

COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Meeting to be held at The New Library and Learning Centre, Newbottle Street, Houghton-le-Spring on Tuesday, 7th November, 2006 at 6.00 p.m.

(* Denotes an item relating to an executive function)

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R.C. RAYNER,
City Solicitor.

Civic Centre,
SUNDERLAND.

30th October, 2006.

At a meeting of the COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE held at THE HETTON CENTRE, WELFARE ROAD, HETTON-LE-HOLE on WEDNESDAY, 6TH SEPTEMBER, 2006 at 6.00 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor A. Hall in the Chair

Councillors F. Anderson, Blackburn, Carthy, J. Heron, R. Heron, Lawson, Richardson, Rolph, J. Scott, Speding and Tate.

Apologies for Absence

All Members of the Committee being present there were no apologies for absence.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

The Chairman advised that as the agenda was particularly heavy for the evening, she had agreed that information be circulated to Members on the national and local picture with regards to what each Coalfield Area receives from the Coalfields Regeneration Trust. She added that consideration would be given at the next meeting of the Committee to the information, when a representative from the Coalfields Regeneration Trust would attend to answer Members' questions.

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting held on 7th June, 2006 (copy circulated), be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Declarations of Interest

Item 4 - Coalfield Forum – Executive Summary of the Meetings Held

Councillors Richardson and J. Scott declared personal interests as Members of the Coalfield Forum.

Councillor Carthy declared a personal interest as Chairman of the Coalfield Forum.

Item 5 - The Development of Primary Care Centres in Sunderland

Councillor Richardson declared a personal interest as a Member of the Health and Well-Being Review Committee.

Item 9 - Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB) : Regeneration Issues Report

(i) Hetton School Community, Educational and Recreational Facility Project

Councillor Speding declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the application as a Member of the Football Association.

Councillor Tate declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the application as a Council appointed Governor of Hetton School.

Both Councillors withdrew from the meeting before the Committee gave consideration to the application.

(ii) Kepier Trust Project

Councillors Carthy, J. and R. Heron, Lawson, Richardson and Rolph declared personal and prejudicial interests in the application as Ward meetings of the Labour Party are held at the Kepier Hall.

The above Councillor withdrew from the meeting before the Committee gave consideration to the application.

Item 10 - Strategic Initiatives Budget : 2006/2007 Ward Based Community Chest

Councillor R. Heron declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the application from Houghton Racecourse C.A., as a Council appointed Member of the Management Committee of the Association and withdrew from the meeting before the Committee gave consideration to the application.

Councillor Carthy declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the application from Houghton Kepier School as a Council appointed Governor of the School.

Councillor Rolph declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the application as a Council appointed Governor of the School and as a parent of two children who attend the School.

Both Councillors withdrew from the meeting before the Committee gave consideration to the application.

Councillor J. Scott declared a personal interest in the application from Houghton Kepier School as his grandchildren attend the School.

Item 14 - Presentation on the Update on Arrangements for Post 16 for Pupils for Hetton and Houghton Kepier

Councillors Carthy and Rolph declared personal interests in the report as Council appointed Governors of Houghton Kepier School.

Councillor Tate declared a personal interest in the report as a Council appointed Governor of Hetton School.

Coalfield Forum – Executive Summary of the Meetings Held

The Executive Summary of the meetings of the Coalfield Forum held on 30th June and 21st July, 2006 (copies circulated), were submitted.

(For copy reports – see original minutes).

The Chairman congratulated Councillor Carthy on her appointment as Chairperson of the Forum.

2. RESOLVED that the reports be received and noted.

The Development of Primary Care Centres in Sunderland

The Chief Executive, Sunderland Teaching Primary Care Trust submitted a report (copy circulated) to consult the local Area Committee on a 'Strategic Outline Case' for a third Primary Care Centre (PCC) at Washington.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms. Helen Steadman, Strategic Development Manager, Sunderland Teaching Primary Care Trust (STPCT) and Mr. Ken Richardson, West Locality Team Leader, STPCT, were present at the meeting. Ms. Steadman briefed the Committee on the proposal to develop a third Primary Care Centre (PCC) for Sunderland in Washington. Ms. Steadman provided the Committee with information regarding the first PCC which opened at Grindon Lane and the second, at Bunny Hill, Downhill. Ms. Steadman advised that the model proposed for Washington would be similar to the Bunny Hill Centre in that it would have a locality and City-wide focus. The Centre would have GPs, a minor injuries unit, outreach outpatient services and diagnostics.

Mr. Richardson advised that the STPCT's Health Development Unit West Locality Team was leading on consultation on the proposal. He pointed out that views on the proposed development were being sought and responses would be documented. A report would be produced detailing the outcomes of the consultation with recommendations.

Several Members of the Committee highlighted the difficulty that many people in the Coalfield Area would have in accessing the services provided at a PCC located in Washington, due to the lack of public transport services available and which had very recently been cut once more. People living in the Hetton and Houghton Area had genuine difficulty in getting to hospital appointments in Sunderland due to the limited public transport services. Travelling from Hetton for example, involved a two bus ride.

Ms. Steadman advised that the STCPT had already undertaken a travel audit around the study. This had shown that people in the North of the area would be most disadvantaged by travelling to the PCC should it be located in the South of the area.

Ms. Steadman emphasised that by engaging with the local community, the STPCT would continue to look at accessibility issues with the Local Authority and transport providers. Discussions were already taking place with a local provider and car parking would be provided on site for those travelling by private car. Whilst the proposal was to site the PCC in Washington, the services provided there were available to the whole of Sunderland. From the point of view of patient choice, there would be three options where people could receive treatment for minor injuries rather than going to the Accident and Emergency Unit at Sunderland General Hospital.

Ms. Steadman stated that she was not dismissing Members concerns with regard to accessibility of a PCC sited in Washington. However, even if it were to be placed in the Coalfield Area, there would still be issues as to where it would best be placed due to the large geographical area that the Coalfield covered.

Councillor J. Heron commented that Council colleagues representing Washington had said that it was quite easy for people in Washington to get to the Bunny Hill Centre. She expressed her opinion that the people in the Coalfield Area were 'short changed' when it came to health services as they lived furthest away from the hospital in Sunderland and also if the third PCC was sited in Washington, furthest away from the PCCs. A PCC was needed in the Coalfield Area.

Mr. John Usher, Head of Transport Integration, Nexus, confirmed that Nexus were working with the PCC in relation to transport issues. Nexus used a planning tool to identify where the best areas were to locate services taking into account the public transport services available.

Mr. Richardson added that the STPCT was working hard with all different partners locally to get people to services.

Councillor Richardson enquired whether any consideration had been given to the development going on at Rainton Bridge Industrial Estate, which could result in a further 10,000 people being located in the Coalfield Area, when planning the location of the new PCC.

Ms. Steadman advised that she was not aware of this but that the people working at Rainton Bridge Industrial Estate would be able to use the services at the nearest Centre.

The Chairman concluded that on the whole she welcomed the report however, the STCPT did need to take account of the concerns expressed in relation to people living in the southern part of the Coalfield because of the problems in accessing the proposed Centre due to the lack of public transport services.

Ms. Steadman stated that the comments and concerns would be taken away and worked on.

3. RESOLVED that the comments detailed above be noted as the Committee's comments on the strategic outline case for a third PCC at Washington.

Presentation from Nexus

The City Solicitor submitted a report (copy circulated) advising that a representative from Nexus would be present at the meeting to inform the Committee of two new community based transport services, TaxiLink and LinkUp.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr. John Usher, Head of Transport Integration, Nexus, briefed Members on the new services. In respect of TaxiLink, he advised that the number of users was beginning to increase and the services were working reasonably well. An assessment would be made in a couple of months to see whether any revisions needed to be made and in time, a taxicard scheme might be introduced. Nexus had contracted to use community transport vehicles that were available in the community from groups such as Compass Transport.

With regard to LinkUp, this was intended to connect with conventional public transport services and was available to all of the community. Nexus was trying to gather information as to where there was a need for a regular service. In response to Councillor Rolph, Mr. Usher confirmed that conversations had taken place with Doctors to discuss patient transport needs.

In response to Councillor J. Heron, who voiced her concern at the late notification of changes to bus services by the bus companies, Mr. Usher advised of the agreement with the bus companies in notifying Nexus and the success in delaying some reductions in services and in some cases retaining services. He confirmed that where services were cut by conventional public service providers, Nexus would look at providing a LinkUp service.

Members commented on the success of the UCall Service.

Mr. Usher confirmed that the evening UCall did cross boundaries now. He added that Nexus was happy to work in partnership and recharge for services.

In response to Councillor Blackburn's enquiry as to whether the TaxiLink could be used for travelling to hospital appointments, Mr. Usher advised that the Patient Care Line should be used for hospital appointments.

Members commented on the cuts to public bus services and in their opinion the need for stronger regulatory powers.

In response to Councillor Tate, Mr. Usher advised that a local firm operating out of Hetton Lyons was operating 15 vehicles and was keen to provide services in the local area.

