arrivals, City image and as a key gateway.

*High Street West/West Wear Street Junction*

Improve vehicular access to Sunnyside and reduce traffic delay, improve pedestrian crossing facilities.

Arc: Develop promotion strategy with Vaux developer to attract occupiers and investors to Vaux

Investigate the feasibility of establishing a Street Pastor scheme in the City centre and feedback into Area Committee: The scheme would support the Sunderland East Local Area Plan as well as a number of Safer Sunderland Partnership strategic priorities including:-

- Reducing alcohol misuse and the harm it causes, including alcohol related crime
- Reducing drug misuse and the harm it causes, including drug related crime

The Street Pastor act as eyes and ears in the City centre at night and will be able to feedback a range of useful information to agencies e.g. they would be able to provide intelligence on any changing patterns in the locations of rough sleepers, or information in changes in feelings of safety in the City centre from the general public’s point of view, etc. They would also be able to provide information to Environmental Services Teams on crime risks on the main walking routes home from the centre i.e. overgrown bushes.

Lead: Churches in Sunderland

**Proposals**

**Review:** Lead: City Centre Programme Board

To establish a two way communication process for the City Centre Strategy group and the City Centre Programme Board (*The Board has recently been set up to oversee the activity of the Strategy Group and other partners, e.g Nexus, Sunderland arc, Sunnyside Partnership, the University.*) to update Area Committee on development and vice versa, to complement each others work plans and priorities.

**Review:** Lead: Sunderland arc

Consider opportunities to support Holmeside developer in marketing the scheme/city centre.

**Review:** Lead: Sunderland arc

Monitor needs and effectiveness of Sunnyside Business Forum.

**Priority Five:**

**Celebrate our heritage**

**Key Facts:**

There are 175 listed buildings located with Sunderland East area, this means 48% of all the City’s listed buildings fall in the East area.

Scheduled Ancient Monument

Ryhope Engines Trust is the only one scheduled ancient monument in the East area and is one of the finest industrial monuments in the North East, a Grade II listed building. Two giant Woolf Compound Beam engines of 1868, plus 1908 Lancashire Boilers, blacksmith's forge, waterwheel, and numerous steam engines and pumps.

#### Register of Parks

A small number of parks or gardens are formally recognised on the national Register of Parks and Gardens of Historic Interest for their special significance. There are two Registered Parks in Sunderland, one of which – Mowbray Park – is in the East Area. Mowbray Park, first opened in the 1850s and originally known as the People's Park, is in the City centre and includes a number of Grade II listed structures, including fountains, memorials, statues and a footbridge.

#### Wearmouth-Jarrow candidate World Heritage Site

The focus of the Wearmouth site of the twinned monastery that is the UK's 2010 nomination for World Heritage Site inscription is St. Peter's Church, to the north of the River Wear. The "buffer zone" that has been identified to provide protection to the setting of the site, however, extends into the East Area, largely within the Old Sunderland Riverside Conservation Area.

#### Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens

Awarded second place in the Large Visitor Attraction category, Excellence in England awards, Sunderland's museum is hugely popular with visitors of all ages. A range of fascinating multimedia installations tell the city's story from its early foundations to the present day and one of the galleries boasts an extensive collection of paintings by LS Lowry, who considered Sunderland his 'second home'.

#### Current Activity

Conservation areas are defined as "areas of special architectural or historic interest the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance". There are 14 conservation areas in Sunderland, 8 of which are in the East Area. The Conservation Team is producing Character Appraisals and Management Strategies (CAMS) for the city's conservation areas.

1. Central Sunderland (to be re-named Sunnyside). CAMS drafted, expect adoption at November Cabinet
2. Old Sunderland. CAMS under preparation, expected for adoption 2010-11
3. Ashbrooke. CAMS adopted in December 2004
4. The Green, Ryhope. CAMS under preparation, expected for adoption 2010-11
5. Old Sunderland Riverside. CAMS under preparation, expected for adoption 2010-11
6. The Cedars. CAMS adopted at time of designation (March 2008)
7. Bishopwearmouth. CAMS adopted March 2007
8. Silksworth Hall, Doxford ward, CAMS under preparation, public consultation Autumn 2009, expected for adoption at February Cabinet (2010)

#### Grant schemes - Sunnyside Commercial Property Grant Scheme

Sunnyside Partnership, working with the City Council, provides grants to the owners and tenants of existing buildings in Sunnyside who would like to improve their property in order to make their business more viable, or would like to bring an empty building back into commercial use. The grant scheme began in 2004 and is one of a number of ways that the Partnership and the Council are working to improve Sunnyside. So far 26 grants, totalling over £1 million, have been awarded. The grant has helped to attract 15 new businesses into the area and supported existing businesses. This has helped to create more than 70 new jobs as well as safeguarding the jobs of people already working in the area.

#### Old Sunderland Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI)

The THI is a match-funded grant scheme between the Heritage Lottery Fund and the City Council with a grant pool of £1.8 million. Offers of grant can be made to assist owners in carrying out works to enhance certain eligible buildings in the Old Sunderland and Old Sunderland Riverside conservation areas. The grant scheme will contribute to the regeneration of the area by securing the repair and restoration of historic buildings and bringing vacant or underused floorspace into use.

#### Sunniside

Public realm – early works focussed around Sunniside Gardens, now works commenced along St. Thomas Street and High Street West.

Further information on the outputs and targets of the Conservation Team can be found in the State of the Historic Environment Report 2009, accessible in hard copy from the Conservation Team, or online at [www.sunderland.gov.uk/conservation](http://www.sunderland.gov.uk/conservation)

SAFC Foundation in the past year have worked with a group of 11 young people who produced a touring exhibition called “Football: so what?” The exhibition focussed on the importance of football to the communities of Sunderland whilst also looking at the History of the City, the history of SAFC and the history of football. The exhibition toured to eight venues with over 32,000 visitors in a nine month period.

#### Culture and heritage

- Management and Delivery of Service Level Agreement with Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums covering Monkwearmouth Station Museum, Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens and Washington ‘F’ Pit.
- Sunderland Empire – management of agreement with Live Nation
- Local Studies Centre within the City Library and Arts Centre
- East End Study – Gill Cookson
- Sunderland Heritage Forum – working in partnership with officers from Sunderland City Council to apply for external funding for a Citywide Heritage Strategy
- City Centre walking map to include the East End (March 2010) – June Parker
- Events and heritage programme to promote Black History Month, Heritage Open Days, Holocaust Memorial Day, Local History Month and other relevant events
- Supporting the voluntary sector, including Living History North East, Friends of Sunderland Parish Church, Sunderland Old Township Heritage Society, Ryhope Engines Museum, Antiquarians, Sunderland Maritime Heritage as and when appropriate
- Developing information
- Website development – including Sunderland Then and Now photograph collection
- Promotion of heritage and the City across the City and Regionally at events/organisations

#### Gaps/Needs

Sunderland City Council are waiting to secure/confirm funding to carry out a city wide heritage strategy which will identify priorities for the city.

The Local Studies centre within the City Library and Arts Centre has high demand for usage with limited space and resources.

It is recognised that the Council need to develop further partnership work with under represented groups across the City with regards to heritage.

Although heritage events and activities are delivered successfully, the resources are limited, with increased resources they will be a greater potential for further development.

## Actions

Lead: Sunderland City Council, Corporate Communications

SAFC Foundation 'The Football: So What?' Exhibition is available to tour other venues and demonstrate the rich culture and heritage of the City using the power of football as a catalyst for the visitor experience. This should be promoted via the area newsletter and organisations should be encouraged to access this provision.

Lead: Sunderland City Council, City Services

Local Studies Centre – further scope for development and partnership working (currently subject to review by the sustainable community's scrutiny committee)

Maritime Heritage Mapping – funding bid to go forward for first stage of project proposal. If successful – further funding would need to be identified for second stage proposal.

Built Heritage – buildings which are currently not in use include the Synagogue which could be considered for future development and proposals.

Events and Activities and further partnership working (support to voluntary sector) – scope to deliver further programme and promotion, this could include a number of actions including a heritage/maritime festival focusing on the City's river and coastal heritage. Connection with priority three: 'Deliver activities along the river corridor'.

## Proposal

Lead: Sunderland Heritage Forum

Review: To investigate and feedback the costs involved in developing a City Heritage Strategy, enabling the Forum and the Council to indicate a number of identified priorities which will need consideration on how they are taken forward.

## Priority six:

### Improve recycling facilities.

#### Key Facts:

Sunderland Strategy has clear targets regarding recycling. The Authorities Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy details 30% of all residual household waste will be recycled by 2010 and pushes even further by stating that by 2015, 45% of all domestic waste will be recycled and 2020 the target is 50%.

The Place Survey was carried out by all local authorities in England, as required by central government. It is a postal survey that was sent out to a random sample of 5000 households across Sunderland in late September 2008. Result show that perceptions from residents in the East area are less positive and more dissatisfied that the City average with regards to doorstep recycling.

#### Current Services:

Green-it

The Green-It, fortnightly green waste collection service is operated citywide for households with gardens. The service caters for the majority of green garden waste through the provision of wheeled bins.

Kerb-it

The Kerb-it service is a kerbside recycling service for dry recyclables such as newspapers, magazines, junk mail, telephone directories, glass bottles and jars, steel and aluminium cans and aerosols.. The material is collected directly from households in a box every two weeks.

#### Household Waste Reception and Recycling Centre

There are two facilities provided Citywide for a range of bulky materials. These cater for the following commodities: -

- Green Waste
- Timber
- Cardboard
- Paper
- Glass
- Cans
- Plastic bottles
- Cartons
- Oil
- Batteries
- Light bulbs and fluorescent tubes
- Large domestic appliances
- Televisions and monitors
- Scrap metal
- Soils and Rubble
- General Household Waste

Over 50% of the material delivered to this site is recycled.

#### Recycling Facilities

Additional facilities are provided at supermarkets and car parks through a variety of recycling banks , these include: -

- Paper Banks - newspapers, magazines, junk mail, telephone directories and all other white paper. .
- Glass Banks - all glass and jars except returnable milk bottles.
- Book and compact Disc Banks - any kind of book and cd.
- Shoe Banks - ALL types of shoes, boots, slippers etc.
- Can Banks - aluminium or steel, food and drink cans.
- Carton Banks - juice, milk and dessert cartons.
- Textile Banks - Suitable for old clothes, curtains, blankets, shoes, rags etc.
- Plastics Bottles - Mixed plastic bottles to include milk, water, flavoured and fizzy drinks, detergent, bleach etc.

Site Location in Sunderland East	Glass	Paper	Cans	Textiles	Books	Shoes	Cartons	Card board	Plastic bottle
Astral House, City Centre (residents use only)	*		*						
Asda, Leechmere Road	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		*
Cherry Knowle Hospital, Ryhope		*							
D'Arcy Court, Hendon (residents use only)	*	*	*						
Hedworth Court, Hendon (residents use only)	*	*	*						
Londonderry/Lumley Towers, Hendon (residents use only)	*	*	*						
Lambton Tower, Hendon (residents use only)	*	*	*						



Morrisons, Doxford Park	*			*		*	*		
Planet House, City Centre (residents use only)	*		*						
Solar House, City Centre (residents use only)	*		*						
South Durham Court, Hendon (residents use only)	*		*						

## Actions

Lead: South Tyne and Wear Waste Management Partnership (STWWMP)

The Authority have been working in Partnership with South Tyne and Wear Waste Management Partnership (STWWMP) to progress the action plan within the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy in order to deliver a future sustainable waste management infrastructure to meet the targets details above. The STWWMP are progressing a major Private Finance Initiative exercise to provide a waste management treatment solution.

Lead: Sunderland City Council, City Services

In addition the partnership are looking at working together to provide a new fortnightly kerbside recycling service for dry recyclables. This service will be rolled out from April 2010 and will include the provision of a wheeled bin and caddy to all households on the kerb-it system to cater for paper, glass and cans, mixed plastic bottles and cardboard.

## Priority Seven:

**Improve public transport routes and walkability across the area.**

### Transport/accessibility

Overall there are relatively few areas within the Sunderland East Wards that have poor walking and public transport access.

The City as a whole has significantly more households without access to a car/van (39.9%) in comparison to the England and Wales average (26.8%). In Sunderland East over 45% of households do not have access to a car, which is the second highest proportion across the five regeneration areas. (Source: - Sunderland East Local Area Plan 2009 - 2011).

## Public transport

### Key Facts:

More residents in Sunderland East are satisfied with the local bus service than the City average (62%) in addition the satisfaction with local transport information is also higher than average (55%). (Source: - Place Survey 2008, currently being updated for 2009).

Generally public transport access to the area is good in terms of service provision, frequency of service and waiting times, which is on average 9% above the overall City average. Journeys take longer from Doxford and for the Ryhope ward the travel time is quite high in comparison to the distance from the City Centre. However, travel times to the City Centre from Silksworth, Tunstall Bank and Ryhope have improved since the completion of the Southern Radial Route. (Source: - Sunderland East Local Area Plan 2009 - 2011).

## Current Activity:

The Local Area Agreement delivery plan 2008/09 – 2010/11 identified as one of its priorities the National Indicator NI 175 – Access to services and facilities by public transport, walking and cycling. The Attractive and Inclusive Delivery Board, as part of their role in the City Partnership, are overseeing the performance targets which are set out below: -

Definition	Baseline	2008/09 target	2009/10 target	2010/11 target
Access to services and facilities by public transport, walking and cycling				
(i) % of households within 20 mins of closest secondary school	<b>100%</b>	100%	100%	100%
(ii) % of households within 20 mins of closest primary school	<b>100%</b>	100%	100%	100%
(iii) % of households within 30 mins of closest (A&E) hospital	<b>88.2%</b>	88.2%	88.2%	88.2%
(iv) % of households within 20 mins of closest GP surgery	<b>99.8%</b>	99.8%	99.8%	99.8%
(v) % of households within 40 mins of specific employment sites				
(ii) Doxford	<b>86.9%</b>	86.9%	86.9%	86.9%
(iii) Nissan	<b>70.8%</b>	70.8%	70.8%	70.8%
(iv) Pattinson	<b>83.7%</b>	83.7%	83.7%	83.7%
(v) City Centre	<b>89.7%</b>	89.7%	89.7%	89.7%

Source: Local Area Agreement

The above table indicates the retention of relatively high levels of accessibility. Accessibility to employment sites, particularly for the Doxford and City Centre locations, remain relatively high.

In March 2009 Nexus, commercial operators and local councils in Tyne and Wear published a Bus Strategy setting out a three year action plan to further improve punctuality, accessibility and customer satisfaction. This included proposals for a Bus Network re-design to improve accessibility for local residential areas.

The overall network design consultation process by Nexus will be undertaken in three stages: -

- Leader/Elected Mayor and Cabinet (January 2010)
- Elected members (February 2010)
- Public (March – May 2010)

Culminating in a presentation of the final network to the Leader/Elected Mayor and Integrated Transport Authority and then to the Elected Members will take place in July 2010.

The district-level service frequency targets and the district-level accessibility targets for Sunderland's Bus Network Design project included in the Tyne & Wear Bus Strategy are set down below: -

**Table 6.** Sunderland Network Design Project Targets

		Current Daytime	Proposed Daytime	Current Evening	Proposed Evening
Within 30 mins	Main Centres	62%	75%	56%	65%
	Local Service Centres (including GP surgery)	97%	100%	90%	93%
	3 Key Employment Sites	59%	75%	35%	50%
	Royal Hospital	53%	75%	33%	50%

Source: The Tyne & Wear Integrated Transport Authority and Nexus Bus Strategy – Chapter 6 “Bus Network Design Project”

- Meeting the accessibility and frequency targets set out in the district specific tables;
- Re-focusing the expenditure of public money on bus services, on the achievement of ITA, Local Authority, and central government objectives.

The indicators are designed to reflect access to a variety of key services within 30mins travel time by public transport, including an element of walking and waiting time.

Within 400m of a 10 minute bus service	77%	85%	28%	35%
Within 400m of a 15 minute bus service	86%	95%	67%	75%

The above targets highlight access to the following key services:

- Sunderland City Centre
- Key local service centres (including the significant local shopping areas at Ryhope, Doxford and the City Centre).
- Major employment sites employing at least 2000 people.
- Sunderland Royal Hospital.

In addition to existing commercial and supported bus services, the Hendon and East End Traveller Shuttle Bus Service, supported by “Back on the Map”, runs from Asda at Grangetown, through Hendon, down to the East End and into the City Centre. The service operates hourly between 8am and 4pm Monday to Friday, and between 9am and 12 noon every Saturday. There are a number of designated bus stops on the route although on some stretches of the route operate as a ‘hail’n’ride’ where you can stop the bus at any safe and convenient point. Funding for this project continues until March 2010.

Sunderland Strategic Transport Corridor - This is a key element in the regeneration of the riverside area between the A19 Hylton Bridge and the Port of Sunderland providing a new river crossing serving vehicular (including public transport), cyclist and pedestrian traffic and will provide a new gateway into Sunderland city centre helping to ease congestion. A planning application for the bridge is now being developed and is to be submitted later this year. Subject to funding and approvals, work will begin in 2012 with completion in 2014.

## Walking and cycling

### Key Facts:

The Sunderland East Area demonstrates high walking accessibility, in terms of the number of facilities (leisure, retail, employment etc.) that are within relatively easy walking distance (800m being generally considered the appropriate measurement). Overall walking accessibility is 10% above the City average. (Source: - Sunderland East Local Area Plan 2009 - 2011).

Data extracted from the City of Sunderland Resident’s Survey 2008, has indicated that residents in the Sunderland East Area were ranked highest, compared to the other areas within the City, for satisfaction with footpath maintenance. In general this was 9% above the overall City average.

The majority of SEA resident’s indicated that they were satisfied with the standard of footpaths and pedestrian areas in the City Centre. In general this was 6% above the overall City average.

The safer routes to school programme involves 24 Local Education Authority schools in the SEA in the implementation of School Travel Plans (STP). These plans are a series of practical steps aimed at encouraging children, parents and staff to walk, cycle or use public transport to travel to and from school. It is also aimed at improving the safety of children and staff on their journey to school. Progress to date is as follows: -

- 11 Schools have completed and implemented a STP;
- 5 schools have prepared draft STP’s, which are currently being assessed;
- 8 schools are still in the early stages of producing the plans.

The “Walk Wise” pedestrian skills training scheme for year 1 & 2 pupils and the “Right Track” cycling awareness practical training course for year 5 & 6 pupils are currently implemented in 23 and 22 of the schools in the SEA respectively.

All street lighting columns in the PFI core investment programme in the Sunderland East Area have now been replaced. Consistent lighting levels, in line with EU lighting standards, have now been achieved. This has involved replacing approximately 5,625 lighting units with costs in the region of £4.8 million.

There are several cycle routes running through the Sunderland East Area including two major cycle routes including parts of the national Cycle Network Route 1 and the Regional Cycle Network Route 20, the latter which runs through Ashbrooke and parts of Millfield.

### **Current Activity:**

The allocation of funding for the Footway/Footpath Maintenance programme (2009/2010) in the Sunderland East Area (SEA) is in the region of £200K. A further £380k has been allocated for the road maintenance programme for this area. The highway maintenance programme, which includes footways, is being progressed.

Requests for additional facilities for the mobility impaired, including dropped kerbs and tactile paving, are investigated and prioritised and actioned.

Through input into the Development Control process facilities for pedestrians and cyclists are included where appropriate in development proposals.

Options for developing further multi-user access to and along the coast south of Hendon are being explored extending the Hendon Promenade regeneration scheme. The improvements could include pedestrian access to the coast and beach at Grangetown, Salterfen Lane, Ryhope Beach Road and Ryhope Dene linked by a north-south multi-user route. An application for an ‘Access to Nature’ grant is being progressed with Natural England, and an allocation from the LTP cycle budget in 2010-2011 is planned.

The Safer Routes to Schools programme is being progressed. The Government has recommended that all schools implement a School Travel Plan by March 2010, which should be achieved.

### **Gaps/Needs:**

- Demand responsive transport e.g. taxi bus type services
- Hendon and East End Traveller Shuttle Bus “Back on the Map”
- Multi-user access to and along the coast South of Hendon

### **Actions:**

The following details ongoing actions: -

- Key dates from Communication Strategy for Network Redesign.
- Assist with the rolling implementation of the Tyne and Wear integrated Transport Authority and Nexus Bus Strategy over the next three years.
- Co-ordinate cycling expenditure and infrastructure development in line with the Cycling Strategy and Local Transport Plan (LTP) for Tyne and Wear.
- Safer Routes to Schools – School Travel Plans, Walk Wise and Right Track training schemes to be progressed.
- Footway/Footpath maintenance programme to be continued.
- Further requests for pedestrian facilities for the mobility impaired to be investigated.

## **Proposals**

Lead: Area Committee

Members are asked to identify opportunities for further potential improvements to public transport routes and walking access across the area, and to receive a further report to a future meeting of the Sunderland East Area Committee.

## Sunderland East Area Committee

9<sup>th</sup> November 2009

### Report of the Chief Executive

## Sunderland East Area Committee Work Plan – Thematic Action Plans

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

1.1 At its first meeting of the municipal year in June 2009, the Committee agreed the work plan for the 2009/10. As some priorities are not being discussed until 2010, it was deemed necessary to establish working groups outside of Area Committee and build in additional actions to ensure that all priorities are addressed throughout 2009-10.

1.2 Each Area Committee has a standing agenda allowing for updates to be given on all five thematic priorities throughout the year. Even though some priorities will not be discussed until 2010, summary area templates have been established throughout 2009 for all thematic priorities.

### 2. Description of Decision (Recommendations)

#### 2.1 Area Committee is recommended to:-

- Note the actions outlined in the Safe (Annex 1) report and determine the appropriate option(s) set out in the report.
- Consider the Learning (Annex 2) report and agree that an SIB application is received from Groundworks for £50,000.

### 3. Thematic Feedback

3.1 In July 2009, the Area Committee agreed a number of actions and proposals, relating to the **Safe** priorities, to be formulated into an action plan for Area Committee to monitor. This is attached as Annex 1. In September 2009 the Area Committee agreed a further number of actions and proposals relating to the **Learning** priorities, also to be formulated into an action plan for Area Committee to monitor. This is attached as Annex 2.

3.2 **Healthy** priorities are scheduled to be discussed at the Area Committee in January 2010. In August 2009 a workshop was held to discuss each individual priority, what services are currently being delivered, any gaps, identified needs and proposals or recommendations to present to Area Committee. The next steps include preparing a report in November, with a pre meeting scheduled in December before coming forward to Area Committee in January 2010.

3.3 **Prosperous** priorities are due to be discussed at Area Committee in March 2010. In August 2009 a workshop was held discussing the thematic priorities, with the understanding that any early achievements should be delivered as soon as practically possible, instead of waiting until 2010.

3.4 Information is currently being collected from the workshops to inform action plans, to enable Area Committee to monitor progress on this standing item at each Area Committee, this will allow for the priorities to be continuously updated.

### 4. Background papers

- Sunderland Strategy Delivery Plans
- Local Area Agreements Delivery Plans
- Sunderland East Local Area Plan

## **5. List of Appendices**

- Annex 1: Sunderland East Area Safe Action Plan
- Annex 1a: Youth Development Group
- Annex 2: Sunderland East Area Learning Action Plan
- Annex 2a: Green Team

**6. Contact Officer:** Nicol Trueman, Area Officer for Sunderland East and Washington  
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<b>Priority: 1.1 Reduce ASB crime, disorder and substance misuse</b>			
<b>1.1.1 Make it more difficult for people to access alcohol; i.e. restricting hours of sale; deliver a united front on enforcement by working together to tackle it i.e. trading standards, police, etc tailoring services to hit known hotspots. Collectively target crime hotspots and anti social behaviour, this includes hate crimes covering BME groups, homophobic and domestic violence related incidents.</b>			
Lead	Action agreed at Area Committee	Status – Way Forward	RAG
1.1. Anti Social Behaviour	LMAPs	<p><b>Short Term: 0-3 months</b></p> <p>1. Improved intelligence sharing with partners, Police, Gentoo, Environmental Enforcement Officers and Councillors.</p> <p><b>Medium Term: 3-12 months</b></p> <p>2. Increase the profile of Community Safety Days across the area, via use of a mobile bus (SSC, Gentoo, TWFB and N.Police via LMAPs)</p> <p><b>Medium Term: 3-12 months</b></p> <p>3. Consider development of a 'Name the Tag' project, to reduce graffiti across the area.</p>	
1.1. Anti Social Behaviour	Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue and Sunderland City Council, City Services	<p><b>Short Term: 0-3 months</b></p> <p>4. Neighbourhood Fire Team to provide information on secondary fire (wheelie bins) directly to Environmental Services.</p> <p><b>Medium Term: 3-12 months</b></p> <p>5. TWF&amp;R to work closely with City Services Enforcement Officers to tackle wheelie bin fires. Considerations to be given around piloting a project to reduce wheelie bin fires in hotspot areas.</p> <p><b>Medium Term: 3-12 months</b></p> <p>6. TWF&amp;R to consider the feasibility of introducing a dedicated Arson and Task Force worker for the East area.</p>	



1.1. Anti Social Behaviour	Area Committee	<p><b>Short Term: 0-3 months</b></p> <p>7. Area Committee to support the development of the Alcohol Awareness campaign, delivered by the TPCT delivered throughout July 09. Suggestions to come forward from members of Area Committee.</p> <p><b>Medium Term: 3-12 months</b></p> <p>8. Area Committee to identify hotspots or areas of concern around illegal sales of alcohol, to enable targeted bottle tracing exercises and test purchase exercises to be completed with child volunteers refer information to LARAG. Use of licence reviews where appropriate to impose new condition.</p>	<p>7. Teaching Primary Care Trust have postponed the campaign, awaiting feedback.</p> <p>8. Several premises have been identified and passed over the Police and City Services for action.</p>	
	ALE	<p><b>Long term: 12 months +</b></p> <p>9. Investigate and feedback on possible escalation to Scrutiny. Review of licences procedure to off licence to impose new condition, where possible. Make it more difficult for people to access alcohol; restricting hours of sale; limited amount of licenses per community/per population. (ALE/relevant Chief Officer)</p>	<p>9. No update at present</p>	
	Sunderland City Council, Health, Housing and Adult Services	<p><b>Long term: 12 months +</b></p> <p>10. To work with engagement and motivating team (Turning Point, gateway to drug &amp; alcohol services) to identify and target hot spot areas in conjunction with local GPs, youth agencies and police (possible outreach work). (HHA)</p>	<p>10. No update at present</p>	

<b>1.1 Reduce ASB crime, disorder and substance misuse</b> 1.2 Police presence makes a massive difference, both to the fear of crime and also to tackle crime. We need to market the presence of police.				
Lead	Action agreed at Area Committee	Status – Way Forward	RAG	
1.2 Police presence	Northumbria Police	<b>Short Term: 0-3 months</b> 11. Promote and encourage attendance of local people at PACT meetings (police and communities together).	11. Information posted on Police website, circulated to Cllrs, VCS groups and advertised in local area newsletters.	
		<b>Medium term: 3-12 months</b> 12. Each Neighbourhood Team to increase the number of Officers.	12. Update given at Area Committee in September 09 on increase of number of Officers made to the Neighbourhood Police Team.	
		<b>Medium Term: 3-12 months</b> 13. Court Custody Investigation Officers, Offender Managers and Neighbourhood Co-ordinators to be more visible. meeting and engaging with communities.	13. Update given at Area Committee In September 09 on changes to job roles for across the team, which will result in those Officers being more visual to residents.	
Sunderland Safer Partnership	<b>Medium term: 3-12 months</b> 14. Promote the Safe, Sensible, Social national alcohol strategy 2007 locally, to partner organisations and commissioners.	14. No update at present		
ALE	<b>Long term: 12 months +</b> 15. Investigate and feedback the possibility of securing long term funding for CCTV in the area .	15. No update at present		

<b>2 Reduce perceptions of ASB</b>				
<b>2.1 Deliver a cohesive marketing strategy to address the fear of crime.</b>				
	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Action agreed at Area Committee</b>	<b>Status – Way Forward</b>	<b>RAG</b>
<b>2.1 Communication</b>	Area Committee	<b>Short term 0-3 months</b> 16. Area Committee to support the development and implementation of the ASB initiative being delivered by Northumbria Police throughout July and August 09. Suggestions to come forward from Area Committee.	16. Long Streets, Hendon identified as an area the Committee are interested in supporting. Police recently applied to BoTM for funding to deliver 'operation guidance'. An update was provided at September 09 meeting. Joint meetings between Police and Cllrs are held one week before Committee to discuss crime figures and concerns.	
	Sunderland Safer Partnership	<b>Medium term: 3-12 months</b> 17. Area Committee to produce a DVD enabling the footage to be used on the Safer Sunderland Partnership TV, to raise awareness on the Safe priorities being addressed.	17. No feedback at present	
	Sunderland City Council, Corporate Communications	<b>Medium term: 3-12 months</b> 18. Establish a Communication Strategy for the Area Committee.	18. Consulted AC twice, Community Communication Plan ongoing; a dedicated Communication Link Officer has been identified for Sunderland East; A Sunderland East Area Newsletter is getting launched in Autumn, which will be posted to every household in the area.	
	Sunderland Safer Partnership	<b>Long term: 12 months +</b> 19. Results of from the Fear of Crime survey to be feed into the Local Area Plans.	19. The data will be feed into the LAP via the Area Officer, with support from the Performance Improvement Team.	

<b>2. Reduce perceptions of ASB</b>				
<b>2.2 We should change negative perceptions of young people, by celebrating achievements and positive behaviour, including their relatives.</b>				
<b>Lead</b>	<b>Action agreed at Area Committee</b>	<b>Status – Way Forward</b>	<b>RAG</b>	
<b>2.2 Young People</b>	Sunderland City Council Children Services	<b>Short term: 0-3 months</b> 20. Invite young people from youth groups and school councils to attend future Area Committee to showcase positive attitudes and projects.	20. Further information is available in the attached Annex 1a.	
		<b>Medium term: 3-12 months</b> 21. Continuation of the work done through Family Pathfinder and Parenting Programme, linking good news stories into the Communication Plan.	21. Information specific to the East area was presented to Sep 09 AC, highlighting the benefits of the programme for young people and parents in the East. Marketing information specific to East will be provided. Offer to arrange for a parent to speak to AC to highlight the benefits from a personal perspective.	
	Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue	<b>Medium term: 3-12 months</b> 22. Continuation of the work done through Phoenix Project and secure a means of longer term funding to allow for future planning.	22. Update received at September 09 meeting. Funding proposal presented at November 09 meeting. Allocation of SIB: £14,426.	
	LMAPs	<b>Medium: 3-12 months</b> 23. Continuation of annual meeting for planning around the bonfire campaign.	23. Planning meetings have been organised and held.	
	Sunderland City Council Children Services and Health, Housing and Adult Services	<b>Medium: 3-12 months</b> 24. Improve transitions between young people and adult drug and alcohol services.	24. No feedback at present	
	ALE	<b>Long term: 12 months +</b> 25. Investigate and feedback the possibility of securing long term funding for diversionary project currently being supported via BoTM.	25. No feedback at present	

3. Confident communities with mutual support, trust and respect				
3.1 Tailoring services, dealing with local problems: Secondary fires (wheelie bins), graffiti, fly tipping and dog fouling.				
	Lead	Action agreed at Area Committee	Status – Way Forward	RAG
3.1 Environmental	Area Committee.	<b>Short term: 0-3 months</b> 26. Area Committee to identify hotspots or area of concerns with regards to all environmental issues and agree any early wins.	26. Long Streets identified as an area of interest by the Committee, in particular selective licensing. Recently discussed at Cabinet. Also BoTM and SCC working collecting in targeting area as part of a larger regeneration scheme.	
	ARO.	<b>Medium term: 3-12 months</b> 27. Areas identified by Area Committee to be referred into the Local Responsive Services project.	27. Report being presented to November 2009 meeting on Local Responsive Services.	
	Sunderland City Council, Youth Offending Service	<b>Medium term: 3-12 months</b> 28. YOS to investigate and feedback the possibility of linking hours from the Community Payback Scheme into Area Committee i.e. x amount of hours are awarded to the Area Committee to allocate against improving the quality of life, via LAPs priorities, for example, removal of graffiti.	28. No feedback at present	
	Sunderland City Council, Health, Housing and Adult Services	<b>Medium term: 3-12 months</b> 29. Feedback on the success of Neighbourhood Wardens, which were used in the North area of the City, specifically on improvements made to the quality of life for residents in the area.	29. No feedback at present	
	ALE	<b>Long term: 12 months +</b> 30. If necessary, additional costs from the Local Responsive Services Project and Community Payback Scheme to be proposed for future mainstream funding.	30. Both projects not launched. Need to review projects once established to see if future funding is needed. Action currently on hold.	