In response to the Chairman, Mr. Usher advised that problems in getting through to the Call Centre should be resolved with the introduction of the Smart Card. The Call Centre was aware at the time of booking when the service was being provided for vulnerable people and feedback was asked for.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Usher for his attendance; and it was:-

4. RESOLVED that the information on the two new community based transport services be noted.

Northumbria Police Crime Statistics

A copy of the crime statistics (copy circulated) received from Northumbria Police as they related to the Coalfield Area for the period February 2006 to July 2006 were submitted.

(For copy statistics – see original minutes).

Community Inspector Peter Dent briefed Members on the crime statistics for the area. He highlighted that the level of all crime in the Houghton area had reduced over the six month period with the exception of May where it had shown an increase. Community Inspector Dent added that there had been, however, a 10% fall in August. Criminal damage was the main crime in the area and accounted for over 40%. There had been two racial offences which involved the same individual. With regard to domestic disputes, the policy of the Police was to arrest the aggressor in order to prevent assaults.

In response to Councillor F. Anderson, Community Inspector Dent advised that there was an Arson Task Force to deal with crime involving fire. The Police and Fire Service were undertaking a joint initiative looking at prevention. Community Inspector Dent also referred to the Phoenix Project which targeted young offenders and to which the Committee had provided financial support.

Councillor Rolph commented that the incidences of domestic violence had increased as the Football World Cup tournament had progressed in June/July, 2006.

In response to Councillor Rolph, Community Inspector Dent advised that disorder increased on the same night as the tournament kicked off and a greater number of domestic disputes were recorded during the period.

In relation to the 101 service, 10-20% of all calls to the Police had been made by the public on this number so far, which he clarified was for non urgent matters. Community Inspector Dent advised that 999 was still the number to use in an emergency. He advised that public disorder in licensed premises tended to occur in the City Centre. However the Police did have powers to review and close down premises where it was felt this was necessary.

In response to the Chairman, Community Inspector Dent advised that he was involved in the Local Multi Agency Problem Solving (LMAPS) Group and would be reporting to the Committee on issues considered by this Group once the arrangements were in place.

5. RESOLVED that the crime statistics for the period be received and noted together with the information brought out in the discussion.

Regeneration Issues Report : Feedback on Projects Previously Funded Through Strategic Initiatives Budget

The Director of Development and Regeneration submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided the Committee with information on the Bridge Positive Mental Health project which it had previously funded through its SIB allocation.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr. Bill Blackett, Area Regeneration Officer, introduced Ms. Val Kilner and Ms. Claire Ferry-Knowles from the project to the Committee.

Ms. Kilner briefed the Committee on the services provided to support women with mental health issues. She thanked Members for their support.

In response to the Chairman, Ms. Ferry-Knowles advised that the project had found it hard to access and find venues in the Shiney Row Ward.

The Chairman expressed her disappointment at the barriers encountered in the Shiney Row Ward and stated that she would like to discuss this issue further with the project officers.

The Chairman thanked Ms. Kilner and Ms. Ferry-Knowles for their attendance.

6. RESOLVED that the feedback report be received and noted.

Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB) : Regeneration Issues Report

The Director of Development and Regeneration submitted a report (copy circulated) on the proposed allocation of Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB) funding to support the following initiatives of benefit to the area:-

- (i) Hetton School Community, Educational and Recreational Facility project; and
- (ii) Kepier Trust project.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr. Bill Blackett, Area Regeneration Officer outlined the applications and introduced the representatives of the projects who were in attendance to answer Members' questions as follows:-

Mr. Kit Fletcher	-	Deputy Head Teacher, Hetton School.
Mr. Colin Carr	-	Treasurer, Kepier Trust Project.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Rolph concerning the maintenance costs and sustainability of the project, Mr. Fletcher advised that for the first year of the project, maintenance was included in the contract and thereafter maintenance costs were included in the breakdown of expenditure shown at paragraph 7.9 of the application. Consultation had taken place with the Community and Cultural Services Directorate with regards to the Wellness Programme and Officers were fully supportive of the School investing in the programme and had offered to help with community involvement in the future.

Detailed consideration having been given to the applications; it was:-

7. RESOLVED that approval be given to:-

- (i) the allocation of Strategic Initiatives Budget funding of £20,000 from the 2006/07 budget, as a contribution towards the Hetton School Community, Educational and Recreational Facility project; and
- (ii) the allocation of Strategic Initiatives Budget funding of £5,102 from the 2006/07 budget, as a contribution towards the Kepier Trust project.

Strategic Initiatives Budget : 2006/07 Ward Based Community Chest

The Director of Development and Regeneration submitted a report (copy circulated) bringing forward seventeen recommendations relating to the 2006/07 Community Chest Scheme.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

8. RESOLVED that approval be given to the seventeen projects recommended for support from the 2006/07 Community Chest with a total value of £7,500 as detailed in Annex 1 to the report.

Adult Social Services – Ward-Based Data Analysis – February 2006

The Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) providing ward-based information to Members about key areas in Adult Social Services, looking at information covering the cycle from referrals received through to the assessment and re-assessment process and the outcomes of those assessments of clients aged 18 years and over.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor J. Heron expressed concern at the number of referrals received for the Copt Hill Ward and suggested that this needed to be examined and further information as to why this was the case be reported back to the Committee.

The Chairman pointed out that the Shiny Row Ward had the lowest number of referrals for assessment. She commented as to whether the reason for this was due to problems in accessing the Houghton Office resulting in referrals not getting carried out, plus there was difficulty in getting through on the telephone number for the service.

In response to Councillor Tate's enquiry, Mrs. Ina Murton advised that she doubted whether the data could be refined any further to show the areas in the Ward where the referrals were coming from.

9. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

Penshaw Bowl 2006

The Director of Community and Cultural Services submitted a report (copy circulated) apprising Members of the Penshaw Bowl event.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms. Val Craggs, City Librarian and Event Co-ordinator corrected the report and advised Members that the event had taken place on 13th April and not 13th March as stated in the report and that it continued to be a very successful event.

10. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

Tackling Social Exclusion Through Transport (TSETT) Initiative – Dropped Crossings and Raised Kerbs

The Director of Development and Regeneration submitted a report (copy circulated) requesting the Committee to consider nominating locations for inclusion in the TSETT Dropped Crossings and Raised Kerbs Initiative.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr. Bill Blackett, Area Regeneration Officer advised the Committee that £60,000 was available for the whole of the City and funding would be decided on a needs basis. Any locations that could not be included in the final TSETT scheme would be passed to the Highways Maintenance Team for consideration at a later date. The final schedule of works included in the TSETT scheme would be reported to Area Committees for information and it was envisaged that implementation would be undertaken by March 2007.

Mr. Blackett clarified that suggestions as to locations suitable for dropped crossings and raised kerbs must be on pathways that lead to bus or metro stops that enable access to key services in the area. Suggestions could be submitted to himself or Miss Stephanie McNaul, Projects Officer in the Development and Regeneration Directorate.

11. RESOLVED that Members feedback any suggested locations for inclusion in the TSETT scheme to the Officers detailed above.

Presentation on the Update on Post-16 Provision for Young People attending Hetton and Houghton Kepier Schools

Mrs. Lynda Brown, Head of Standards and Chair of the City Wide 14-19 Partnership Children's Services, briefed the Committee on developments in relation to post-16 provision for young people attending Hetton and Houghton Kepier Schools. The presentation provided information on the background to post 16 education, the trends in terms of participation, attainment, range of provision and financial viability.

Mrs. Brown highlighted the increased demand for vocational education and the City-Wide Strategy including development of Harraton and Pallion Skills Centres and vocational hub schools. Mrs. Brown referred to the Shiney Row Centre and the negotiations with the Local Authority and the Learning and Skills Council in the context of the 14-19 Strategy. She referred to the map which located the addresses where pupils attending Houghton Kepier and Hetton School lived and the intake to the Shiney Row Centre.

Mrs. Brown advised progress reports would be provided to the governing bodies of the Schools and a feasibility study and option appraisal carried out to enable a decision to be made on the way forward for post-16 provision for young people attending Hetton and Houghton Kepier Schools.

Mrs. Brown advised that there were four main options:

- no change to the infrastructure to buildings currently available but access to be explored;
- develop Shiney Row as a Centre;
- new build in the Houghton/Hetton area;
- a split site Option.

In response to Members' questions Mrs. Brown confirmed that the Hylton Centre was a vocational site and aimed to meet the needs of young people in the whole City.

With regard to the Hetton and Houghton area there was potential to look at a 14-19 centre. Siting would be a major issue in relation to finding a location agreeable to all parties.

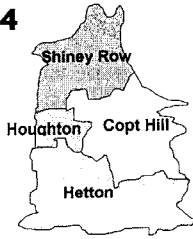
Members commented on the current range of provision for young people and the need to increase the diversity on offer.

In response to Councillor Rolph's comment on the participation rate for young people in the Coalfield Area in post-16 education, Mrs. Brown advised that this was slightly lower than the rest of the City and needed to increase. There was potential in the Coalfield to site a new Centre, however the possible locations had never been confirmed.

12. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

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

(Signed) A. HALL,
Chairman.