**Lead organisation:** Children's Services

**Lead Officer:** Judith Hay, Head of Positive Contribution and Economic Well Being

**Purpose:** To consider possible options to encourage, support and celebrate the positive contributions young people make to communities and neighbourhoods in the Sunderland East Area.

**Action 1:**

Invite Young people from Youth groups and Schools Councils to attend a future Area committee to showcase positive attitudes and projects.

**Action 2:**

To launch and promote an annual Young Persons Award ceremony for young people in the area who make positive contributions to their neighbourhoods.

**Background and link to current projects and practice:**

The Youth Development Group (YDG) have recently led on a Local Councillor Shadowing Project about to be launched - 13 young people will be matched with an Elected member for 25 hours over a 6 week project.

Of the 13 Councillors who have volunteered 4 are from the Sunderland East Area.  
(Cllrs P Dixon, P Wood, D Errington, M Mordey)

The YDG is leading on a proposal to develop elected area Youth Councillors to enhance youth participation link to Area Committees and Sunderland Youth Parliament. Youth councillors would be a non party political and would focus on issues that are important to young people in their communities.

At present YDG are exploring the feasibility of this proposal with young people, councillors, services and professionals with a view of reporting back of whether this is an appropriate and achievable proposal

Children's Services hold an annual City wide Young Achiever's Event held at the Stadium of Light and is very high profile and includes young people, projects and schools from the Sunderland East area.

The categories are for 11 to 14 year olds and 15 to 20 year olds, both individual and group include: Service to the Community; Music and Performing Arts; Personal Achievement; Academic Achievement; Sport; Young Carer and Volunteer.

This event also links to a Youth Arts exhibition. The award has been launched and nomination forms are currently being circulated for a special presentation Night on Thursday 11 March 2010.

The Youth Matters Team is a project that consists of Young Advocates and young volunteers who make grant making decisions for the Youth led Youth Opportunity Fund and Youth Capital Fund – many projects from the East Area have and are benefitting from this government grant that ends in 2011.

**Options for consideration:**

**Option 1**

- The Sunderland East Area Chair to invite young people on behalf of the Committee to an event that celebrates and showcases young person led initiatives and projects from the area.

This could also include:

- Young people who have been nominated from the East for a Young Achiever's award. (Not all those who are nominated get through to the final round)
- Young people from East SIB funded projects now completed
- Young people from East YOF funded projects
- School Councils in the East area, etc

At the above event a competition could be held for the winning project and or individual who have contributed the best in terms of results/ outcomes/impact on their community.

**Option 2**

- The Sunderland East Area Committee to allocate a small % of the SIB funding to set up an area Youth Matters Team ( linked to the City Wide Team) with a grant managed by young people ring fenced to support young person led projects and ideas in the East area.
- Elected members would meet with young people to devise the criteria for the grant and themes/ direction, etc
- Young people could attend the first part of Area Committees to present their projects and report back twice a year and take part in an annual event

**Option 3**

- Link in to the Youth Councillor proposal and consider recommendations from the feasibility study.
- Develop joint East Youth Councillors and Elected Members 'Road Shows' in the East area using the mobile buses to hold joint surgeries. (completion date 2011 )

The above options are some ideas and possibilities for the Sunderland East Area Committee to consider that may best help to achieve the actions identified in the Safe Theme.

Kath Butchert  
Youth Development Group Manager

**Proposal**

Note the actions outlined in the Safe (Annex 1) report and determine the appropriate option(s) set out in the report.

<b>Priority: 1</b> Encourage young people to continue into further education by looking at different methods and strategies with regards to targeting NEET encourage more balance between academic and vocational training.				
<b>Lead</b>	<b>Action agreed at Area Committee</b>	<b>Status – Way Forward</b>	<b>RAG</b>	
<b>1. NEET</b>	ALE	<p><b>Long Term: 12 months +</b></p> <p>1. Escalate to scrutiny: investigate the possibility of increasing the number of apprenticeship opportunities offered, including the public sector.</p>	1. No feedback at present.	
	Learning and Economic Prosperity Delivery Boards	<p><b>Long Term: 12 months +</b></p> <p>2. Provide financial support to local companies to employ young people to increase opportunities for young people in identified occupational areas.</p>	2. No feedback at present.	

<b>Priority 2:</b> Support more adults to return to learning, by increasing the number of tutors who specialise in delivery English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)				
<b>Lead</b>	<b>Action agreed at Area Committee</b>	<b>Status – Way Forward</b>	<b>RAG</b>	
<b>2. ESOL</b>	ArO	<p><b>Medium Term: 3-12 months</b></p> <p>2. Review: Investigate and feedback to Area Committee on the feasibility of amending the procurement process to make the process more accessible.</p>	2. Highlighted in other areas of the City as an issue. Need to arrange a meeting with procurement to discuss further.	
	Sunderland City Council, Children Services	<p><b>Medium term: 3-12 months</b></p> <p>3. Young Asian Voices and Family, Adult and Community Learning to work together to access FACL funding to pay for several tutors to develop skills to become ESOL tutors.</p>	3. No feedback at present.	
		<p><b>Medium term: 12 months +</b></p> <p>4. FACL work with organisations and tutors wanting to deliver learning to ensure that appropriate infrastructures are in place.</p>	4. No feedback at present.	



<b>Priority 3: Increase opportunities to deliver informal lifelong learning courses that improve the emotional wellbeing of vulnerable adults, delivered locally, via community facilities.</b>				
<b>Lead</b>	<b>Action agreed at Area Committee</b>	<b>Status – Way Forward</b>	<b>RAG</b>	
<b>3. Informal learning</b>	Sunderland City Council Children Services	<p><b>Medium term 3-12 months</b> 5. Review: Source additional funding to deliver low level accredited learning (level 1 or level 2) so that seamless progression routes can be put in place for local residents.</p>	5. No feedback at present.	
		<p><b>Medium term: 3-12 months</b> 6. Replicate provision that was delivered in 08/09 to Learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.</p>	6. No feedback at present.	
		<p><b>Medium term: 3-12 months</b> 7. Develop links with other aspects of provision so that learners are able to progress onto further learning.</p>	7. No feedback at present.	
		<p><b>Medium term 3-12 months</b> 8. Map what support groups exist currently within the East, their role and infrastructure. Promote sessions and identified any common interests to encourage partnership working. Offer basic carer mentoring training to those who would want it to raise aware around what support is available.</p>	8. No feedback at present.	

<b>3. Informal learning</b>	Sunderland City Council Children Services	<b>Medium term 3-12 months</b> Consult with local people and providers in the East to identify the kind of provision that local residents would like to see delivered, with a focus on engaging more men in learning. Report to come back to Area Committee.	9. No feedback at present.	
		<b>Medium term 3-12 months</b> FACL work with organisations and tutors wanting to deliver learning to ensure that appropriate infrastructures are in place.	10. No feedback at present.	
	Sunderland City Council, Children Services and Sunderland Carers Centre	<b>Medium term 3-12 months</b> 11. Working with the Carers Centre to develop a range of learning opportunities across the city.	11. No feedback at present.	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Priority 4:</b> Better support for young people e.g. more youth and play services.</li> <li>• Increase service provision/activities for children and young people with disabilities or who are carers themselves.</li> <li>• Improve partnership working between organisations who provide services to CYP.</li> </ul>				
Lead	Action agreed at Area Committee	Status – Way Forward	RAG	
4. youth provision	Sunderland City Council Children Services	<p><b>Short term: 0-3 months</b></p> <p>12. Allocation of SIB/SIP: To supplement current practice with mobile provision. Call for Projects £30,000, one off capital, plus £38,000 per year for three years for revenue, total: £144,000 for mobile Youth Services. Applications are being made to all Area Committees for financial support for the mobile provision.</p>	<p>12. Proposal rejected. November 09:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Map (indicating youth provision and catchment areas; this should naturally identify gaps of service provision)</li> <li>• Update on commissioning model</li> </ul> <p>Priority specific issues in the East area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase service provision/activities for children and young people with disabilities or who are carers themselves.</li> <li>• Improve partnership working between organisations who provide services to CYP.</li> </ul> <p>Jan 09</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on commissioning model, who got what?</li> <li>• Map identifying provision/gaps</li> <li>• Proposal on allocation funding, if necessary to plug identified gaps</li> </ul>	
		<p><b>Medium term: 3-12 months</b></p> <p>13. To implement new commissioning arrangements from April 2010 that better represent the needs of young people in their neighbourhoods.</p>	<p>13. Tendering to commence throughout Autumn, with contracts being awarded in the Winter. Following this, map and gaps/needs arising from this process. Report back to committee on potential to add value to provision. Update to be provided at November Area Committee.</p>	

4. Youth provision	Sunderland City Council, Children Services and local contracted youth providers	<p><b>Medium term: 3-12 months</b></p> <p>14. Lack of provision for under 11 year olds, youth projects to work closely with Junior schools, supported via extended schools route and develop existing services with help of Children Services. Opportunities to develop cross generational projects allowing older people the opportunity to share skills acting as peers to young people i.e. gardening, joinery, etc.</p>	14. No feedback at present.	
	Sunderland City Council, Children Services and local contracted youth providers	<p><b>Medium term: 3-12 months</b></p> <p>15. Local contracted youth providers to work in partnership with local schools, providing a more systematic and comprehensive service where all partners are suitably funded and supported breaking down barriers where individual partners feel they need to protect their own resources and funding.</p>	15. No feedback at present	

**Further developments within thematic area:**

Arising from discussions within the Attractive and Inclusive Delivery Partnership of the Local Strategic Partnership, Groundwork are developing a proposal for a ‘Green Team’ project. The project will provide employment opportunities for young people from the Sunderland East, who will carry out environmental work across the area.

**Please see attached Annex 2a** for further information.

## Annex 2a: Green Team Proposal

**Lead Agent:** Groundworks

**Duration of Project:** 18 months

### The Project

It will provide an employment opportunity for at least 14 unemployed young people aged 18- 24 who fall into the category of NEET from each area. Each young person will be employed for a six month period – there will be three cohorts of young people undertaking the programme over the 18 month period. It will assist in the renewal of the targeted neighbourhoods through the undertaking of Rapid Response / Environmental Improvement activities. These will include:

- Horticultural works to enhance deprived areas
- Creation of local biodiversity habitats
- Improving access to green infrastructure
- Collection of sharps (needles) and removal of graffiti
- Cleaning out communal areas and gardens
- Cutting down and thinning out shrubbery to reduce residents fear of crime
- Additional street cleaning

Close liaison with local neighbourhood groups such as residents associations, Friends of Parks groups, Gentoo and Sunderland City Council will help to inform the work programme of environmental improvement works. However, it must be recognised that the principle objective is to provide a bridge to employment for young residents of the targeted communities who are furthest removed from the labour market.

It is anticipated that the majority if not all of the participants on the Green Teams will be employed in the neighbourhoods where they live, so that they gain respect and a sense of responsibility through identification within their communities. However, there are also advantages for some employees to be on placements outside their own community, where they are challenged to travel and deal with new experiences.

### The Outputs for the Project

Output Code	Description	Target
P5	Number of people on out of work benefits going into employment	14
L1	Number of people receiving job training	14
L2	Number of people accessing advice and support	14
L4	Number of adults obtaining qualifications (accredited)	14
L6	Number of young people NEET into further education or employment	14

- Please note the target will be the same beneficiary throughout the project receiving all five outputs.

Groundworks are applying to each Area Committee for the project to be delivered in all five areas across Sunderland and the cost for each area is £156,333. Groundwork will secure £106,333 for each area from Future Jobs Fund and therefore a further £50,000 per area is required.

### Proposal

Sunderland East Area Committee invites an SIB application from Groundworks for Green Team at a cost of £50,000 over an 18 month period.

# **Sunderland East Area Committee**

**9<sup>th</sup> November 2009**

## **Report of the Chief Executive**

### **Review of the Local Area Plans (LAP)**

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

1.1 To provide Area Committee with details of the review of the Local Area Plan.

#### **2. Background**

2.1 Following the extensive programme of consultation with members, partners, community stakeholders and the wider community, the Sunderland East Local Area Plan (LAP) was approved by Cabinet in July 2009.

2.2 The East Area Committee established a Local Area Work Plan in July 2009 to implement the LAP's priorities that had been developed by the Committee and its partners.

2.3 A review of the LAP is included within the new Area Committee governance proposals adopted in May 2009 with the process culminating in the Annual Report in April 2010 and the adoption of a refreshed LAP, priorities and Work Plan in June 2010. This review will be carried out annually with a full public consultation undertaken every three years.

#### **3. LAP Review; process and principles**

3.1 The LAP should be seen as a statement, published at the beginning of each municipal year. The statement should act as a focal point for residents to gain an understanding on what public services and what agencies are delivering in their neighbourhood/area over the next 12 months (May-April), indicating: key facts; what local residents have told us; intervention improvements and current initiatives

3.2 Information is gathered annually, from a variety of different sources between November and February, including from:

- Councillors;
- Partners' delivery plans;
- Directorates' delivery plans;
- Community Spirit and Citizen Panels;
- Sunderland Community Network;
- Place Survey;
- IMD statistics;
- Cabinet, LSP and Scrutiny work plans.

3.3 An end of year report will be produced in April, outlining how improvements and initiatives brought value and benefit to an Area, and what lessons have been learnt and shared. This information is shared with LSP, Scrutiny and Cabinet to influence future ways of working and ensure city wide projects are aware of what is happening at an area level and that area concerns feed into city wide initiatives

3.4 The review, as well as being about developing, implementing and monitoring the effectiveness of the LAP, is also concerned to ensure that the infrastructure supporting the

process and people is strong and adequate enough to cope with the demands of the area arrangements. This will be achieved by Self Assessments and Members' Surveys being completed and analysed, ensuring that all councillors and partners have an opportunity to influence and shape the Sunderland Way of Working.

#### **4. Recommendation**

**4.1** To note the review and to take part in the self assessments and members' surveys

#### **5. Background papers**

- Area Workshop papers
- Local Area Plans

**6. Contact Officer:** Nicol Trueman, Area Officer for Washington and Sunderland East  
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**RESPONSIVE LOCAL SERVICES****REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CITY SERVICES AND THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE****1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To advise East Area Committee of the commencement of the Responsive Local Services (RLS) project which forms part of the Council's Community Leadership Programme.

**2. INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Community Leadership Programme, which commenced in September 2008, is based upon the need to accelerate delivery of quality of life improvements for the people of Sunderland and to improve their satisfaction levels with the way the Council and its partners perform. The Responsive Local Services project is designed to satisfy the service delivery element of the programme ensuring that, in delivering its day to day services, the Council is more responsive to the needs and expectations of its customers and engages with citizens more effectively.
- 2.2 In essence the project provides each Area Committee with the tools required to tailor services in the locality and communicate the improvements effectively to residents to improve satisfaction and resident understanding of the elected Member's community leadership role.