Coalfield Forum Executive Summary

Easington Lane Community Access Point

Monday 25th September 2006

Presentation - Sunderland Juvenile Service - Anthony Gonzalez:

Aims of the service are to reduce youth offending and prevent re-offending, by offering information, guidance and support. The project aims to encourage young people to take part in constructive learning, training and leisure pursuits in the hope of diverting them from anti-social or criminal behaviour, and to encourage them to adopt a more positive attitude. Funded through Tudor Trust and SIB.

Young people using the service will have offended, been identified as at risk of offending or have displayed anti social behaviour. Work closely with Youth Offending Service, Children's Services and the Police.

Home visits are arranged with a parent/carer required to be present. An individual action plan is agreed during the initial session and progress is monitored.

Sunderland Juvenile Services provides information on constructive activities via a database of youth provision, which is constantly updated. The database covers training providers, educational opportunities, sport and leisure activities and at present includes over 400 activities for young people in Sunderland.

No youth providers are given any information about the young people whom service works with, due to confidentiality; however, the information on activities is open to anyone.

The success rate in contributing to the prevention of youth offending or re-offending in Sunderland is excellent. Preventative work is always difficult to evidence. Referrals are followed up in yearly cohorts and cross-reference is done with Sunderland Youth Offending Service.

Information supplied by Sunderland Youth Offending Service shows that from 161 young people worked with between April 05 - March 06, only 27

went on to re-offend. This gives an offending rate of 17%. Therefore 83% of young people using the service did not offend after intervention.

Future priorities are to increase numbers of young people worked with from 160 to 250. Want to offer the service to schools throughout the City where pupils have displayed signs of anti-social behaviour, and we are currently in the process of developing this service in 3 pilot schools - Houghton Kepier, Biddick and Thornhill.

Information Sharing:

- Youth Development Group have funding available in two categories, Youth Opportunities Fund and Capital Fund. Dates for submissions of bids are: 19th September, 7th November, and 11th December.
- The Hope Group is part of the Churches Together Group, formed 2 years ago. It is volunteer ran and has a membership of 96. Finance and transport are big issues for the group. Need help and support in where to apply for funding.
- HRCAP and ELCAP have courses starting week beginning 25th September. Learn Direct, Introduction to Microsoft, Stability Ball, Advanced Salsa, Art, Alternative Therapies, Flower craft, Digital Photoshop, Sugar craft and Beauty to name but a few!!!!!! Please contact Nicol McConnell on 553 4020 or Dorothy Pearson 526 1071 for further information or to enrol. Programme is available on HRCAP website - www.hrcap.co.uk or Coalfield forum website - www.coalfieldforum.org Both Access Points are looking into delivering courses at other venues next term, training and crèche would be supplied in return for free room hire.
- Names are still being taken for the Into to Youth Work course starting end October at ELCAP.
- Liaze bus will be at Hetton Library car park 2p.m -4p.m from September 26th for Absolute Total Beginners Computers course.
- Age Concern activities have already started - Craft, Health and Exercise, Tap Dance, Swing Jive, Salsa and Tai Chi. These courses are open to anyone from the Hetton area. For enrolment please contact Janice on 553 6619.
- October 24th Age Concern are celebrating International Day of Older People with an event in the Hetton Centre from 10a.m. - 3p.m. This is available to anyone in the Hetton area. Tickets available from the Hetton Centre.

- Steve Haigh introduced himself as the new Head teacher of Hetton School. He informed all present that he is keen to work with the forum and there is the possibility of holding forum meetings at Hetton School and the opportunity to see the school at work.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDRENS SERVICES

COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE

7 NOVEMBER 2006

CHILDREN'S CENTRES IN THE COALFIELD AREA

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to update the Area Committee of the Children's Centre developments in the Coalfields area, as part of the City Wide Strategy for Children's Centres to meet the core offer laid out in the Sure Start Children's Centre Practice Guidance, to fulfil the requirements contained within the Childcare Act 2006

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE DECISION (RECOMMENDATIONS)

- 2.1 The Director is pleased to advise the Area Committee of the work undertaken by the Children's Centre multi agency team to improve outcomes for all young children in the Coalfields area.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Sure Start Children's Centres are at the heart of the Government's Every Child Matters: Change for Children Programme and are a key vehicle for providing professionally managed services that are co-ordinated locally through active engagement with parents
- 2.2 The guidance aims to support Local Authorities and Primary Care Trusts move from the provision of local initiatives such as Sure Start Local Programmes to the development of mainstream provision, through partnership working between the statutory, private and voluntary sectors.
- 2.3 In the Coalfields area this development means the move from two Sure Start Local Programmes, Sure Start Hetton & Houghton and Sure Start Monument, by extending to three Children's Centres known as Monument Children's Centre, which was designated in April 2006 and Hetton Children's Centre and Houghton Children's Centre, both of which will be designated by April 2008

4. CHILDREN'S CENTRE CORE OFFER

- 4.1 The Children's Centre Guidance sets out the Government's intention for Children's Centres to deliver a core offer of services to meet the needs of families in a given Children's Centre area. It is anticipated that this delivery model will improve outcomes for all young children, reduce the inequalities in outcomes between the most disadvantaged children and the rest and lead to common practice in all Children's Centres but tailored to individual needs.

4.2 The Children's Centre Core offer includes delivering and developing services that meet local need in relation to:

- ✓ Family support and parental outreach services
- ✓ Early education integrated with daycare
- ✓ Child and family health service including ante-natal services
- ✓ Support of children and parents with special needs
- ✓ Effective links with Job Centre Plus
- ✓ Base for childminder networks

4.3 In order to ensure consistent practice a new Performance Management Framework is being developed by central government. It is our intention to make clear links between this framework and the Children and Young Peoples Plan, thereby ensuring we fulfil the priorities and needs of children and families in Sunderland. The Performance Management Framework will evidence the Children's Centres contribution to the outcomes for children stipulated by the Every Child Matters agenda.

5. CHILDREN'S CENTRES IN THE COALFIELDS AREA

5.1 The three Children's Centres in the Coalfields area are as follows:

Children's Centre	Phase	Main Site	Linked Sites
Monument Children's Centre	1	Dubmire Primary School	Barnwell, New Penshaw and Shiney Row Primary Schools
Hetton Children's Centre	2	Hetton Lyons Nursery School	
Houghton Children's Centre	2	Houghton Community Nursery	Nesham Nursery

5.2 Please see Children's Centre Map for the Coalfields area.

5.3 Monument Children's Centre aims to serve up to 1211 children under the age of 5 in parts of the Shiney Row, Houghton and Copt Hill wards of the city. The core offer of services are delivered through the two newly constructed buildings connected to Dubmire Primary School and Barnwell Primary School and other suitable outreach venues in the community. The offer of early education integrated with daycare is delivered through nurseries at Dubmire Primary (24 places), Shiney Row Primary (58 places), New Penshaw Primary (53 places) and Barnwell Primary (24 places). Children's Centre Staff are based at the Sure Start Monument shop in Shiney Row and at the Monument Centre, Barnwell Primary School. Discussions are taking place between Headteachers and Senior Officers in Children's Services with regard

to operational matters to ensure opportunities for children and families in the area are maximised.

- 5.4 Hetton Children's Centre aims to serve up to 602 children under the age of 5 in the Hetton ward. Planning permission is currently being sought for the rebuild of Hetton Lyons Primary and Nursery School, which includes the requirements for the Children's Centre within the new building. It is anticipated that the new building will be available for occupation by September 2008 when the Sure Start Offices currently situated in Hetton house will move in. In the mean time the core offer of services are being delivered through a range of suitable outreach venues in the community. Hetton Lyons Nursery delivers the early education integrated with daycare through the existing neighbourhood nursery.
- 5.5 Houghton Children's Centre aims to serve up to 864 children under the age of 5 in parts of the Copt Hill and Houghton wards of the city. Planning permission is currently being sought to extend Houghton Community Nursery to accommodate a community / training space and develop crèche provision. The core offer of services will be delivered through the new building which is due to be completed by the end of March 2007. In the mean time services are delivered through the Health Centres and suitable outreach venues in the community, use of outreach venues will continue beyond March 2007. Nesham Nursery and Houghton Community Nursery collectively (82 places) deliver the offer of early education integrated with childcare. Children's Centre and Children's Services information will be available at Houghton Community Nursery though it is not a permanent base for Children Centre Staff.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 Members are recommended to accept this report.