**3. CURRENT POSITION**

- 3.1 In order to achieve an early impact, it is proposed that the Project commences with a focus on the important high volume neighbourhood services detailed below:
- Litter
  - Refuse Collection
  - Grass Cutting
  - Graffiti
  - Dog Fouling
- 3.2 The services included in the first wave have been chosen according to their relative importance and the ability to measure performance against the current service standards. It is necessary, in this respect, to publish the associated service standards to enable residents and Members to engage in service delivery performance updates, via Area Committees. This will enable Area Committees and residents to consider local priorities and service performance when tailoring service standards to match local need.
- 3.3 The service scope of each subsequent wave of the Project would then be defined upon the basis of customer feedback through the Customer Services Network, feedback from Residents' Surveys, Area Committees, Ward visits and the analysis of service requests via the staff reporting line.

**4. AREA COMMITTEE REPORTING**

- 4.1 The RLS project sets the scene for Area Committees to receive regular performance reports regarding the services included in the first and subsequent waves of the project. The performance reports will also identify locality issues arising from the analysis of staff



reports to the staff reporting line to allow the Committee to consider the allocation of SIP funding.

- 4.2 Taking into consideration the Area Committee meeting schedule, the first RLS performance reporting cycle will commence in January 2010, with the presentation of summary performance reports to each committee for discussion and consideration. As the services included in the RLS project increase with each wave of activity, the monthly performance report will provide a richer and more meaningful interpretation of local needs and issues, to inform local tailoring.
- 4.3 The staff reporting line has already identified a number of associated environmental issues in each locality a summary of which will be presented to each committee for consideration.

## **5. LOCAL PROBLEM SOLVING**

- 5.1 It is envisaged that in the majority of cases the area performance reports will provide a sound basis upon which service tailoring can be delivered to address a local issue or request for service. However in some cases this model will not suffice and a problem solving approach will be required to consider the issue in more detail and deliver the necessary service actions.
- 5.2 When this occurs it is proposed that a local problem solving group, including partner organisations where necessary, be established to provide feedback to the relevant Area Committee regarding the plan to address the issue (this could provide the Area Committee with a framework for identifying where it may wish to invest its discretionary budget). Once agreed the partnership plan will be implemented with performance updates being reported back to the Area Committee with agreed regularity.

## **6. RECOGNITION FOR ACTION**

- 6.1 The Corporate Communications Team is already developing an approach to satisfy the communication requirements of area governance and the RLS project, the first results of which should be in place by November 2009. The key is to link service improvement with community leadership to strengthen the connection, and provide citizens with tangible opportunities to influence service delivery in the local area. The relevant service standards will be published to provide a baseline for service tailoring.

## **7.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 Resource tailoring is a key consideration for this agenda to ensure that any alignment between the resource available to meet current standards of service delivery and any potential increase to service standards or demand is carefully managed. Ongoing monitoring will take place and resource allocation will be, in the first instance, managed within existing budget provision. Any demand for further provision would be required to be considered as part of the Medium Term Financial Planning Process.
- 7.2 Area Committees are also able to call upon their Strategic Investment Plan allocations to respond to local issues arising from service demand or, as was the case for the previous cycle, to address any issues coming forward from ward visits and the staff reporting line.

## **8.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 8.1 The East Area Committee are requested to note this report for information.

## **9.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 9.1 Community Leadership Programme Project Initiation Document
- 9.2 Responsive Local Services Cabinet Paper – 7 October 2009

# East Sunderland Area Committee

9<sup>th</sup> November 2009

## Report of the Chief Executive

### Area Committee Handbook

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

1.1 During the development of the new Area Arrangements, the Area Arrangements Project Board began the development of an Area Committee Handbook to reflect the new arrangements and to facilitate the operations' of the Area Committees with their partners.

#### 2. Description of Decision (recommendation)

2.1 Area Committee is asked to agree the adoption of the Area Committee Handbook 2009/10.

#### 3. Background

3.1 In May 2009, at its workshop on New Governance Proposals, the Area Committee agreed to a number of partners being co-opted as members of the Committee. In addition, there was agreement in principle to the Committee having representatives of the local Voluntary and Community Sector as members.

3.2 To ensure effective participation in the refreshed governance arrangements, it was felt the production of a handbook to provide practical guidance to all those involved in the area Committee – Elected Members, members of the public, Service Delivery Partners and Council Officers.

3.3 The guidance in the Handbook should be read alongside the Council's constitution.

#### 4. Background Papers

- Sunderland Strategy Delivery Plans
- Community Leadership Programme Project Board
- Updating Area Arrangements Project Board
- West Local Area Plan

5. **Contact Officer:** Nicol Trueman, Area Officer for Sunderland West  
Tel: 0191 561 1162 e-mail: [nicol.trueman@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:nicol.trueman@sunderland.gov.uk)

Annex 1: Area Committee Handbook

# Area Committee Handbook

2009 / 2010

# CONTENTS

	Page
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Background of the Area Committee</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Role of the of the Area Committee</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Conduct of meetings</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Membership and Support for Area Committee</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Schedule of meetings</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Key contacts</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Protocol 1 – Allocation of work to Area Committee</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Protocol 2 – Questions to Area Committee</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Protocol 3 – SIB/SIP Governance</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Protocol 4 – Area Review Process</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Protocol 5 – Area Committee Work Plan (Sample)</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Protocol 6 – Area Committee Standing Agenda</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Protocol 7 – Annual Self Assessment</b>	<b>23</b>

## INTRODUCTION

The Area Committee Handbook provides practical guidance to everyone involved with Area Committees in Sunderland – Members of the Public, Elected Members, Service Delivery Partners and Council Officers. The guidance in the Handbook should be read alongside the Council's Constitution.

The Handbook includes protocols setting out the procedures and processes to help the business of the Area Committee run smoothly. While the Handbook supports the rules and procedures set out in the Council's Constitution (available on the Council's website [www.sunderland.gov.uk](http://www.sunderland.gov.uk)) the Constitution will always take precedence over the Handbook.

### **Sunderland Strategy's Vision:**

**“Creating a better future for everyone in Sunderland”**

**Sunderland will be a welcoming, internationally recognised city where people have the opportunity to fulfil their aspirations for a healthy, safe and prosperous future.**

This is the vision and aspiration for the whole of the city of Sunderland. In order to reach this ambition the City is working together with its partners by developing and implementing the Sunderland Strategy. It is now looking at how this can be locally implemented and has reviewed its Local Area governance structures to improve links between the City's strategic actions and its local priorities.

The Sunderland Strategy sets out how the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) will deliver the City's vision, but it is the Local Area Committees that will deliver an area vision, which local elected Members, local Residents, Service Delivery Partners, Council Officers and voluntary and community groups will drive and implement. The process is two way and focussed on the operation *“What can the city do for an area and what can an area do for the city?”*

The purpose of the Local Area Plans (LAPs) is to make sense of how our key themes are turned into reality and practical action for people in their areas. Our key themes are:-

- A Prosperous area
- A Learning area
- A Safe area
- A Healthy area
- An Attractive and Inclusive area

These aims are underpinned by four cross cutting priorities: Inclusive Communities, Culture, Housing and Communication.

Underpinning the Sunderland Strategy is the Local Area Agreement (LAA) for Sunderland and LAPs for the five regeneration areas in the City (all with a lifespan until 2011). They set out the basis on which we will move towards our vision by identifying the focus for the relative short term and the next steps in the journey towards achieving long term aspirations.

We recognise the LAP does not set out everything that needs to be done in the Area. Rather it highlights the agreed way forward for the Area Committee in respect of the identified improvement priorities and intentions over the forthcoming years.

## **BACKGROUND OF THE AREA COMMITTEE**

The Cabinet meeting of the Council is the executive decision making body, and has delegated powers to an area level, via Area Committees to make a range of formal decisions on local service delivery, if it is seen to bring benefit to local communities, bringing on board local views to shape and influence decisions around local solutions to local problems. When good practice occurs there are opportunities to influence policy development and strategic decision making by the Cabinet and the LSP. Area Committee will also monitor service delivery and performance of all City Council services in local areas.

Area Committees are formal committees appointed by the Council to ensure improved service delivery in the context of best value and more efficient, transparent and accountable decision making. The Area Committee's governance arrangements have been updated to support the delivery of the Sunderland Strategy and LAA at a local level, in addition to the Council's continuous improvement agenda and complying with emerging legislation in relation to Community Leadership, enhanced scrutiny arrangements, 'Councillor Call for Action' powers, 'Duty to Involve' and 'Communities in Control: Real People, Real Power'.

The aim of Area Committee is to strengthen local democratic accountability through empowering locally elected Members to take decisions, shape and influence the delivery of local public sector services in local areas.

## **ROLE OF THE AREA COMMITTEE**

- To lead on the development of a Local Area Plan.
- To review, problem solve and establish the most effective operation of responsive front line services.
- To maximise the engagement of local residents and other interests in decision making on matters which affect them.

Their remit will involve all locally delivered statutory services, enabling locally elected Members to exercise a much broader influence over activity in the public sector.

Each Area Committee has its Strategic Initiatives Budget and through to 2011, its Strategic Investment Programme to manage. However, not all service decisions/budgets can be devolved to the Local Area Committee because some budgets:-

- Are allocated according to Sunderland-wide criteria often in response to national requirements.
- Need to support service delivery patterns and different partner organisations outside local government.
- Need to be retained at the centre to support strategic service delivery to maximise economies of scale and efficiency.

The Area Committee will monitor the local impact of all public services.

Meetings of the Area Committee will be open to the press and public.

From the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009, local authorities have a duty to involve 'representatives of local persons', making it standard practice for a local authority and their partners to empower and engage local people through the delivery of local services and involvement in local decision making. Area Committees will inform local residents about services, policies and decisions

affecting them and they will also be able to have their say and get involved in decisions, where appropriate.

Information will be easy to access, understand and tailored, as appropriate, to different audiences to support involvement, being aware of the equality requirements. Area Committees will support genuine opportunities for people to have their say, e.g. satisfaction surveys (Place Survey) and direct dialogue (Questions to Area Committee).

Area Committees recognise that the most effective form of engagement is 'involvement'; influencing or directly participating in decision making at this level which is promoted, for example, through getting involved in Community Spirit and Independent Advisory Groups.

The Area Committee will provide the local context for the Sunderland Strategy. The extended representation at Area Committee has been drawn together to account for local and strategic knowledge and will provide for overall consistency, yet give each Area Committee significant flexibility within approved Council policies and budgets to respond to local circumstances and priorities.

The Council will assess the opportunities for extending the remit of the Area Committee to support new policy initiatives, for example, integral to the Area Committee is the agreed Sunderland Compact which aims to improve partnership working.

## **CONDUCT OF MEETINGS**

Area Committees are open to the public. Each agenda is available five working days before the date of the meeting. These can be obtained from Democratic Services at the Civic Centre or online at <http://www.sunderland.gov.uk/Committees/CMISWebPublic>.

Meetings are held on a regular basis throughout the year on an evening usually within the local area, allowing those with daytime commitments to come along and encouraging local attendance.

For the Area Committee to have the information it needs to carry out its role, it may require the attendance of members from the LSP, the relevant Portfolio Holder, Executive Director, or any senior officer to provide evidence or information on reasonable notice. To make sure that the Committee can carry out its business effectively, it is the duty of an officer of the Council to attend if asked to do so by the Committees.

It is intended that both elected Members and Service Delivery Partners should see the process as a partnership.

The work of the Area Committee is extremely varied and may involve making decisions, being involved in consultations and responding to questions from the public. Elected Members are expected to make a declaration of any interest that is known to them at the start of the meeting in the usual way, indicating whether it is a personal, or a personal and prejudicial interest and how the interest arises. It may also be necessary for elected Members to make an interest known if it arises during the course of the meeting, and where necessary leave the room whilst decisions are made.

To ensure the smooth running of the meeting each Member should consider, when reading the agenda in preparation, whether any interests are likely to arise and seek advice well in advance of the meeting from the Democratic Services Officer.



## **Process**

Other representatives on the Local Area Committee are not Public Appointments and are not elected by local residents to represent an Area, unlike elected Members.

The appointment of representatives to Local Area Committees will be annually reviewed, by approaching the LSP and Directorates to seek nominations to Area Committees.

Elected Members will receive all nominations and discuss and agree representatives for the following municipal year, at the last meeting of the current municipal year. Elected Members have the right to approve new nominations throughout the municipal year, if a theme has no representative and can also call on experts to attend the Area Committee for specific topics and issues when relevant.

## **Period of appointment**

- Elected Members for four years.
- Non Elected representatives for one municipal year.

## **Substitutes**

- There is currently no formal mechanism for the nomination of substitutes, although it is recognised that some Service Delivery Partners may send substitutes on an ad hoc basis.

## **Voting Rights**

To date, Sunderland City Council has given no non elected Member voting rights. The right to vote at Area Committee remains with elected Members only.

- Elected Members have a mandate to speak on behalf of the public, where representatives do not.
- The non elected representatives are there to provide a level of expertise or knowledge to help inform the debate.

## **Principles of Conduct**

- All elected Members are required to be bound by the Code of Conduct in the Council's Constitution which sets out rules complying with the Principles of Conduct in Public Life.
- Under the Council's Constitution non elected representatives without voting rights must agree to be bound in honour by the Code of Conduct.

## **Training**

The Council provides an ongoing programme of training seminars for Members and others involved with the Area Committees, which provide them with the background information they need to deal with a range of issues pertinent to the work of the Committees.

## **Declarations**

Representatives who sit on Area Committees will be asked:-

- If there is any membership or position that might affect their ability to act in the best interests of the City of Sunderland, or to declare any other conflict of interest. In some cases, such interests may be incompatible with membership of the Committee, where they would clearly conflict or are in organisations that demand a level of loyalty that might not be consistent with a role on the Committee.
- To sign up to supporting and working towards the City Strategy and Vision and to making a contribution of time, and where agreed to meet joint organisational aims, of finance.
- To supply information about themselves to ensure Area Committees are able to monitor the diversity and coverage of the City.

Elected Members will declare an interest if they have an existing relationship with any representatives. It is accepted that it is highly likely that such relationships will exist. It will be up to the Committee to take advice and decide whether such a relationship should require the representative to withdraw from the Committee and be replaced by another representative.

## **MEMBERSHIP AND SUPPORT FOR AREA COMMITTEE**

At the heart of Area Committee is the principle that the process is elected Member led and all Service Delivery Partners and Local Residents have an important role in identifying local priorities to improve upon and solutions that will make those improvements.

Each Area Committee is made up of elected Members, local Service Delivery Partners and key stakeholders.

### **Chair**

The Chair will:-

- Support the Committee in developing Local Area Plans to improve the quality of life in the area
- Manage the Committee agenda and ensure that Committee representatives understand their roles and ability to contribute to the meeting
- Welcome and introduce all representatives on the Committee.
- Encourage relevant discussion at Committee to ensure a full and meaningful debate of the issues discussed.
- Ensure meetings are non partisan and free of party political debate.
- Provide a focal point to ask questions and encourage questions to be brought forward at the meeting through the Chair, controlling discussion and ensuring all Committee members have an opportunity to ask questions and debate an item.
- Bring clarity by summarising what has been agreed and what the next steps are.
- Manage the voting system and have the casting vote.
- When necessary, delegate work appropriately amongst the Committee.
- Handle conflict during meetings, to arrive at constructive outcomes.
- Be the spokesperson for the Committee and present and champion the Committee findings and recommendations.

## **Vice Chair**

The Vice Chair plays an important part in the role of the Committee and will:-

- Take up the role of chairing and managing meetings in the absence of the Chair.
- Play a lead role in the development and implementation of Local Area Plans.
- Co-chair Area Network meetings with a Voluntary and Community Sector representative.

## **Elected Members**

Members of the Council representing those wards included within each Area Committee boundary will endeavour to attend each Area Committee meeting.

Elected Members as Community Leaders will:-

- Act as honest brokers or intermediaries between citizen, community, the Council and external partners.
- Take action to improve the quality of life of people in their communities.
- Act as champions and representatives of each and every resident.
- Investigate and resolve residents' problems effectively or explain to them why they cannot be solved.
- Be well informed, know their area and be clear about local priorities.