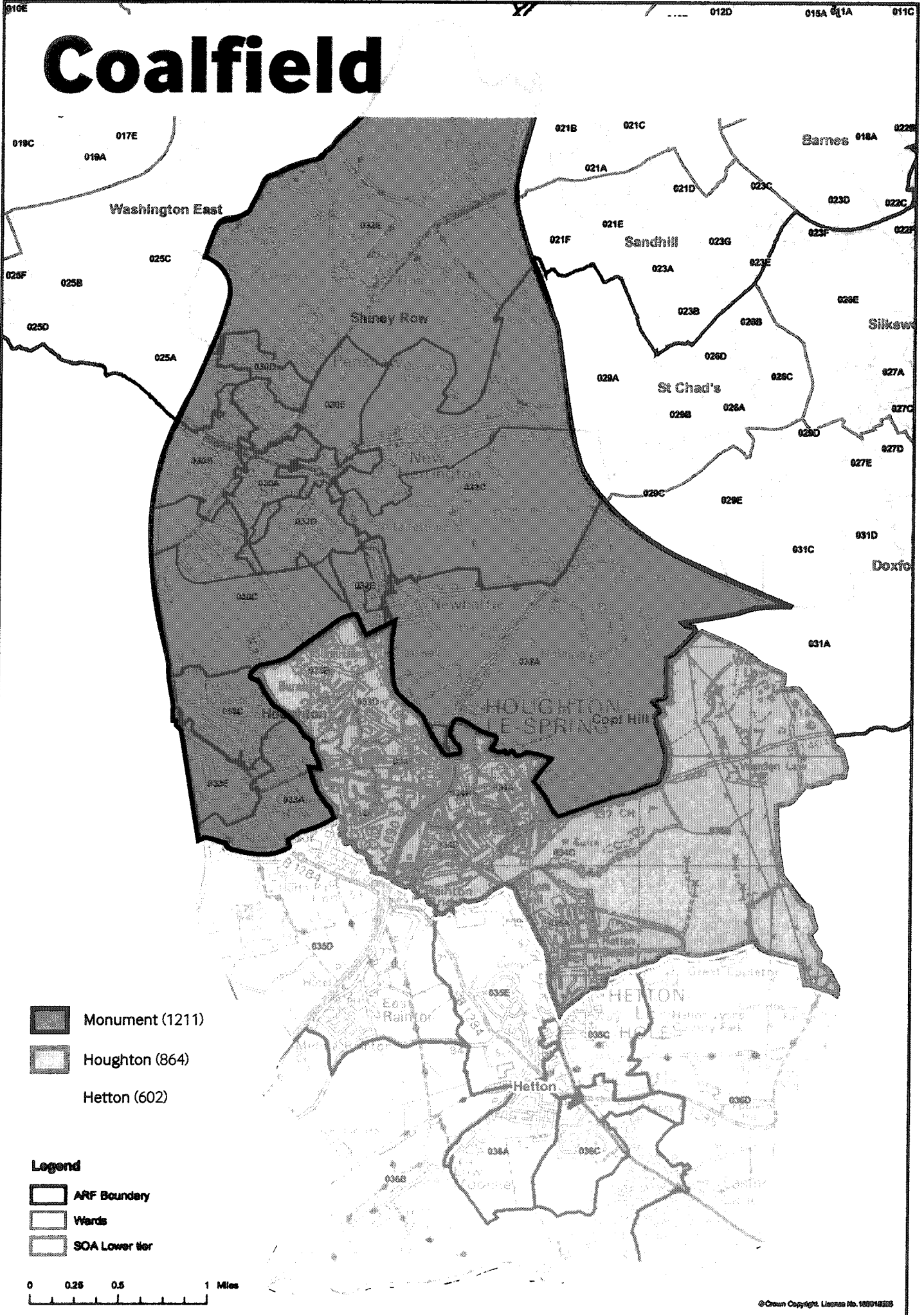
7. CONCLUSION

- 7.1 The development of Children's Centres provides the ideal opportunity to review services delivered by Sure Start Local Programmes and strengthen partnership working with community organisations, the Teaching Primary Care Trust and schools, to meet the needs of children and their families at a local level, and to improve outcomes for all children but specifically those that are most disadvantaged.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Sure Start Children's Centre Practice Guidance
Children's Centre Local Implementation Plans for Monument, Hetton and Houghton
Children's Centres.

Coalfield



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Coalfield Area Committee 7th November 2006

Report of the Group Chief Executive – Sunderland Housing Group

For Information

Housing Update

1.0 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to update the Coalfield Area Committee on the progress of Sunderland Housing Group's Investment and Renewal activity within the Coalfield area and the City of Sunderland.

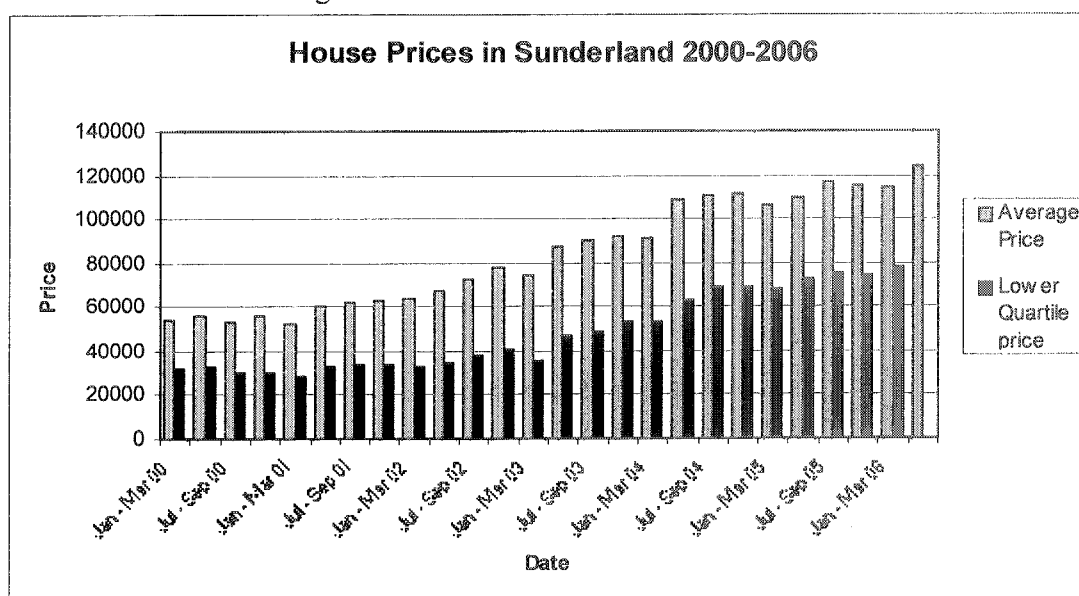
2.0 Background

An update report was presented to the Coalfield Area Committee in November 2005. This report gives an updated position on the following areas:

- Housing market position in Sunderland
- Investment plan progress
- Renewal plan progress

3.0 Sunderland Housing Group - Housing Market Position in Sunderland

3.1 A number of issues will affect a housing market at any given time. Essentially these can be broken down however into issues of supply and demand. Recent movements in the housing market for Sunderland can be summarised below:

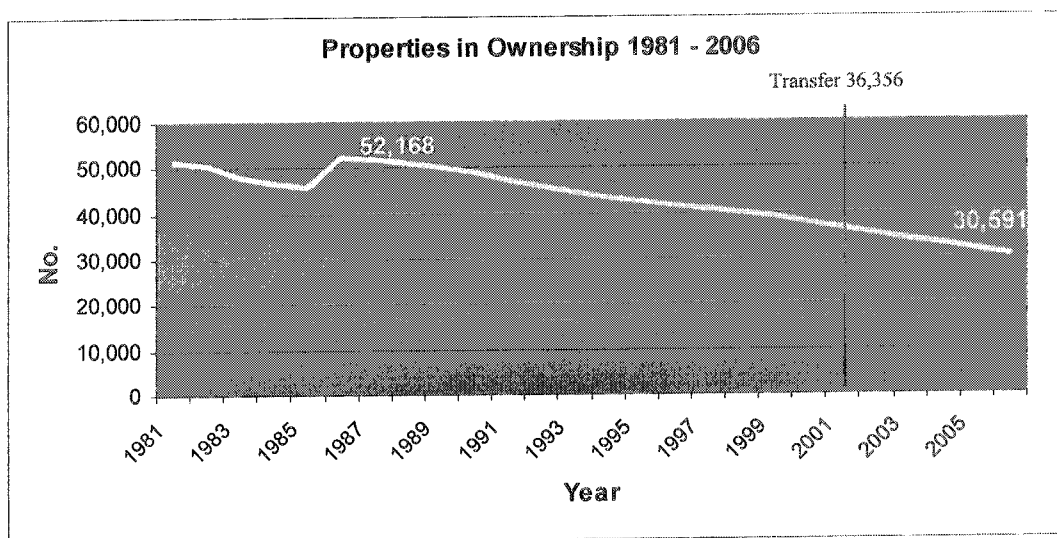


Source: HM Land Registry

3.1.2 In the period from Jan-March 2000 to Jan-March 2006 average prices in Sunderland increased from £58,000 to £114,000 an increase of 112%. This compares to a national increase over the same period from an average of £102,000 to £192,000, an increase of 88%. Indicators show that the market is now heading for a soft landing although there has been a an increase in the last quarter of £9,200. The net effect however is that house price inflation has far and away outstripped income growth over the period which has increased in the order of 15-20%. This has significantly raised the bar for first time buyers and created real affordability issues. In Sunderland, average income levels of around £20,000 give a realistic first time buyer price range of between £75,000 - £125,000. Whilst the market is more restricted in this bracket it is still achievable. This still gives an average income to average house price ratio of 5.7. Whilst this is not as extreme as some parts of the country where ratios have reached 9 times average income, it is still an indication of some real demand pressures in Sunderland.

3.2 Properties in ownership

3.2.1 The number of properties in ownership has steadily fallen since transfer primarily through Right to Buy illustrated as follows:



3.2.2 In total, properties in ownership have reduced by around 5,765 since transfer representing a 15.8% reduction in the stock. Of this reduction, 3,800 have been through right to buy with the remainder being through demolition or property conversion. This is a common trend throughout LSVT's and Local Authorities where the right to buy is still applicable. The Right to Buy trend has now slowed but the net effect on housing in the City is that there is significantly less affordable stock available now than at the point of transfer.

3.3 Housing demand

3.3.1 Housing demand needs to be understood in the context of housing supply as set out in paragraphs 3.1 and 3.2 above. Supply of affordable housing in the City has reduced but at the same time demand has significantly increased. Demand can be measured by a range of factors. These include population, migration and demographic trends, registrations for housing, turnover rates and household trends. These factors are summarised as follows:

3.3.2 **Population** has fallen according to Census returns. Between 1991 and 2001 the population of Sunderland fell by 7,000. The population fall is due in part to natural population decline arising from a higher death rate than birth rate but also due to net outward migration from the City. This trend is balanced however in that household numbers have actually increased over the period. This is due to household sizes becoming smaller such that the average household size in Sunderland at 1991 was 2.7 whereas at 2001 it had reduced to 2.4. This is seen more starkly within new lettings data for the Group which has seen an average incoming household size over the last 4 years of just 1.9 people. The net effect from population loss has therefore been effectively absorbed by household growth.

3.3.3 **Homelessness** is an issue that has received significant recent attention. Some commentators argue that homeless applications rise and fall in direct correlation to house prices. The point made by the Group is that the increase in homelessness seen in the City over the last 2 years is reflective of a much wider market trend. The comparison between the local, regional and national position is shown in the table below:

Statutory homeless in priority need cases – 1999/00 – 2004/05								
Authority	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	6 year % Increase	2 year % Increase
Gateshead	413	410	476	660	847	772	86.9	17.0
Newcastle	400	380	558	859	1002	906	126.5	5.5
North Tyneside	1114	966	1032	1097	959	896	-19.6	-18.3
South Tyneside	202	225	321	379	595	573	183.7	51.2
Sunderland	667	735	968	791	894	597	-10.5	-24.5
North East	4940	5151	5873	7018	8350	8001	62.0	14.0

The City has actually fared a lot better than some of its immediate neighbours and extremely well in comparison to the region. Indications are that homeless levels are now stabilising across the region.

3.3.4 The rate of registrations through **Choice Based Lettings** for the Group's available property has shown a marked increase since the introduction of the scheme in

November 2002. There are over 18,000 Choice Based lettings registrations on the system compared to a waiting list at the time of transfer of just 5,500. Expressions of Interest per property have remained high and are currently averaging over 100 per property. This is down from a peak interest of 130 expressions for every property advertised in 2004/05, but still represents strong demand for the Group's core housing product.

3.3.5 A key factor in the increase in demand is that there have been less properties available to service lettings. At transfer the Group's turnover was 13.5% which meant that around 4,900 properties became available each year. Turnover has reduced significantly since transfer however and now stands at 8.7% representing just 2,660 properties i.e. more than 2,000 less properties available per annum than at transfer. For each property available there are also competing pressures from choice based lettings, decant for improvements, decant for renewal, demolition requirements and homelessness cases. This combination of reduced supply and increased demand has led to the perceived high demand issues reported so widely over the last 2 years.

3.4 In summary the market position continues to present issues of high demand for the Group. There are indications that the housing market is steady. There are still significant demand pressures however on the Group's stock as affordability, particularly for those entering the housing market for the first time remains a key issue.

4.0 Sunderland Housing Group – Renewal and Investment Plans

4.1 Renewal and Investment Strategy

The Group is investing in neighbourhoods in the Coalfield area through its programme of modernisations and improvements (the "Investment Plan") and through a more radical programme of clearance and demolition (the "Renewal Plan").

The review of the Renewal Plan as agreed by Cabinet in March 2005 is continuing. This has resulted in the continuation of renewal proposals in many areas, and a fresh look at other renewal areas using Neighbourhood Renewal Assessments methodology. An update in relation to renewal areas is provided below.

The Group's investment plan continues to deliver as one of the key transfer promises and this is summarised as follows for the Coalfield area.

4.2 Houghton and Hetton Area Investment

Within the Houghton and Hetton Housing Company area, some 3,547 full modernisations have been completed since the transfer together with a further

5,120 additional improvement works. Investment has so far totalled £53 million in the Houghton and Hetton Housing Company stock. In the financial year 2006/07, the following works are now on site or due to commence:

Houghton and Hetton	2006/07 Gross Spend	No. of units
Old Peat Carr	1,476,000	120
Low Moorsley	280,000	16
Chilton Moor	911,000	63
Villa Estate Bungalows	473,000	31
Chester Road bungalows	200,000	12
Newbottle (Cellar Hill)	204,000	27
Barnwell (Top and Bottom)	2,971,000	255
Grange Estate – Fence Houses	115,000	1
Racecourse	686,000	78
East Rainton – School Road	489,000	213
Easington Lane – inc Jubilee House	99,000	139
Total	7,904,000	955

The programme continues to be monitored with monthly and quarterly investment reports presented to the Houghton and Hetton Housing Company Board.

5.0 Specific Renewal activity in Houghton and Hetton

The Group's Renewal Plan is tackling areas of housing where modernisation and improvement alone will not be sufficient to provide viable and sustainable neighbourhoods.

In many areas the Group's renewal proposals are advanced in terms of site acquisition, decanting, demolition and new build. In other areas, however, progress has not been as advanced and complete site assembly has not been completed in order to allow for new development.

In 2005 the Group and the City Council agreed to carry out a review of the Group's Renewal Plan. The joint review recognised that a number of renewal areas have already progressed significantly, and in many cases the continuation of development is the preferred option for both the Council and the Group.

For areas where acquisitions, decanting and demolition had not been completed it was agreed that the Group would take a fresh look at renewal proposals using the Government recommended Neighbourhood Renewal Assessments (NRA's) methodology.

In other areas, it has been agreed that schemes originally identified for renewal will now be modernised by the Group.

A summary of the current position of the original renewal estates in the Houghton and Hetton area is as follows:

5.3.1 Chilton Moor

Chilton Moor Phase 1 (Medway Close) comprises 19 new homes, of which 15 are for rent and 4 for sale. Work started on site in October 2004, and the scheme was completed in September 2005.

A cleared site has been assembled adjacent to Phase 1 of the Chilton Moor development, and this will form Phase 2. Planning permission for the development of 40 new homes was achieved in August 2006 and the scheme will consist of a mix of 2, 3, and 4 bedroom houses and 2 bedroom bungalows. Phase 2 will commence in February 2007 (subject to the granting of stopping up orders), and will be completed in February 2008.

The Group has re-drawn the boundary of the Phase 3 area which has made the assembly of the site more straightforward, and as a result it has been agreed that it is no longer necessary for the Group to carry out a Neighbourhood Renewal Assessment for the area. Scheme design is currently ongoing and it is envisaged that a planning application for Phase 3 will be submitted by the end of 2006. Subject to the granting of planning approval the Group aims to provide continuity within the overall development by commencing works in late 2007.

It is anticipated that the overall Chilton Moor development will be completed by late 2008.

5.3.2 Central Hetton

The Group has recently secured planning permission for the Central Hetton development, which will provide 44 new homes in the area. Delays were caused by protracted negotiations and finalisation of Section 106 agreements.

Following receipt of formal planning approval a stopping-up order is now required before development can commence. As a result it is anticipated that works on site will commence in April 2007 and will be completed by June 2008.

5.3.3 Park Estate

Park Estate was originally included within the Group's Renewal Plan because of concerns regarding the long-term sustainability of the estate.

The Houghton & Hetton Housing Company Board, however, has agreed to review the renewal of Park Estate because of a number of factors including increased demand for the area and a projected increase in site assembly and development costs.

The Group is currently reviewing the costs and practicalities associated with modernisation and environmental improvements on the estate, and the Local Company Board will consider this in detail before the end of 2006.

5.3.4 Racecourse Estate

The Group has made significant progress with the clearance of the Phase 1 area. Proposals for the site are currently being redesigned following a review of the dwelling mix necessary to create a vibrant and sustainable market for homes for rent and sale. It is anticipated that a planning application will be submitted by the end of 2006.

Other areas of Racecourse Estate, however, remain occupied and it was agreed by the Council and the Group that the area would be reviewed to determine the most appropriate course of action for the area using Neighbourhood Renewal Assessment methodology.

The Neighbourhood Renewal Assessment has recently been completed by an independent consultant (PPS plc) and the validation of the report is currently being discussed with the City Council.

5.3.5 Holmlands

Following the stopping up of redundant roads under the cleared site adjacent to the estate, the Group achieved planning approval for the development of 58 new homes, including a mix of 2, 3 and 4 bedroom houses, 2 bedroom bungalows and apartments. The scheme is due to commence on site in January 2007 with a completion date of May 2008

Whilst the Group has made good progress in the re-housing of residents on the Holmlands Estate, parts of the estate remain occupied and it was agreed by the Council and the Group that the area would be reviewed to determine the most appropriate course of action for the area using Neighbourhood Renewal Assessment methodology.