Elected Members in a corporate role will:-

- Be effective ambassadors for the Council in their communities.
- Reflect the community's feedback and views in the Council decision making processes to make policies and services more responsive.
- Make objective and informed decisions that balance local needs and priorities with those of the wider area or City.
- Represent the Council's interests in local partnership working.
- Act in the best interest of the community as a whole.

## **Local Strategic Partnership Representation**

Identified Service Delivery Partners, who currently sit on both LSP Delivery Improvement Boards and Area Committees, will be responsible for providing updates on Area Committees to the individual Delivery and Improvement Partnership and vice versa, thus making connections with LSP work.

Representation will be from the five Delivery and Improvement Partnerships:

Healthy City  
Prosperous City  
Safer City  
Learning City  
Attractive and Inclusive City

Representatives from the Delivery and Improvement Partnerships will be of Senior Management level or equivalent and will be able to speak for their Delivery and Improvement Partnership and be prepared to commit resources on behalf of their partnership. If an individual is unable to attend a meeting a named substitute will be invited to attend in their absence.

They will:-

- Support the delivery of LAPs.
- Support work to maximise the effectiveness of responsive front line services.
- Participate fully in resulting problem solving and service review exercises.
- Co-ordinate a positive response from their Delivery and Improvement Partnership to discussions on matters of public interest.
- Support efforts to maximise the engagement of local residents and other interests in decision making on matters which affect them.

Delivery and Improvement Partnership responsibilities:-

- Representation at the appropriate level of authority and experience.
- Consistently high levels of attendance.
- Provide a two way flow of information between the Area Committee and the Delivery and Improvement Partnership.
- High level knowledge of the service area and its strategic operating context.
- Commitment to improving the quality of life and satisfaction of residents in the Area.
- Commitment to promote the interest of the Area in decision making processes within their partnership.
- Commitment to engagement through involvement and feedback from local residents in the design, delivery and improvement of services.
- Commitment to constructive challenge and proactive service improvement.
- Objectivity in accessing issues and opportunities and how to approach these in the best interests of the Area.
- Acceptance of Area Committee behaviour protocols.

### **Service Delivery Partners**

Area Committees have asked representatives of external service delivery organisations to attend their Area Committees, recognising the important contribution which they make to shaping and delivering local area priorities.

Each Area Committee has core partner representatives from the following organisations:-

- Gentoo;
- Northumbria Police;
- NHS – Sunderland Teaching Primary Care Trust;
- Sunderland City College;
- Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service;
- The Voluntary and Community Sector.

Representatives of service delivery partners will be of Senior Management level or equivalent and therefore be able to speak for their organisation and be prepared to commit resources on behalf of their organisations, and in their absence a named substitute will be invited.

They will:-

- Support the delivery of LAPs.
- Support work to maximise the effectiveness of responsive front line services.
- Participate fully in resulting problem solving and service review exercises.
- Co-ordinate a positive response from their organisation to discussions on matters of public interest.
- Support efforts to maximise the engagement of local residents and other interests in decision making on matters which affect them.

### **Service Delivery Partners Responsibilities**

- Representation at the appropriate level of authority and experience.
- Consistently high levels of attendance.
- High level knowledge of the service area and its strategic operating context.
- Commitment to improving the quality of life and satisfaction of residents in the Area.
- Commitment to promote the interest of the Area in decision making processes within their organisations.
- Commitment to engagement, involvement and feedback with local residents in the design, delivery and improvement of services.
- Commitment to constructive challenge and proactive service improvement.
- Objectivity in accessing issues and opportunities and how to approach these in the best interests of the Area.
- Acceptance of Area Committee behaviour protocols.

### **Core Council Officers Responsibilities**

- Discuss, review, challenge and promote the identified priorities of the LAP.
- Take an active role in owning and solving problems identified at Area Committee.
- Recognise information sharing is a two way process, by bringing information to Area Committee from Residents, Community Groups, elected Members, Scrutiny and the LSP.
- Think strategically and commit to the development of improving outcomes.
- Provide direction and co-ordinate the approach to all priorities across neighbourhoods, wards and the area.
- Encourage participation and involvement from local residents, bringing forward views and opinions on service delivery.

- Work with key contacts and stakeholders to create and build appropriate networks and partnerships to promote the Area Committee, priorities and performance measures.
- Identify and assist Area Committees, where relevant, in generating and match funding projects of strategic significance.
- Monitor the quantity and quality of performance management, reviews and projects.
- Establish methods for promoting and sharing intelligence, information and good practice.

### **Area Lead Executive (ALE)**

Each area will be aligned to an Area Lead Executive, who will be a member of the Council's Executive Management Team. The ALE will reinforce the strategic importance of the area dimension to the Council's policy and planning framework, and in particular will reinforce the importance the Council places on enhancing community governance, aligning resources and activity and improving public service delivery at a local level. The ALE will also ensure an improved localities dimension to the Council's strategic planning. The role is to help clear 'blockages' and ensure Area Committee issues are taken to the highest levels.

#### The role of the ALE is to:-

- Provide high level representation from the Council's officer core to support the process and outcomes from the Area Committee.
- Provide clarity and direction for the staff supporting the Area Committees and implement the LAPs once agreed.
- Ensure that strong links are made between the LAPs and the overarching commitments of the Sunderland Strategy, Local Area Agreement, Corporate Improvement Plan, Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB) and Single Investment Plan (SIP) funding.

### **Area Officer (ArO)**

#### The role of the ArO is to:-

- Act as the Area Chair's/Vice Chair's key liaison and support officer.
- Support, develop and update the LAP, ensuring that the Sunderland Strategy and the LAA are effectively interpreted at the local level, and that the Plan containing the relevant local priorities are consistent with Council/City-wide aims and objectives.
- Support the Area Chair/Vice Chair to ensure the implementation of the LAP (including any identified need to bid for external funds, etc).
- Work with and develop relationships with key Service Delivery Partners and delivery agents.
- Ensure the compilation and effective flow of information and intelligence to the Area Committee.
- Develop a joined up approach, across all sectors, to improve service delivery in the area.
- Work in partnership with those leading on the Community Development Plan and its implementation.

Whilst being guided by the ALEs in the particular requirements of each area, operationally, the AROs are located within the Strategic Economic Development Service, reporting through the Area Co-ordination Manager to the Head of Service. This ensures they work

within a corporate framework with links between one another and consistency of approach. (A similar model to that of the Scrutiny Team).

## Democratic Services Officer (DSO)

The role of the DSO is to:-

- Efficiently and effectively manage the administration of the committee.
- Publish the agenda for the Area Committee.
- Provide advice and guidance to the Committee on constitutional matters.
- Invite all elected Members/representatives and guests to pre meetings, Area Committee and extraordinary meetings.
- Record the attendance at meetings of elected Members, representatives and guests and submit any apologies.
- Produce edit and finalise minutes of the meeting.
- Place all actions on the Area Committee Management Information System.
- Chase actions agreed upon by the committee and when necessary ensuring that relevant Service Delivery Partners/Officers feedback into the Area Committee.
- Upload all agenda, reports and minutes of meetings and post any executive decisions made by the Committee on the Council's website.
- Book venues to host pre meetings, Area Committee meetings and extraordinary meetings, prepare rooms for meetings, arrange refreshments and equipment as appropriate. .
- Manage and promote the 'Questions to Area Committee'.
- Issue materials provided by the ArO to representatives on the Committee.
- Control and manage the distribution and circulation of the agenda papers.
- Liaise with the Chair and Vice Chair on matters relating to the work of the Committee.

## SCHEDULE OF AREA COMMITTEE MEETINGS

	Jun-09	Jul-09	Sep-09	Nov-09	Jan-10	Mar-10	Apr-10
<b>Coalfield 6pm Start</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	14 <sup>th</sup>
<b>East 5.30pm Start</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> , 29 <sup>th</sup>	N/A	7 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
<b>North 5.30pm Start</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> , 29 <sup>th</sup>	N/A	7 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Washington 6pm Start</b>	4 <sup>th</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	15 <sup>th</sup>
<b>West 5.30pm Start</b>	4 <sup>th</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup> (Feb)	7 <sup>th</sup>

In addition to the scheduled meetings, extraordinary meetings may be arranged if required.

## KEY CONTACTS

Each Directorate will select a key contact who will monitor items on the agenda, and forward to relevant Service/Officer to inform them of items which may conflict or strengthen the Directorates policies and strategic aims.

### Coalfield

Chair	Cllr John Scott	<a href="mailto:cllr.john.scott@sunderland.gov.uk">cllr.john.scott@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
Vice Chair	Cllr Richard David Tate	<a href="mailto:cllr.richard.david.tate@sunderland.gov.uk">cllr.richard.david.tate@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
Area Lead Executive	Helen Paterson	<a href="mailto:helen.paterson@sunderland.gov.uk">helen.paterson@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
Area Officer	Pauline Hopper	<a href="mailto:pauline.hopper@sunderland.gov.uk">pauline.hopper@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
Democratic Service Officer	Emma Hindmarsh	<a href="mailto:emma.hindmarsh@sunderland.gov.uk">emma.hindmarsh@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

### East

Chair	Cllr Ross Wares	<a href="mailto:cllr.ross.wares@sunderland.gov.uk">cllr.ross.wares@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
Vice Chair	Cllr Ellen Ball	<a href="mailto:cllr.ellen.ball@sunderland.gov.uk">cllr.ellen.ball@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
Area Lead Executive	Janet Johnson	<a href="mailto:janet.johnson@sunderland.gov.uk">janet.johnson@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
Area Officer	Nicol Trueman	<a href="mailto:nicol.trueman@sunderland.gov.uk">nicol.trueman@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
Democratic Service Officer	Matthew Jackson	<a href="mailto:matthew.jackson@sunderland.gov.uk">matthew.jackson@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

### North

Chair	Cllr Richard Bell	<a href="mailto:cllr.richard.bell@sunderland.gov.uk">cllr.richard.bell@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
Vice Chair	Cllr Rosalind Copeland	<a href="mailto:cllr.rosalind.copeland@sunderland.gov.uk">cllr.rosalind.copeland@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
Area Lead Executive	Ron Odunaiya	<a href="mailto:ron.odunaiya@sunderland.gov.uk">ron.odunaiya@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
Area Officer	Pauline Hopper	<a href="mailto:pauline.hopper@sunderland.gov.uk">pauline.hopper@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
Democratic Service Officer	Joanne Stewart	<a href="mailto:Joanne.stewart@sunderland.gov.uk">Joanne.stewart@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

### Washington

Chair	Cllr John Kelly	<a href="mailto:cllr.john.kelly@sunderland.gov.uk">cllr.john.kelly@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
Vice Chair	Cllr Bernard Scaplehorn	<a href="mailto:cllr.bernard.scaplehorn@sunderland.gov.uk">cllr.bernard.scaplehorn@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
Area Lead Executive	Neil Revely	<a href="mailto:neil.revely@sunderland.gov.uk">neil.revely@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
Area Officer	Nicol Trueman	<a href="mailto:nicol.trueman@sunderland.gov.uk">nicol.trueman@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
Democratic Service Officer	Paul Wood	<a href="mailto:paul.wood@sunderland.gov.uk">paul.wood@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

### West

Chair	Cllr David Forbes	<a href="mailto:cllr.david.forbes@sunderland.gov.uk">cllr.david.forbes@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
Vice Chair	Cllr Susan Watson	<a href="mailto:cllr.susan.watson@sunderland.gov.uk">cllr.susan.watson@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
Area Lead Executive	Keith Beardmore	<a href="mailto:keith.beardmore@sunderland.gov.uk">keith.beardmore@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
Area Officer	Richard Parry	<a href="mailto:richard.parry@sunderland.gov.uk">richard.parry@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
Democratic Service Officer	David Noon	<a href="mailto:david.noon@sunderland.gov.uk">david.noon@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

## Access

If representatives or members of the public have any particular requirements or access needs to enable them to participate in the meeting, including a requirement for information



in formats such as large print or on tape, please contact a member of the Democratic Services Team beforehand so arrangements can be made in good time.

Where possible Area Committee meetings will be held in rooms which are installed with a hearing loop system and rooms are accessible for wheelchair users or people with mobility impairments.

Elected Members and non elected Member representatives on the Area Committee are entitled to access all information available to the Area Committee as well as sub-sets of the Committee such as working groups.

### **Where to find out more about Area Committees in Sunderland**

The Council Area Committees have a dedicated web page on the Council's internet. At any stage please feel free to contact your Area Officer on 0191 561 1162.

Further information is also available from our website:

[http://www.sunderland.gov.uk/Public/Editable/Themes/CityCouncil /corporate /seds /draft\\_area\\_plans.asp?](http://www.sunderland.gov.uk/Public/Editable/Themes/CityCouncil/corporate/seds/draft_area_plans.asp?)

### **Protocols**

The protocols included in this Handbook are intended to provide clear procedures and processes on a number of functions to allow those involved to understand and operate effectively within the Local Area Committee.

They are intended to assist Committees and the public and other agencies to have a clear understanding of the role and function of each Area Committee in Sunderland.

They are complementary to the rules of procedure as set out in the Council's Constitution with provisions in the constitution taking precedence.

- **Protocol 1**                      **Allocation of work to Area Committee**
- **Protocol 2**                      **Questions to Area Committee**
- **Protocol 3**                      **SIB/SIP governance**
- **Protocol 4**                      **Area Review Process**
- **Protocol 5**                      **Area Committee Work Plan (Sample)**
- **Protocol 6**                      **Area Committee Standing Agenda**
- **Protocol 7**                      **Area Committee Annual Self Assessment**

## **PROTOCOL 1**

### **ALLOCATION OF WORK TO AREA COMMITTEE**

#### **1. Area Committee Coverage**

The City is made up of five areas:-

- **North Sunderland**  
Castle, Fulwell, Redhill, St Peter's and Southwick wards
- **East Sunderland**  
Doxford, Hendon, Millfield, St. Michael's and Ryhope wards
- **West Sunderland**  
St. Anne's, Pallion, Sandhill, Barnes, St. Chad's and Silksworth wards
- **Washington**  
Washington East, West, Central, North and South wards
- **Coalfield**  
Copt Hill, Hetton, Houghton and Shiney Row wards

#### **2. Composition**

The membership of each Area Committee is all Members of the Council representing those wards included within each Area Committee boundary. Area Committee meetings are Council meetings which are usually held in public and allow local residents the opportunity to attend.

#### **3. Terms of Reference:-**

The terms of reference of the Area Committee are as set out in Article 10.2 of the Council's Constitution:-

The purpose of the Area Committee is to:-

- Lead the development of a Local Area Plan (LAP), which includes all main priorities for improvement of the Area for approval by the Cabinet.
- Lead and enable the effective implementation of the LAP.
- Monitor the quality and effectiveness of services delivered by the Council and other main providers in the Area.
- Actively encourage local residents to become involved in decision-making on matters which affect them.

In pursuit of these objectives the Area Committee may:

- Consult, engage and involve local people, organisations and partner agencies in development and delivery of the LAP.
- Actively review the activities of other agencies within its area with a view to ensuring that services, initiatives and their manner of delivery meet local requirements as fully as possible.
- Constructively challenge service providers to improve the standards of service and the levels of public satisfaction and trust with them.
- Identify priorities for allocation of budgets delegated to the Area Committee.
- Commission activity to improve local quality of life and public satisfaction in its area.
- Promote and publicise initiatives taken to improve local quality of life and public satisfaction and to increase participation in decision-making.
- Request and consider reports in support of the Area Committee's work.

The Area Committee will also produce an Annual Report which will review and evaluate the degree to which it was successful in delivering its objectives and effective in promoting Community Leadership.

#### **4. LAPs and work plans**

Local Area Committees will consider area priorities each year to be addressed throughout the next municipal year. Priorities identified will be agreed and a work plan established at the first meeting of the Committee in June.

The area priorities will be delivered by the Local Area Committees, providing a focal point to discuss, review and improve service delivery. The LAP highlights the top priorities for each of the five areas, encompassing all five themes and cross cutting strategies, to achieve absolute clarity and focus on things that matter most to residents.