The Neighbourhood Renewal Assessment has recently been completed by an independent consultant (PPS plc) and the validation of the report is being discussed with the City Council.

5.3.6 Eppleton and Broomhill

Both the Eppleton and Broomhill areas fall within the wider Hetton area for which the Council is currently developing an Area Action Plan. The City Council has recently confirmed that Neighbourhood Renewal Assessments for Eppleton and Broomhill are necessary and will be used to inform the overall Area Action

Plan. As a result, Neighbourhood Renewal Assessments will commence in these areas by the end of 2006.

5.3.7 Teesdale Avenue

The Group is currently reviewing the most appropriate way forward for the Teesdale Avenue area.

6.0 Recommendations

The Area Committee is recommended to **NOTE** the above report for information.

7.0 Background Papers

There were no background papers used to compile this report.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL SERVICES

COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE

7 NOVEMBER 2006

FOOD IN SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to advise the Area Committee of the exciting work undertaken by the Food in Schools team as part of the citywide strategy for the DfES transitional school meals funding.

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE DECISION (RECOMMENDATIONS)

- 2.1 The Director is delighted to advise the Area Committee of the innovative work undertaken by the Food in Schools team to increase the knowledge and skills of children.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The provision of the DfES transitional school meals funding has enhanced the delivery of a high quality sustainable school meals service.
- 3.2 However, by simply focusing on school meals the DfES Funding Strategy would be unlikely to have the wider cultural impact needed to make the inroads on tackling obesity levels. A report published recently stated that more than twelve million adults and one million children would be obese by 2010 if no action were taken.
- 3.3 Therefore, the strategy forms a strong link to wider agendas, including the Healthy Schools Programme, of which the Food in Schools Programme is a fundamental element.
- 3.4 This has led to the development of the Food in Schools team as an integral part of Sunderland's DfES Funding Strategy.

4. FOOD IN SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

- 4.1 The Food in Schools Programme aims to ensure children have access to healthy food choices in schools and in doing so lay the foundations to help prevent obesity and disease in later life.
- 4.2 The programme will enable schools to:
- ✓ Improve the health and well-being of pupils, staff and the school community

- ✓ Achieve the National Healthy Schools Standard through the theme of healthy eating
 - ✓ Give clear and consistent messages about food throughout the school day
 - ✓ Provide food education through cross curricular subjects
 - ✓ Engage pupils in making informed choices about their diet
 - ✓ Promote working with partnerships between schools, pupils and parents
- 4.3 In addition, the objectives of the programme are contributing to the outcomes stipulated by the Every Child Matters agenda, by providing rigorous evidence needed to meet Ofsted requirements.

5. FOOD IN SCHOOLS TEAM

- 5.1 The Food in Schools team consists of a Food in Schools Co-ordinator and four interactive Food in Schools Workers, who will all work with schools to develop a whole school approach to healthy eating.
- 5.2 Each Food in Schools Worker has an allocated group of schools. Workload prioritisation is based on schools with the highest child obesity rate and low free school meal uptake.
- 5.3 Children will profit from fun, practical and interactive school-based sessions and activities that promote the benefits of healthy eating and lifestyle choices.
- 5.4 See Appendix A for the timetable advising schools of their allocated officers.
- 5.5 The role of the Food in Schools Coordinator is to support schools through the development of whole school food policies, which are based on the requirements of the Food in School and Healthy School Programmes, as well as the desired outcomes of schools that are derived from comprehensive auditing and consultation processes with individual schools.
- 5.6 In addition the Food in Schools work is underpinned by the role of the Specialist Dietician, who will:
- Ensure that all schools in Sunderland meet the Government's challenging new nutritional standards for school lunches.
 - Manage the nutritional analysis software package (CRISp).
 - Work with school nurses to give guidance and training on nutrition, healthy eating and dietary requirements.
 - Work with other health providers to implement the obesity management protocol in conjunction with other professionals within the city.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The Director wishes to advise the Area Committee of the innovative and exciting work the Food in Schools team is carrying out, as part of the city wide partnership, to give children and young people the skills and knowledge to make informed choices about healthy eating and an active lifestyle.

7. CONCLUSION

- 7.1 The Food in Schools Programme gives the school meals service an excellent opportunity to carry out work which will improve children's health and well being, as well as supporting schools in their targets of achieving Healthy School Status and meeting Ofsted requirements.
- 7.2 The work will also enhance the knowledge and levels of healthy eating amongst children in Sunderland, and contribute to the culture shift in attitudes to healthy eating, that is recognised, make a long term and sustainable impact on obesity levels.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

The White Paper: 'Every Child Matters'
Healthy Schools Programme

Appendix A

SEPTEMBER – DECEMBER 2006 WAVE ONE			
Leanne / Mark	St Anne's RC Primary	Jess / Stephen	Thorney Close Primary
	Hylton Red House School		Sandhill View School
	Sunningdale Special		Springwell Dene Special
	Hylton Red House Primary		Oxclose Village Primary
	Hylton Red House Nursery		Oxclose Village Nursery
	Usworth Colliery Primary		St Michael's RC Primary
	Hylton Castle Primary		Dame Dorothy Primary
	Springwell Village Primary		Gillas Lane Primary
	South Hylton Primary		Grangetown Primary
	St Cuthbert's RC Primary		St Paul's CE Primary
	Highfield Primary		Rickleton Primary
	St Bede's RC Primary		Albany Primary
	Richard Avenue Primary		Castletown Primary
	Bishop Harland CE Primary		St Mary's RC Primary
	English Martyrs RC Primary		Hudson Road Primary
			Oxclose School

JANUARY – MARCH 2007 WAVE TWO			
Leanne	St Aidan's RC School	Jess	Washington School
	Barbara Priestman School		Maplewood Special School
	Shiney Row Primary		Eppleton Primary
	Broadway Juniors		Farringdon Primary
	Newbottle Primary		Dubmire Primary
	Bernard Gilpin Primary		New Silksworth Juniors
	St Joseph's RC Primary (W'ton)		New Silksworth Infants
	Diamond Hall Juniors		
Mark	Venerable Bede CE School	Stephen	Thornhill School
	Columbia Grange School		Castlegreen School
	Barnes Juniors		Hill View Infants
	Wessington Primary		John F Kennedy Primary
	Easington Lane Primary		Hetton Lyons Primary
	Ryhope Infants		Fulwell Infants
	St Leonard's RC Primary		Hill View Juniors
	East Herrington Primary		Blackfell Primary

APRIL – JULY 2007 WAVE THREE			
Leanne	Seaburn Dene Primary	Jess	St John Bosco RC Primary
	New Penshaw Primary		Barmston Primary
	St John Boste RC Primary		Quarry view Primary
	Barnwell Primary		Witherwack Primary
	Hetton Primary		Diamond Hall infants
	St Benet's RC Primary		Lambton Primary
	Biddick Primary		Portland Special School
	Hetton le Hole Nursery		Hetton Lyons Nursery
	Mill Hill Nursery		Pennywell Early Years
Mark	East Rainton Primary	Stephen	Burnside Primary
	George Washington Primary		Fulwell Juniors
	Redby Primary School		Usworth Grange Primary
	Ryhope Juniors		Grindon Infants
	Barnes Infants		Grange Park Primary
	Holley Park Primary		Our Lady Queen of Peace
	St Robert of Newminster RC School		Usworth School
	Houghton Nursery		Millfield Nursery
	Usworth Colliery Nursery		

7 NOVEMBER 2006

Item No.8

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL SERVICES

HOUGHTON SPORTS CENTRE: SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME 2006

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 The purpose of the paper is to advise the Area Committee of the success of the Summer Holiday Promotion, which was introduced throughout the City's leisure complexes in 2006, including Houghton Sports Centre.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 The Area Committee may recall the "Life. Leisure. Live it." promotion in the City's leisure complexes in previous years. Following the success of this promotion, customers were given the opportunity to participate in a similar Summer Activity Programme this year.

2.2 This year's activity programme aimed to provide children and their families with a wide range of sporting and leisure opportunities offering excellent value for money.

3.0 SUMMER PROGRAMME EVALUATION 2006

3.1 The Summer Holiday Programme for 2006 was considered a success with almost 100,000 residents and visitors engaged in activities. The table below shows attendances by Centre, with a variance calculation with the previous year.

Centre	2006	2005	Variance
Houghton Sports Centre	11,746	11,565	+181
Puma Tennis Centre	1,159	1,238	-79
Silksworth Sports Complex	4,660	3,603	+1057
Washington Leisure Centre	19,331	17,521	+1,810
Crowtree Leisure Centre	49,977	49,539	+438
Newcastle Road Baths	7,393	6,121	+1272
Seaburn Centre	3,578	3,282	+296
Overall Attendance	97,844	92,869	+4,975

3.2 In respect of customer research undertaken, the information gathered will be used to structure next year's Summer Holiday Programme and influence the methods of marketing to be undertaken.