Elected Members, Service Delivery Partners and residents were at the heart of the consultation process undertaken to shape and approve the current LAPs through events, road shows, forum discussions and on-line facilities. For further information on the LAPs log onto [www.sunderland.gov.uk/localareaplans](http://www.sunderland.gov.uk/localareaplans) .

#### **5. Consultation and communication**

At the start of the municipal year elected Members, Council Committees, Directorates and Service Delivery Partners will outline consultation exercises to be held throughout the year and notify the Corporate Consultation Team. To strengthen the co-ordination of consultation around the City, this information will then be placed into a core consultation database. Area Committees will be notified throughout the year of all consultation exercises being carried out in their area and build this into the work plan to ensure that Area Committees are included in the consultation process, allowing information to be shared with local key stakeholders. This follows good practice outlined in the Sunderland Compact Involvement and Consultation Code of Practice, for further information log onto [www.sunderlandcompact.org.uk](http://www.sunderlandcompact.org.uk) .

Each area will have a dedicated publication which will be circulated to all residents of the area, keeping residents up to date with achievements and providing the opportunity to participate and engage in future events. To include information in the publication please contact the relevant Area Officer, identified in key contacts.

#### **6. Agenda items**

Items are placed on the agenda by the Chair and Vice Chair of the Area Committees at the agenda setting meetings, which are held four weeks in advance of the Area Committee meeting. Agenda items need to be notified to the Democratic Service Officer (DSO) for the relevant area detailed in key contacts, before the agenda setting meeting to ensure they are considered for inclusion on the finalised agenda.

An item submitted to the DSO does not automatically qualify the item to be included on the agenda, only the Chair and Vice Chair can agree this.

#### **7. Urgent items**

Urgent items can be considered by the Area Committee, with the agreement of the Chair. All urgent items must be reported to the DSO as soon as the perceived need for an urgent item arises. The DSO will in turn contact the Chair who will consider the reason why the item is urgent and decide whether the item should be considered at the meeting. The reason why the item is considered urgent will be reported to the meeting and recorded in the minutes of the meeting, together with the discussion and decision on the item.

## **8. Extraordinary meetings**

In addition to the seven scheduled Area Committee meetings, extraordinary Area Committee meetings may be arranged to discuss specific subjects. These meetings are Council meetings held in public and all requests to host an extra ordinary meeting will be co-ordinated by the DSO who will make arrangements for the meeting following the rules in the Council constitution.

## **PROTOCOL 2**

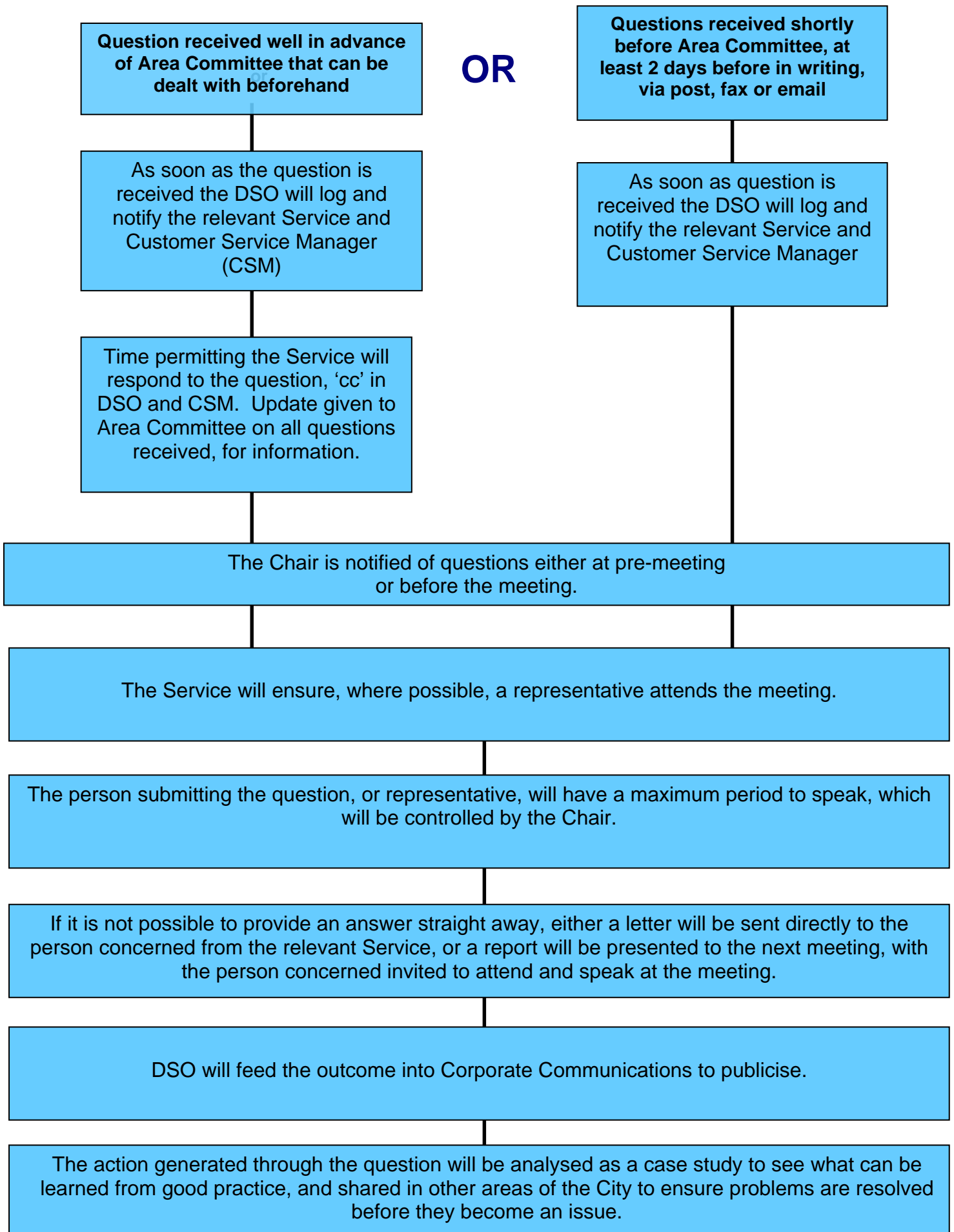
### **QUESTIONS TO AREA COMMITTEE**

For the past year Committees and Service Delivery Partners have been developing the LAP and their priorities. It was identified via the consultation programme that there was a need to introduce a method in which local residents ask questions directly to their elected Members and providers of public services being delivered in their communities. Area Committee is seen as the appropriate arena to facilitate this process.

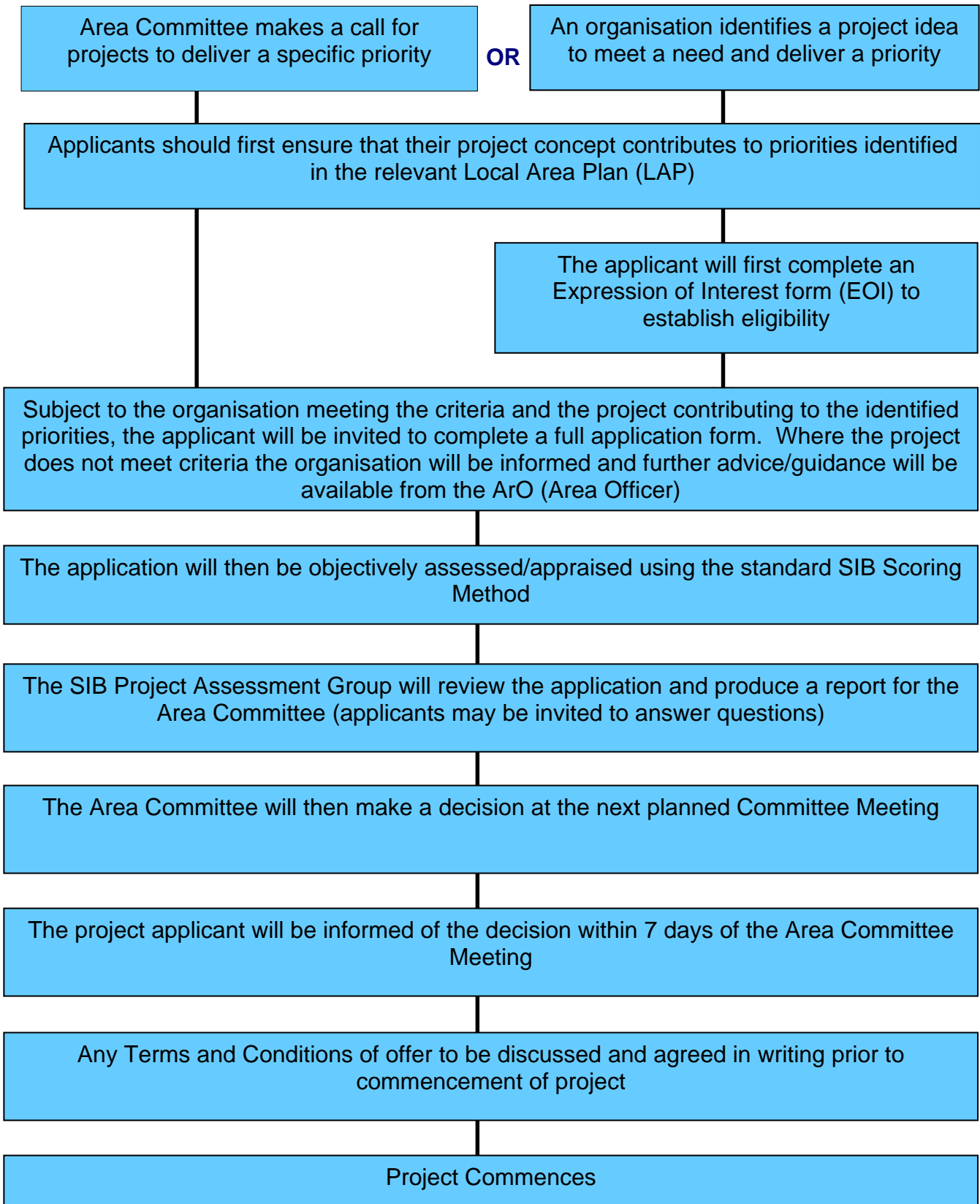
The protocol is managed by the Democratic Services Team and you should contact the DSO outlined in key contacts if you need any further advice.

- At each ordinary meeting, members of the public can submit a question (or have one submitted on their behalf) on matters that are relevant to the Area, Council and Partners agencies by the completion of the Questions to Area Committee form, up to two working days in advance of the meeting.
- All questions must be submitted before the Area Committee, if questions are received later, or during or afterwards, they will automatically be presented to the next scheduled ordinary meeting, unless they can be dealt with between meetings.
- The person submitting the question can choose to ask the question in person or have it read out for them by a nominee, or by the Chair or the Democratic Services Officer.
- The time limit given for a question is at the discretion of the Chairperson.
- The question is asked, and where possible the Committee will address and respond. If it is not possible to provide a response straight away, either a letter will be sent directly to the person concerned from the relevant officer within ten working days from the Committee date, or a report will be made on this matter to the next meeting of the Area Committee, and the person concerned will be invited to attend and speak at the meeting. In all instances a written response will be given.
- At the discretion of the Chair the person asking the question may be allowed to ask one supplementary, which must arise directly out of the original question or from the answer received.
- Committee have the opportunity of questioning to clarify any areas of doubt.
- If there is a large number of potential speakers on an issue, the Chair will ask them to select a spokesperson. If there are groups offering differing views on a particular issue more than one speaker can address the Committee, at the discretion of the Chair.
- If the Chair considers that the opportunity to address the Committee is being abused he/she has the authority to require the person to stop and if the person does not do so the Chair may require the person to leave the meeting.
- The Chair will determine the order in which the questions are asked.

## QUESTIONS TO AREA COMMITTEE FLOWCHART



**PROTOCOL 3  
SIB/SIP GOVERNANCE**



NB: The application process should normally take no more than 6-8 weeks from submission of application. In exceptional circumstances, where there is a clear emergency, the Area Committee may consider a rapid response to a request. This should be discussed in the first instance with the ArO and Area Chair and will take no longer than 3 working days to complete.

**PROTOCOL 4  
AREA REVIEW PROCESS**

If issues or problems cannot be solved at an area level, the Area Committee can decide to elevate the matter to the appropriate body.

**Council Services**

In cases of City wide issues or issues that cannot be resolved locally, all Council services will be referred to the Management Scrutiny Committee or Portfolio Holder.

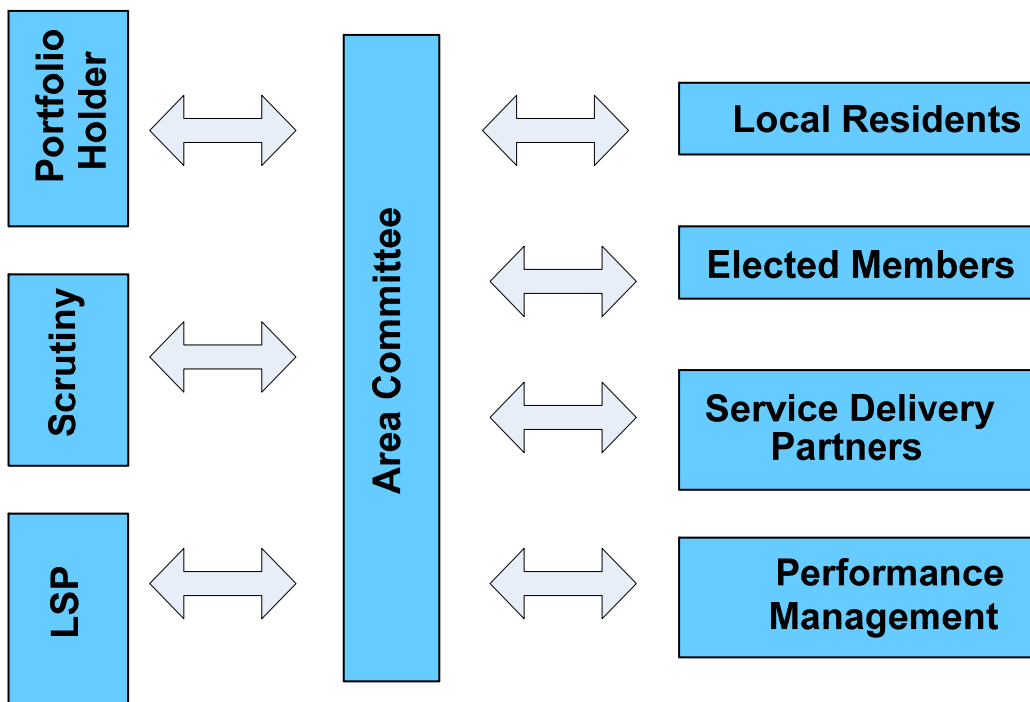
When applicable, issues and priorities that are considered by Scrutiny Committees or by the Portfolio Holder which have area aspects can be referred to the relevant Local Area Committee to resolve.

**Non Council Services**

The same principle applies if the services are non Council, as these will be referred to the LSP, and vice versa. If the LSP deem an issue to be local they can also refer the issue or priority to the relevant Local Area Committee.

A two way communication process between city and local activities will therefore be provided.

Each Area will be aware of the work plan for the LSP and the Council's Scrutiny Committees, to enable Areas to influence policies and decision making, while ensuring that city delivery plans are not duplicated and the good work is promoted locally.