4.0 CENTRE SUMMARY

4.1 Houghton Sports Centre developed an impressive programme of summer activities including:

- Fun Zone sessions
- Netball Camp
- Football Skills coaching
- Gym Tots

- Gymnastics Camp
- Mini Tennis Camp
- Fit Kids
- Dads and Kids sessions

New marketing strategies have shown an increase in attendances this year. The Centre offered a varied programme including, an additional four gymnastics sessions. These sessions were very well attended particularly by children aged between 3 – 5 years of age.

5.0 SUNDERLAND'S NUMBER ONE

- 5.1 Sunderland's No. 1 talent contest proved to be another successful event this year. With over 300 people in attendance, the winner was 15 year old Dionne Slater. The competition was changed this year to make just one person be the overall winner. The competition was also open to bands for the first time. There were a total of 67 entries, of which 13 were bands. Finalists were chosen on their vocal ability as well as their presentation and originality. The age range of the contestants was 9 - 18 years. Last years winners Mica Denila and Anna Reed also came back to perform on the evening.

6.0 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The Area Committee is invited to note the content of this report and the outcome of the Summer Holiday Programme for 2006.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 The background papers relied upon to compile this report are as follows:
1. Promotional material from the Summer Holiday Promotion leaflet
 2. Income and attendance figures from Leisure Complexes Summer Holiday Programme
 3. Summer Programme Analysis reports by respective Centre Managers

7th November 2006

COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE

REPORT OF THE CITY TREASURER

HOUSING and COUNCIL TAX BENEFIT PROGRESS REPORT

FOR INFORMATION

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Members of the performance of the Benefits Section in the processing of new claims in accordance with the Best Value Performance Indicator (BVPI78a) for Housing and Council Tax Benefit. This report covers the period 1 April 2006 to 30 September 2006.

2. PERFORMANCE

- 2.1 Our target for BVPI 78a for processing new claims for 2006/2007 was set at 27 days. The attached table shows that we are processing claims within this target achieving 25.74 days city wide. We have also exceeded our 93% local target for new claims processed within 14 days of receipt of all necessary information, by achieving 95.84%. These two performance measures are also well within the Department for Work and Pensions' (DWP) standards.

3. FURTHER INFORMATION

- 3.1 One of the main objectives in last and this year's Business Plan for the Benefits Service is to promote Housing and Council Tax Benefit and thereby increase take up of these benefits.
- 3.2 Members were previously informed of our free Benefits Hotline which was set up in March 2006 costing nothing for customers to ring the Council's Contact Centre to find out if there are certain benefits they might be missing out on. This facility is part of our ongoing drive to encourage take up.

Since March we have accepted over 500 enquiries which have led to 149 successful claims. This equates to nearly £3,000 per week extra Housing and Council Tax Benefit. Of these new Housing Benefit customers, 66% are receiving more than £30 per week, and over 60% of the new Council Tax Benefit customers are receiving more than £7.50 per week. Some customers are now better off by as much as £85 Housing Benefit and £23 Council Tax Benefit per week.

Publicity has continued by the promotion of the free phone number through an advertising campaign starting in mid June and ending mid August on a fleet of Stagecoach buses across the city. We have also advertised in the Echo, on billboards and on our website and worked with Registered Social Landlords by including appropriate references in their rent increase letters.

We took up the suggestion, made at one of the previous Area Committee meetings, and introduced a credit card size advert promoting the free phone

number. Professional advisors, council visiting staff and numerous agencies across the city are now either using or displaying these cards.

- 3.3 As part of the national Best Value Performance Indicators we are required to conduct a customer survey (BVPI80) to measure customer satisfaction regarding the provision of our service. The survey covers topics such as access to the service, staff, forms and letters and speed of service.

The views and opinions of our customers may change throughout the year. Therefore, in order to evaluate our service accurately our questionnaires are issued over 2 periods. In the first period, August, we issued 938 questionnaires followed by 2 reminders. We are pleased with the response rate of 46% so far. The questionnaires for the second period will be issued in January 2007.

The results are then combined to calculate our overall performance to report to the DWP. Analysis is then undertaken to evaluate our service and formulate plans for improvement. We will comment on the findings in future progress reports.

- 3.4 Members were previously informed of our plans to implement a new benefits system followed by an upgrade of our DIP (Document Image Processing) system to improve service delivery. The project is now in its final stage and we are analysing the results of the most recent data transfer from the current system onto the new system and checking our plans to maintain "business as usual" during the final migration.

4. RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 Members are asked to note the contents of this report.

5. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 5.1 No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

Coalfield Area Performance Statistics

National Best Value Performance Indicator (BVPI78a) - City Wide

	Performance 1st April - 30th September 2006	Targets 2006 - 2007
Average time taken to process a new claim from date of claim	25.74 days	27 days
Percentage of new claims processed within 14 days from receipt of all information	95.84%	93%

7th NOVEMBER 2006

**REGENERATION ISSUES REPORT: FEEDBACK ON PROJECTS
PREVIOUSLY FUNDED THROUGH STRATEGIC INITIATIVES BUDGET
(SIB)**

Report of the Director of Development and Regeneration

1.0 Purpose Of The Report

1.1 This report provides information to the Area Committee on expenditure from the Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB) on projects it has previously funded

2.0 Background

2.1 Each Regeneration Framework area has been allocated a minimum of £200,000 per annum over the last eleven years from the Strategic Initiatives Budget to promote action on key priorities identified in the relevant Area Regeneration Frameworks, and to attract other funding into the area. Over this period, therefore, the Framework area has been allocated £2,274,284 in this way.

2.2 In order that the Area Committee can be kept informed of progress on projects it has previously funded as part of the SIB monitoring process, a programme of report backs has been scheduled.

3.0 Purpose of the Feedback Reports

3.1 The aim of the reports are to inform the Area Committee how the money it has been allocated through SIB has been used, how successful it has been in achieving its original objectives, and how the project will continue. Specifically, the reports have been asked to address the following key questions :

- How has the money has been used? How much was capital and revenue?
- What were the outcomes of the project? How has it helped to achieve the objectives identified in the original submission? Are there any statistics that will support the outcomes?
- What other funding the SIB allocation helped to attract?
- What are the key lessons learnt? What difference has the project made in comparison to other areas that did not have such funding?

What added value did the project provide? Are there implications for existing service provision?

- Does the project need to continue? Has it come to its natural end? If not, how will it be funded? Has it been considered for mainstream funding? Have other funding sources been approached?

3.2 Once the presentation has been completed, Elected Members will be invited to ask any questions or offer comments concerning the project.

4.0 Feedback to this Committee

4.1 At this Committee meeting, the following feedback reports will be presented:

- Burnside Primary Out of Hours Child Care and Community Access project awarded a total of £16,000 by the Coalfield Area Committee meetings of March 2004, and June 2005.
- Coalfield Community Shopper project awarded £ 10,000 by the Coalfield Area Committee meeting of June 2005.
- Compass Community Transport awarded £ 2,000 by the Coalfield Area Committee meeting of September 2005

4.2 Excerpts of the original applications are attached as Annex 1.

4.3 A draft schedule for future feedback reports is attached as Annex 2

5.0 Recommendations

5.1 That this report be noted.

Background Papers

Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB): Regeneration Issues Reports to previous Area Committees

Regeneration Framework Files, Coalfield

Burnside Primary Out of Hours Child Care and Community Access
--

Section 2: Sponsor Details

2.1 Name of Lead Organisation / Group:

Burnside Primary School in conjunction with Burnside Primary School PTA and Burnside Community Development Group
--

Section 3 : Project Details

3.1 Project Title: (Please re-state title as per front sheet)
--

Burnside Out of Hours Club and Community Facility

3.2 Project Start Date:	3.3 Project End Date:
--------------------------------	------------------------------

July 2005	September 2005
-----------	----------------

September 2005

3.4 Please describe the project:

The project is to provide a dedicated space to operate the Breakfast, Out of Hours Child Care and Holiday Clubs which presently operate within the school building. In addition the space will be used by Burnside Community Development Group for training events, health promotions and courses for the benefit of the local community.

3.5 What service does the organisation currently provide and how will this be complemented by the project?

Burnside Primary School is situated in an area of deprivation within the city and in an area with little in the way of community facilities. The school is trying to provide a focus for the community. It presently runs a Breakfast and After Hours Club for both parents at the school and the wider community. The recently formed Burnside Community Development Group meets in the school. It is developing links with other organisations and looking to provide courses and activities for the members of the local community. As space is limited within the school these activities have been restricted.

The proposed stand alone modular building will provide valuable space to expand these activities.