**PROTOCOL 5**  
**AREA COMMITTEE WORKPLAN 2009/10 (SAMPLE)**

Area Committee	Priority Item	Lead Representatives	Strategic Link
4 Jun 09	Approval LAP's and Work Plan	Chief Executive's	Cabinet July 09
2 Jul 09	<b>Safe Theme</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collectively target ASB; Sign up to the 21+ scheme; strengthen relationships; Introduce Community Police Forums; Circulate a directory promote recognising good news stories.</li> </ul>	Elected members nominated from Area Committee <i>Service Delivery Partners</i> Gentoo Sunderland, Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service, TPCT, VCS: <i>Sunderland City Council- Health, Housing and Adult Services, Safer Sunderland Team, Corporate Communications, CCS, Children's Services, D&amp;R</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safer Sunderland Strategy</li> <li>ASB Strategy</li> <li>Sunderland Alcohol Strategy</li> <li>Alcohol Treatment Plan</li> <li>Safer Sunderland Partnership</li> <li>Community and Safer City Scrutiny Committee</li> </ul>
10 Sep 09	<b>Learning Theme</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase youth services; deliver holistic campaigns; plan training around jobs. Target EET/NEET.</li> </ul>	Elected members nominated from Area Committee <i>Service Delivery Partner: Sunderland College, VCS Sunderland City Council - Children Services, Community and Cultural Services, Work based learning providers, Youth Development Group, Adult learning provider, Schools,</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>14-19 Strategy and Action Plan and ECM</li> <li>Adult Learning Strategy</li> <li>Education Improvement Plan</li> <li>Sunderland Learning Partnership</li> <li>Children, Young People and Learning Scrutiny Committee.</li> </ul>
5 Nov 09	<b>Healthy Theme</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supported housing, one to one support and personal care; Raise awareness re: access GP's or receive equipment. Strongly link preventative services and primary care.</li> </ul>	Elected members from Area Committee <i>Service Delivery Partners</i> Gentoo, TPCT VCS <i>Sunderland City Council</i> Health, Housing and Adult Services, Community and Cultural Services Children Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health Improvement Strategy</li> <li>NHS South of The and Wear Strategic Plan</li> <li>Better Health, Fairer Health, the regional health and wellbeing strategy</li> <li>Choosing Health-Government White Paper</li> <li>World Health Organisation (WHO)</li> <li>Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee</li> </ul>
7 Jan 10	<b>Attractive and Inclusive</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Empty properties; SRL; Prioritise houses; parking bays; public transport; accessibility; signage; cycle routes, pavements; traffic safety; safe environment; healthy living; recycling; underpasses and unlit walkways;</li> </ul>	Elected members from Area Committee <i>Service Delivery Partners</i> Nexus, Gentoo Sunderland, Sustrans, VCS <i>Sunderland City Council: Health, Housing and Adult Services, D&amp;R, CCS</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Housing for the Future ' A Housing Strategy for Sunderland</li> <li>Prosperity and economic development strategy</li> <li>Tyne and Wear Bus Strategy</li> </ul>
4 Mar 10	<b>Prosperous</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>un-used business units.; start up packages; training courses; private sector; recruitment agencies; locally delivered courses; schools and VCS .</li> </ul>	Elected members from Area Committee <i>Service Delivery Partners</i> Business Link, Gentoo Living, VCS <i>Sunderland City Council</i> Office of the Chief Executives Health, Housing and Adult Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working Neighbourhood Strategy</li> <li>Economic Development Masterplan</li> <li>Sunderland Learning Partnership</li> <li>Economic Prosperity Group</li> <li>Prosperity and economic development strategy</li> </ul>
1 Apr 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>End of Year Review: Annual Report</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Self Assessment</li> <li>LAA annual report</li> <li>SIB/SIP annual report</li> </ul>

## **PROTOCOL 6**

### **AREA COMMITTEE STANDING AGENDA**

Every Area Committee has the standing agenda presented to each meeting, the format is outlined below.

- 1. Apologies for Absence**
- 2. Minutes of the last meeting** (For accuracy only)
- 3. Declarations of interest**
- 4. Questions to Area Committee** (Co-ordinated by DSO)
- 5. Priority Theme** (Co-ordinated by Lead Agent, supported by Area Officer)
  - a. Agreed priorities
  - b. Performance measures
  - c. Current activity (day to day)
  - d. Risks
  - e. Recommendation (may include call for projects)
  - f. Discussion, consideration and agree mentioned way forward
- 6. Feedback from Working Group** (recommend from Sept 09, monitoring and recommendations lead by Lead Agent, supported by ArO)
  - a. Prosperous
  - b. Learning
  - c. Safe
  - d. Healthy
  - e. Attractive and Inclusive
- 7. Items for consultation** (Recommend from Sept 09, consultation from Scrutiny, LSP, Directorates, Service Delivery Partners, etc) Co-ordinated by Consultation Manager, supported by ArO
- 8. Recognition for Action** (updates on the success of publicity, media articles and website information and recommendations on public engagement and communications in the future) Co-ordinated by Corporate Communications, supported by ArO
- 9. Financial statement and requests** (combine SIB/SIP and Community Chest into one report, as CC is SIB funding, outlining funding available and requests for approval.) led by ArO/Community Chest Officer
- 10. Date, Time and Venue of next meeting**

## **PROTOCOL 7 ANNUAL SELF ASSESSMENT**

In April each year Area Committee will produce an Annual Report which will review and evaluate the degree to which it was successful in achieving its objectives and effective in promoting Community Leadership through the LAP.

Below indicates the framework of the Annual Report

### **1. Statistical Circumstances**

- a. Quality of Life indicators showing improvements

### **2. Services Improvements**

- a. Local service quality issues identified
- b. Local service issues resolved and length of time taken
- c. Local service issues escalated to Scrutiny Committee and the LSP

### **3. Public Trust/Satisfaction/Perception Levels**

- a. Public perceptions of the Council improving
  - i. Quality of local neighbourhood
  - ii. Quality of local services

### **4. Member, Resident and Service Delivery Partner Satisfaction**

- a. Member satisfaction with operation of Area Committee
- b. Resident satisfaction with committee outcomes
- c. Service Delivery Partner satisfaction with operation of Area Committee

### **5. Budget Management**

- a. Percentage of budget allocated proactively to Committee priorities
- b. Performance monitoring of SIB/SIP grants
- c. Leverage achieved by use of Area Budgets

### **6. Operation of Meetings**

- a. Attendance Levels
  - i. Members
  - ii. Public
  - iii. Service Delivery Partners
- b. Percentage of agenda time spent on
  - i. Performance Monitoring
  - ii. Problem solving
  - iii. Area service review
  - iv. Area circumstance review

**Sunderland East Area Committee meeting  
9<sup>th</sup> November 2009**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I**

**Title of Report:**

Financial Statements and Funding Request

**Author(s):**

Office of the Chief Executive

**Purpose of Report:**

This report requests Area Committee consideration of a proposal for the allocation of Community Chest to support initiatives that will benefit the area.

**Description of Decision:**

The Committee is requested to approve the following from the 2009/10 budget:

- i) approve the 10 proposals for support from the 2009/10 Community Chest as detailed in Annex 1
- ii) approve the one proposals for support from the 2009/10 SIB budget, as detailed in Annex 2, for Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue to deliver the Phoenix Project.

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

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

The Community Chest forms part of the Strategic Initiatives Budget and that £250,000 is available for the scheme in 2009/2010, £10,000 for each Ward. This scheme is operated under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

**Alternative options to be considered and recommended to be rejected:**

The circumstances are such that there are no realistic alternatives that could be considered.

**Is this a “Key Decision” as defined in the Constitution?**

No

**Relevant Review Committee:**

**Management Scrutiny Committee**

**Is it included in the Forward Plan?**

No

## **Sunderland East Area Committee**

**9<sup>th</sup> November 2009**

### **Report of Chief Executive**

#### **Financial Statements and Funding Request**

##### **1. Purpose Of The Report**

1.1 This report outlines current expenditure from the Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB), Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) and Community Chest and applications for funding from these budget in order to support new initiatives, which will benefit the area and the delivery of the Local Area Plans.

##### **2.0 Description of Decision (Recommendation)**

2.1 The Committee is requested to approve:

- Annex 1: 10 proposals for support from the 2009/10 Community Chest.
- Annex 2: 1 proposal from the 2009/10 SIB budget of £14,426 for Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue to deliver the Phoenix Project.

2.2 Note the financial statement for Area Committee funding for 2009/10 in Annex 3.

2.3 Note and agree the live update report on the ten projects that are still operating and receiving SIB funding, totally £175,777, attached as Annex 4.

2.4 Agree the refreshed emergency protocols for accessing SIB and SIP funding.

##### **3.0 Background**

3.1 The Council has reduced the amount of Regeneration Framework across the City from six to five. This has resulted in a new calculation of SIB funding to be awarded to the Sunderland East Area Committee of £277,456 to be allocated up until March 2010. All allocations of funding should be matched against the criteria outlined in delivering the key priorities of the area, identified within the Local Area Plan(LAP).

3.2 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. This equates to £227,293. At a meeting in July 2009 the Committee agreed to split the funds across the four wards of Hendon, Millfield, Ryhope and St Michaels. With local Councillors and service delivers being responsible and accountable for its expenditure against the LAP priorities, with proposed projects being presented to Area Committee for final endorsement. This funding is available until March 2011.

3.3 The Committee will be aware that the Community Chest forms part of the Strategic Initiatives Budget and that £250,000 is available for the scheme in 2009/2010, £10,000 for each Ward, plus any unclaimed allocations identified from previous years. This scheme is operated under Section 137 of the Local Government Act.

#### **4.0 Current Position SIB**

- 4.1 Following the 7 September 2009 Committee meeting, a balance of £281,811 remains to be allocated from 2009/10 budget.
- 4.2 There is one applications for funding presented to this Committee requesting a total of £x from the 2009/10 budget. Should the Committee grant these requests, £x will be committed from the 2009/10 budget. This will leave a balance of £x to be allocated from 2009/10 budget.

#### **5.0 Current position SIP**

- 5.1 Following the 7 September 2009 Committee meeting, a balance of £56,293 remained to be allocated from each ward up until March 2011 totally £227,293 across the area.
- 5.2 To date x Expressions of Interest have been received, all of which are still under development and if deemed suitable will be presented to future meetings of Area Committee for approval.

#### **6.0 Current Position Community Chest (September 09 figures)**

- 6.1 To date approvals for each Ward total:

Doxford	£10,122
Hendon	£9,559
Millfield	£9,525
Ryhope	£4,013
St. Michael's	£4,211

- 6.2 The projects listed on Annex 1 total:

Doxford	£0000
Hendon	£100
Millfield	£800
Ryhope	£4,614
St. Michael's	£750

- 6.3 Should the Committee grant the requests listed on Annex 1 the remaining balances, including the unclaimed allocations identifies from previous years, would be:

Doxford	£2,713
Hendon	£591
Millfield	£207
Ryhope	£4,081
St. Michael's	£6,609

#### **7.0 Emergency protocol for accessing SIB and SIP funding**

- 7.1 Emergency protocols for accessing SIB or SIP funding can only be accessed when a clear emergency is defined as a genuinely unforeseeable issue. The emergency process can only be initiated where there is a need to approve funding in advance of the next planned Area Committee meeting. An example could be that adverse weather conditions have caused a leaking roof to a community venue that has no other means of financing the repair, creating further damage and preventing the use of the facility. The

ArO will consult with the Chair and Vice Chair immediately to determine whether an application is appropriate.

- 7.2 In addition to being a genuine emergency, the application should contribute to priorities identified in the relevant Local Area Plan (LAP). An application form must be completed and all relevant information must be provided. The ArO will provide guidance and support to the applicant.
- 7.3 The application will then be objectively assessed against agreed criteria as, a matter of urgency. Consultation with relevant partners/directorates will take place. A brief report will be produced for the Chair and Vice Chair of the Area Committee who will make a recommendation whether to approve the funding application.
- 7.4 All elected members of the relevant Area Committee will be consulted by e-mail to confirm they are in agreement with the proposal, within 24 hours of receiving the request. If the application is to be agreed under the Council's 'Scheme of Delegation', the Deputy Chief Executive will then action the decision in accordance with the Council's constitution. The project applicant will be informed of the decision immediately. Area Committee will be updated at the next meeting. Any Terms and Conditions of offer will be discussed and agreed prior to commencement of project (all usual SIB terms and conditions apply). The emergency process should normally take no more than 1-5 working days from submission of application.

## **8.0 Reasons for the Decision**

- 8.1 SIB and SIP was established to promote action on key priorities identified in the relevant Local Area Plan, and to attract other funding into the area. Applications for SIB/SIP funding should demonstrate the potential benefits to local communities the proposed project would bring, and subsequently be able to provide evidence and statistics that can illustrate these benefits.
- 8.2 Community Chest support is given to projects which clearly demonstrate that they will address identified local needs, provide genuine community benefit and which can subsequently provide evidence/measurement of success in this respect.

## **9.0 Alternative Options**

- 9.1 Each project is required to indicate what alternative options they have considered during the application business process.

## **10.0 Relevant Consultations**

- 10.1 Financial Implications  
The Director of Financial Resources has been consulted on this report and all costs associated with developing SIB, SIP and Community Chest applications.
- 10.2 Implications for Other Services  
Each project is required to indicate what implications there may be for other services in the application business process.
- 10.3 The Public  
Each SIB/SIP project is required to indicate what consultation it has undertaken and other documentary evidence it has to support its proposal in during the application

business process. Residents have been consulted about the priorities in the Local Area Plans and bids support these identified priorities.

10.4 The Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 and the Councils Race Equality Scheme. Each project is required to indicate whether it has an equal opportunities policy, or what measures it employs to address equal opportunity issues, during the application business process.

10.5 Public Relations and Publicity  
Each project is required to indicate how it will promote funding awarded from Area Committee.

10.6 Councillors  
Members have been consulted on all applications for SIB, SIP and Community Chest support and the implementation of the review.

## **11.0 List of Appendices**

11.1 Annex 1      Community Chest: Proposed projects for approval  
Annex 2      SIB Application: Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue  
Annex 3      Financial Statement  
Annex 4      Live Update report on SIB projects

## **12.0 Background Papers**

12.1 The following background papers were used:

- Community Chest Application Forms
- Schedule of projects circulated at the panel meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2009.
- Reports to previous Area Committees
- Sunderland East Local Area Plan



## Annex 1 - COMMUNITY CHEST 2009/2010

### PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR APPROVAL

	<b>Recommended Grant subject to final estimates, invoices, up to:</b>
<b>HENDON WARD</b>	
<b>Monday Lunch Club</b> – Contribution towards Christmas lunch.	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>MILLFIELD WARD</b>	
<b>Deptford &amp; Millfield C.A</b> – Contribution towards decoration costs.	300
<b>Millfield Residents &amp; Neighbourhood Watch Group</b> – Contribution towards room hire, stationery etc.,	500
<b>Total</b>	<b>800</b>
<b>RYHOPE WARD</b>	
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Ryhope St. Paul's Guides</b> – Contribution towards transport and accommodation costs for trip to Girlguiding HQ.	600
<b>St. Patrick's School</b> – Purchase of equipment & toys for out of hours club.	614
<b>Ryhope Over 60's Group</b> – Contribution towards room hire, refreshments, Christmas lunch etc.,	1000
<b>Ryhope Ladies Club</b> – Contribution towards transport, speakers, room hire, Christmas lunch etc.,	1000
<b>Ryhope Jolly Girls</b> – Contribution towards social activities, trips, room hire etc.,	400
<b>Ryhope Rascals Toddler Group</b> – Contribution towards Christmas party, trips, transport etc.,	1000
<b>Total</b>	<b>4614</b>

**ST. MICHAEL'S WARD**

**Sunderland Ladies Probus Club** – Contribution towards trips, refreshments etc., 750

**Total** 750

**Total of Projects** 6264

## Annex 2: SIB Application summary

Name of Project	Sunderland Phoenix Project
Lead Organisation	Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service

Total Cost of Project	Total Match Funding	<b>Total SIB Requested</b>
£84,858	nil	<b>£14,426</b>
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
Two years	April 2010	March 2012

### The Project

Aimed at young offenders or young people at risk of offending (aged 11-17), the project will deliver 9 two day Respect Level 2 courses and 6 three day Advanced Level 3 courses per annum.

The original Phoenix course (Level 1) is a four day course which encourages discipline, self discipline, confidence, self esteem, leadership, communication, team work, practical skills and knowledge by engaging in training and activities based on fire fighting skills and practical procedures, Anti Social Behaviour (ASB), hoax calls, fire safety in the home, driving standards and knife crime are also included in the course. Students are motivated, confident and enthusiastic following the completion of the Phoenix project. Funding is secured to continue this element of Phoenix.

The Respect course (L2) is a two day follow up course solely for students who have completed the original Phoenix (L1) and have not offended, have maintained behaviour levels, both at school and at home for a minimum period of three months. The course delivers more advanced activities and practical tasks based on fire fighting skills, such as working with ladders and fire extinguisher training. The purpose of offering this course is to encourage and motivate the students to achieve the above criteria to attend.

The Advanced course (L3) is four days and is the third course in the "package" for students who have completed the first two courses and have not offended and maintained behaviour levels for a further six months following the Respect course. The first day of the course recaps on activities from the first two courses with day two and three being spent at an outdoor activity centre with an overnight stay. Teambuilding, leadership, communications skills, confidence building and motivation are the main purpose of the challenges and activities, which include mid ropes course, high walk, assault course, zip wire, night line tunnels and many others.

### The Need for the Project

Sunderland Youth Offending Services have stated that if a young person desists from offending for a period of 12 months they are unlikely to return to offending behaviour and "adopt a preference" to not offend. The progression route is clearly identified from L1 to L3, and a recent evaluation compared students who were told about the Respect course and those who were not, 85% of those young people given the incentive did not offend.

Consultation has taken place between Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Officers and all five Area Committee between July and September 2009.

### The Outputs for the Project

Output Code	Description	Target 2009/10	Target 2010/11	Target 2011/12
L7	Number of additional youth sessions (courses) been delivered		15	15
L8	Number of additional young people engaged		150	150

## Annex 2: SIB Application summary

	in youth provision			
S5	Number of young people benefiting from youth inclusion projects		150	150
S6	Number of additional young people engaged in youth activities		150	150

NB:- figures are based on 10 young people per course and will be aligned to their area via postcode to assist in claiming expenditure from the appropriate area budget.

## The key milestones for the Project

Forecast Dates	Milestones and Key Events
Y1 Q1: April-June 2010	Deliver: 2 Respect + 2 Advanced
Y1 Q2: July-September 2010	3 Respect + 2 Advanced
Y1 Q3: October-December 2010	2 Respect + 1 Advanced
Y1 Q4: January-March 2011	2 Respect + 1 Advanced
Y2 Q1: April-June 2011	Deliver: 2 Respect + 2 Advanced
Y2 Q2: July-September 2011	3 Respect + 2 Advanced
Y2 Q3: October-December 2011	2 Respect + 1 Advanced
Y2 Q4: January - March 2012	2 Respect + 1 Advanced

## Costs:

Area	% of costs	SIB requested 2009/10	SIB requested 2010/11
<b>Sunderland East</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>£7,213</b>	<b>£7,213</b>
West	21	£8,910	£8,910
North	18	£7,637	£7,637
Washington	28	£11,880	£11,880
Coalfield	16	£6,789	£6,789
Total	100	£42,429	£42,429

NB: costs were calculated by analysing the % of young people who attended the courses over the last three years and which areas of the City they resided in. The information has assisted in forecasting the future delivery costs against the project.

## Breakdown

	Respect course (L2)	Advance course (L3)	
Instructors	£1,018	£2,036	
Management, admin	£62	£62	
Capital overheads	£165	£331	
Premises overheads	£180	£360	
Appliance	£160	£320	
Transport	£138	£138	
Catering	£60	£120	
Climbing wall	£130		
Training centre exercises		£85	
Seamanship centre	£500		
<b>Total</b>	£2,413 x 18 over a two year period = £43,434	£3,452 x 12 over a two year period = £41,424	Grand total across the City £84,858

## Annex 2: SIB Application summary

### Feedback from consultation:

- Improve communication methods, for example, looking at how the messages of positive engagement with young people and associated messages of community safety; cost to the relevant agencies and how the project benefits the wider community, etc. Not just seen as a reward for perceived 'bad behaviour' by young people. This could provide a powerful message to the wider community, and make a positive impact on community cohesion.
- Revenue only application, which could become a recurring cost rather than a one-off cost.

### Recommendation: Approve

- Previously to this meeting all five Area Committees agreed that an application proposal be developed and presented to a future meetings for consideration of allocating SIB over a two year period.
- TWFRS are represented at Area Committee by the relevant Station Manager for the area and will be able to supply reports upon request.
- The aims and objectives stated meet the strategic objectives within the Safe theme in all five areas of the City. The information provided also outlines strong links between the project aims and the strategic outcomes.
- The outputs are clear and will support delivery of priorities in all five areas.
- TWFRS have experience of managing funding and projects, in addition, finance management systems, recording and monitoring procedures and a Phoenix Manager who will be responsible for returning quarterly monitoring forms with details of project delivery, outputs and expenditure.
- There are no legal or other approvals required and no identified risks/uncertainties to resolve.
- There are no implications for Council services arising from this project.
- Milestones are clear and appear to be realistic.

**Annex 3: SIB: Sunderland East SIB Statement 9th November 2009**

	<b>Approval</b>	<b>SIB Allocation</b>	<b>Carried over 2008-09</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Budget Allocation for 2009/2010		£277,456	£4,355	£281,811
<b>Balance</b>		<b>£277,456</b>	<b>£4,355</b>	<b>£281,811</b>

**SIP: Sunderland East Statement 9th November 2009**

<b>2009/2010 Approvals</b>	<b>Approval Date</b>	<b>SIP Allocation</b>	<b>Approvals</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Budget Allocation for 2009/2010		£227,293	£0	£227,293
Hendon		£56,823	£0	£56,823
Millfield		£56,823	£0	£56,823
Ryhope		£56,823	£0	£56,823
St Michaels		£56,823	£0	£56,823
<b>Balance</b>		<b>£227,293</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£227,293</b>

NB:-wards eligible for SIP funding Hendon, Millfield, St Michaels and Ryhope wards only

**Community Chest: Sunderland East Statement 9th November 2009**

<b>2009/2010 Approvals</b>	<b>Community Chest Allocation 2009/2010</b>	<b>Unclaimed/ Uncommitted Community Chest</b>	<b>Approvals</b>	<b>Balance</b>
<b>Budget Allocation for 2009/2010</b>				
Hendon	£10,000	£250	£9,559	£691
Millfield	£10,000	£532	£9,525	£1,007
Ryhope	£10,000	£2,708	£4,013	£8,695
St Michael's	£10,000	£1,570	£4,211	£7,359
Doxford	£10,000	£2,835	£10,122	£2,713
<b>Total</b>	<b>£50,000</b>	<b>£7,895</b>	<b>£37,430</b>	<b>£20,465</b>

**Annex 4 - Strategic Initiatives Budget: Sunderland East Live Report -  
9th November 2009**

<b>Project One</b>	<b>Approval</b>	<b>Expend. End Date</b>	<b>Alloc. £k</b>	<b>Exp. to date</b>	<b>Balance £k</b>
<b>Millfield Action Group</b>	01.10.07	Oct-09	10	0	10
<p>The project has had problem in delivering the project. A meeting was held with the new Lead Agent in June 09 to discuss a way forward. It was agreed that at least a small aspect of the project can be delivered, via a Summer Programme for 2009. Unfortunately no monitoring information has been received from the group, and after several attempts no contact has been made with the Lead Agent. There is a claim outstanding from a local youth provider for the deliver of the Summer Programme, but the level of detail of the invoice is not acceptable enough to warrant payment. If a new invoice was re-submit we still need the approval of the Lead Agent to release funds. Recommendation to resolve issue with invoice and any unclaimed funds to be clawed back into the current SIB budget.</p>					
<b>Project Two</b>	<b>Approval</b>	<b>Expend. End Date</b>	<b>Alloc. £k</b>	<b>Exp. to date</b>	<b>Balance £k</b>
<b>Fushia - Carers Support Group</b>	07.04.08	Apr-10	15.320	10.590	4.730
<p>FUSHIA will work with and support the carers of substance misuses, will help raise awareness and knowledge for carers and encourage them to become proactive within their personal situations and their community, by removing negativity and replacing it with positive attitudes and outcomes. As a result of SIB funding the project have secured further funding from the Social Enterprise Investment Fund which has enabled them to employ a further full time Support Worker, a Business Development Worker and a Consultant to help them move forward in order to become self sustainable. Currently the project is supporting 54 carers and lately a networking and awareness event was held with the Six Streets Project at the Bangladeshi Centre. Two carers have also become volunteers for FUSHIA and have completed numerous accredited training courses, with the intention of becoming support workers and enabling one volunteer to come off benefits.</p>					
<b>Project Three</b>	<b>Approval</b>	<b>Expend. End Date</b>	<b>Alloc. £k</b>	<b>Exp. to date</b>	<b>Balance £k</b>
<b>Sunderland Maritime Heritage</b>	30.06.08	Jun-10	12.26	11.5	0.76
<p>SIB funding has been used to build a replica of Jack Crawford Boat H.S. Venerable (30"). The project includes 14 volunteers who will pass down rare skills to younger people, develop links with external agencies and groups and promote Sunderland Maritime Heritage in general. The boat will be mobile, and can be transported around different areas for displays and events. Over the last few months the project has gone from strength to strength and was featured on two television programmes, Secret Millionaire and Flog It. As a result of the coverage on these programmes the project has seen massive increase in their memberships, which has risen to 350. They have also received various donations from people across the country which has helped to make the project a more financially+A24 sound for the next year.</p>					

**Annex 4 - Strategic Initiatives Budget: Sunderland East Live Report -  
9th November 2009**

<b>Project Four</b>	<b>Approval</b>	<b>Expend. End Date</b>	<b>Alloc. £k</b>	<b>Exp. to date</b>	<b>Balance £k</b>
<b>Grangetown Community Association</b>	27.11.08	Nov-10	32.545	25.301	7.244
<p>SIB funding will enhance this community building by refurbishing and equipping the existing premises into an accessible provision by installing an accessible toilet and baby changing facilities along with re-decoration and assisted safety and security works. It is envisaged that once the works are complete the Community Association will become more accessible to young families, wheelchair users and older people as they would be able to become involved and participate in the centres activities. Work to date has included a new disabled access ramp, disabled toilet, re-decoration, blinds and lighting, installation of a new water heater and new more secure upvc windows.</p>					
<b>Project Five</b>	<b>Approval</b>	<b>Expend. End Date</b>	<b>Alloc. £k</b>	<b>Exp. to date</b>	<b>Balance £k</b>
<b>East Forum Development</b>	02.02.09	Jan-00	18.480	4.443	14.037
<p>The East Forum has identified the need to increase its capacity to meet the needs of local people and fulfil the neighbourhood agenda. The project through SIB funding will employ a member of staff initially for a resourced second tier voluntary organisation supporting and growing the community sector in the East and working with the council to deliver comprehensive, community led regeneration and service improvements. This will be achieved by employing a part time Project Worker located at Sunderland CVS, responsible for maintaining a website and producing e-newsletters, organising meetings, encouraging groups to engage with each other, sharing news/events/resources. To date there have been regularly monthly meetings attended on average by 30 members, workshops have been held with Sunderland Link and Sunderland TPCT to find views on Health and Social care in Sunderland, and a website has been developed to disseminate information across the local community.</p>					
<b>Project Six</b>	<b>Approval</b>	<b>Expend. End Date</b>	<b>Alloc. £k</b>	<b>Exp. to date</b>	<b>Balance £k</b>
<b>Ryhope CA Community Development in Ryhope</b>	04.02.08	Feb-10	64.172	7.845	56.327
<p>The aim of the project is to provide a range of support and services to various organisations and agencies within the Ryhope area. SIB funding will contribute towards employing a Community Development Worker to support the voluntary and community sector across the area. The last quarter QMR was very positive: £14.5k funding has been secured for the Aggregates Levy Fund to clean up beach access at Ryhope Village; supported 25 volunteers; worked in partnership with Extended Schools and Children's Centre to provide weekend activities which included Dads and Kids Drama; investigated the possibility of securing the old library site on a peppercorn rate in partnership with Age Concern and Adult Services with the aim to provide a community Cafe/Luncheon Club during the day with outreach advice and services for the aged; facilitated a volunteering event in partnership with Durham Heritage Coast to clean up Ryhope Dean. Overall the project is a massive success within a short time span, this is recognised to be because of the dedication of the Development Worker, which SIB is funding.</p>					



**Annex 4 - Strategic Initiatives Budget: Sunderland East Live Report -  
9th November 2009**

<b>Project Seven</b>	<b>Approval</b>	<b>Expend. End Date</b>	<b>Alloc. £k</b>	<b>Exp. to date</b>	<b>Balance £k</b>
<b>Sit n B Fit - Mature Moves</b>	30.06.08	Jun-10	5	2.286	2.714

The aim of the project is to improve the health and mobility of older people in the area through gentle seated exercise and mature moves, and thus help them to sustain independent living. Seated exercise can increase a person's stamina, balance, co-ordination, suppleness and flexibility. During this quarter 133 one to one sessions were delivered and 13 of these were delivered in the East area.

<b>Project Eight</b>	<b>Approval</b>	<b>Expend. End Date</b>	<b>Alloc. £k</b>	<b>Exp. to date</b>	<b>Balance £k</b>
<b>Doxford Park - Lake Rejuvenation</b>	02.03.09	Mar-11	5	0	5

The lake in Doxford Park has fallen into an unacceptable condition in recent times and is not receiving a sufficient water supply to ensure a proper movement of water through the system. This together with the loss of the water recirculation which was originally designed to be furnished from the cascade has led to the lake becoming almost stagnant. It is proposed to remove the water from the lake to a licensed tip, to then dredge the lake, again removing those materials to a licensed tip to allow a full inspection to be carried out. This would require an investigation into the original water circulation design, to be carried out with appropriate expert assistance. After some delays on the initial stages of the project, it is now in the process of extending the site investigation and in particular the options for disposing of contaminated material from the lake. Various meetings have taken place between Groundwork Trust together with the Chairman of the Friends of Doxford Park Group to discuss the way forward. A current bid is also being pulled together to the Sita Trust in the sum of £80,000 to match monies approved by Area Committee for the work.

<b>Project Nine</b>	<b>Approval</b>	<b>Expend. End Date</b>	<b>Alloc. £k</b>	<b>Exp. to date</b>	<b>Balance £k</b>
<b>Promoting Youth Initiatives in the South</b>	08.09.08	Sep-10	3	1.670	1.33

The project will provide one point of contact within the Youth Development Group (South Youth Forum) and promote this as an information service for accessibility to all South and City wide youth projects and will also help to ensure that all youth organisations in the South work together to provide a 'Core Youth Offer'. There is currently no one service for promoting youth initiatives in the South of the City and those accessing services are largely doing so on an ad-hoc basis. A structured and strategic promotion, it is felt by the providers, would guide young people and their families to the services on offer and give them a greater choice and understanding of the provision available. Work to date has included the organisation of a market stall event for local Youth Groups to advertise their groups and share information with one another and the Youth Development Group have worked with the organisations to develop promotional materials to advertise what is available in the local area.

**Annex 4 - Strategic Initiatives Budget: Sunderland East Live Report -  
9th November 2009**

<b>Project Ten</b>	<b>Approval</b>	<b>Expend. End Date</b>	<b>Alloc. £k</b>	<b>Exp. to date</b>	<b>Balance £k</b>
<b>South Youth Development - Box Youth Project</b>	02.03.09	Mar-11	10	0	10
<p>This project is a partnership between the Box Youth Project in Doxford and the Youth Almighty Project in Silksworth to develop a range of quality positive activities available during evenings, weekends or holiday times at venues and times that are suitable and accessible to young people. It is expected that this model of partnership working can provide a template for future developments of youth services. The project have reported that more young people have been accessing positive activities, which has resulted in more participation from young people. Young people have taken part in activities to the climbing wall, Flamingoland, Laser quaser and also have enjoyed a residential weekend to Derwent Hill. A weekly drop in has been open every Saturday evening to provide young people with a safe place to go and take part in activities and socialise with their friends. Through participation in project young people have been able to develop and improve skills, try out new things which has boosted self esteem and confidence.</p>					
<b>Total</b>			<b>175.777</b>	<b>63.635</b>	<b>112.142</b>