3.6 What additional activity will SIB funding allow to happen?

<i>(Please tick the appropriate statement)</i>
--

- a) A project will go ahead which otherwise would not happen at all []
- b) A project will be provided to a higher quality / on a greater scale []
- c) The funding will accelerate the implementation of the project by 12+ months [X]
- d) A gap in funding will be filled pending other funding being secured [X]
- e) Other reason []

Please explain your answer:

The project has been fully costed and costs have escalated considerably from the initial indicative costs when £10 000 SIB money was awarded towards this project in March 2004. Several other sources of funding were sought from BIFFA landfill tax credits and The Coalfields Regeneration Trust and Awards for All. There were some difficulties with these bids regarding lease and land ownership. In order to progress the project it was decided to use 2 year's of the school's own capital money, a total of £49 000. There is still a shortfall of £6 000 on the capital cost of £65 000

3.7 How will you publicise that you have received support from SIB? (please refer to Section 3 of the guidance notes)

There has already been press coverage of the original SIB award. Future publicity generated by the project will acknowledge SIB support. Any press releases will be made via the SIB Marketing and Communications team as per SIB requirements and an SIB plaque will be displayed within the facility following construction.

3.8 Has there been any consultations concerning the need for this project?

Not formal consultation but the need for extra facilities in the area was identified in the report of the Joint Churches working group.

If 'Yes' please provide details:

3.9 Is there any documentary evidence available to support the need for this project?

See 3.8

If 'Yes' please provide details:

3.10 Who will benefit from the services provided by the project?

Parents and members of the local community seeking work will have access to affordable child care. Members of the local community will have a facility for meetings, courses, parenting classes etc.

3.11 Will there be any implications for Council Services arising from this project?

Yes

If 'Yes' please provide details :

Social Services Dept will be able to purchase more places for out of hours child care.

3.12 Does this project require the supported or sponsorship of a City of Sunderland Council Directorate?

Yes

If 'Yes' please provide details :

The Director of Education is aware of this project and is assured that there are no on going cost implications for the Council. The Child Care presently held in the school is self sustaining and will continue to be so in the new facility. Any additional income from hire and use of the facility by a third party will cover the heating and lighting costs incurred in the facility's use.

The Burnside Community Development Group is a voluntary organisation and there are no plans to take on any paid workers.

3.13 Are any legal and other approvals required?

Yes

If 'Yes' provide details of type of approval, date secured, or date expected to be secured:

The modular building will need planning permission, however, the company managing the project, feels there are no obstacles to this being granted.

Section 7: Financial Information

7.1 How much SIB funding is requested?

£6 000

7.2 Indicate the type of funding requested: (Please tick)

Capital [X]

Revenue []

Both []

7.3 Has funding been requested / allocated from any other sources, including Council Directorates and if so how much?

SIB has already contributed £10,000 to this project. Other funding bids (see section 7.4 below) have been unsuccessful. In order to progress the project it was decided to use 2 year's of the school's own capital money, a total of £49 000. There is still a shortfall of £6 000 on the capital cost of £65 000.

7.4 What other funding alternatives have been considered and why were these not appropriate?

Several other sources of funding have been sought: BIFFA landfill tax credits; The Coalfields Regeneration Trust; and Awards for All. There were some difficulties with these bids regarding lease and land ownership.

7.5 What are the financial implications for the project should it not receive SIB funding?

The project will be delayed for the foreseeable future until other funds can be secured.

7.6 When SIB expenditure is complete how do you intend to continue this project?

The Child Care Provision will be self sustaining once the capital build is complete. Use of the facility by community groups will be at an economic rent to cover day to day running costs

7.7 Provide a profile of projected costs:

Funding Source	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	Total Cost
SIB :				
Coalfield	£10 000	£6 000		
Total Cost:		£65 000		

7.9 Please provide a breakdown of the Total cost to show the main areas of expenditure:

Prelims including site prep superstructure, Electrical installation, plumbing installation £50 292

External works £11 785

Optional extras £4 000

7.10 Please provide details of how you will ensure that the procurement and purchasing of services and equipment will be managed in accordance with requirements as detailed in the guidance notes and guidelines. Include any estimates that you have and details of any contractors or suppliers to be used.

Wernick from the council's approved list of contractors has provided an estimate (available for inspection)

Contracts let using best value principles and advice from the LEA on procurement of services

Section 9: Declaration

I declare that the information provided is correct and accurate and that, should this application be successful, the organisation will agree to the terms and conditions of SIB:

Name: T E Walker

Position in Organisation: Head Teacher

Date: 28.04.05

SIB Feedback report to Coalfield Area Committee

Burnside Primary Out of Hours Child Care and Community Access

1. How the money was spent

The £16000 was added to £49000 of school capital funding to purchase the stand-alone facility for the Burnside Out of Hours Club and Community access.

2. The success of the project

The facility was opened in November 2005. It provided work for a Child Care Supervisor at 20 hours per week, a Child Care assistant for 20 hours per week and a Community Project Manager at 17 hours per week.

Numbers of children attending the Breakfast, Out of Hours and Holiday Club have gradually increased to such an extent that it is providing additional work for a Child Care Assistant during holiday periods and occasionally during the week after school. Typically, Breakfast Club numbers will be 10, mainly children from the school. After school numbers range from 15 to 21. These are drawn from other local schools and social services buy some places for children with special needs. Holiday club numbers have averaged 24 per day.

This part of the project is well on the way to becoming self-sustaining as NOF funding and sustainability funding comes to an end.

3. Community Access

The Burnside Community Development Group, set up to manage the use of the building by community groups during the day, employs a project worker for 17 hours per week.

This is the programme at present.

BURNSIDE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP Weekly planner

MON AM	MON PM	TUES AM	TUES PM	WED AM	WED PM	THUR AM	THUR PM	FRI AM	FRI PM
TODDLER	COURSE SPECIAL NEEDS	FITNESS	6-7.30 KIDS HEALTHY LIVING	TODDLER 11- 12.30 COOKERY CLASSES	EMBROIDERY CLASSES	FIT FAB	NEW ME 6- 7.30 KIDS CLUB		

Last Friday of each month p.t.a. meeting
 Last Friday of each month b.c.d.g. meeting
 First Friday of each month special needs coffee morning
 Third Friday of each month shopping trip
 During school holidays we run a kids club allowing the out of school club children to go on trips with the kids club play scheme.

The activities for children are between 6pm – 8pm parents feel this is too late on a night. If we had another room we would be able to start the children's activities from 5pm onwards.

In the future we would like to be able to give the local community access to courses with crèche facilities.

Some suggestions from local people have been
 I.C.T. courses / Return to learn / Craft sessions / D.I.Y. sessions

We have had a lot of people enquiring about courses which we have had on, but they could not attend due to having no childcare available.

Sure Start would like to use the unit if we have a room for a crèche.

We have hired out the unit on a few occasions to west healthy living, housing group, coalfield forum and the local community police force we charge £12.00 per hour.

We have also worked with bridge centre, ISIS project, and the access points.
 We charge a small fee of £1.00 or £2.00 to cover expenses, on all activities.

NUMBERS USING PROJECT - APRIL 2006

DATE	PARENT TODDLER MON	FIT KIDS	PARENT TODDLER WED	FIT & FAB	KIDS CLUB	TRAINING	EVENTS	
1.4.06	7							
2.4.06						C/P 2	S/S 12	
3.4.06		16						
5.4.06			8					
6.4.06					20			
11.4.06							PC/19	
12.4.06							PC/19	
13.04.06							PC/15	
18.04.06							PC42	
19.04.06							PC43	
22.04.06							PC/50	
24.4.6	9							
25.4.06		15						
26.4.06			6					
TOTAL	16	31	14		20	2	200	
TOTAL	283							

S/S SURE START P/C HOLIDAY PLAY CLUB

B.C.D.G. - NUMBERS USING PROJECT MAY 2006

DATE	PARENT TODDLER MON	FIT KIDS	PARENT TODDLER WED	KIDS CLUB	TRAINING	EVENTS
2.5.06		13				H/C14
3.5.06			8			
5.5.06						
8.5.06	9					
10.5.06			7			
11.5.06				10		
12.5.06						
15.5.06	8					
16.5.06		14				
17.5.06			9			
18.5.06				12		
19.5.06						SCH 62
22.5.06	6					CAN 36
23.5.06		16				
24.5.06			7			
25.6.06				10		C/G 16
TOTAL	23	43	31	32		128
TOTAL	257					

H/C = HEALTHY CITY SCH = SCHOOL GROUP
 C/G = COMMUNITY GROUP CAN = CANCER FUNDRAISING

NUMBERS USING PROJECT - JUNE 2006

DATE	PARENT TODDLER MON	FIT KIDS	PARENT TODDLER WED	FITNESS	KIDS CLUB	TRAINING	EVENTS
6.6.06		12					
5.6.06	4						
7.6.06			6				
12.6.6	8					1	
14.6.6			9				
16.6.6				8			
19.6.6	6					1	
20.6.6				6			
21.6.6			5				
22.6.6					8		
23.6.6				10			
26.6.6	6					1	
28.6.6			6				
29.6.6					9		
30.6.6				6			
TOTAL	24	12	26	30	17	3	
TOTAL	112						

NUMBERS USING PROJECT - JULY 2006

DATE	PARENT TODDLER MON	PARENT TODDLER WED	FIT FAB FITNESS	KIDS CLUB	FITNESS	TRAINING
3.7.6	6					
4.7.6					7	
5.7.6		9				
6.7.6				11		
7.7.06			6			
10.6.06	10				7	
12.7.06		7				
13.7.06				12		
17.06	15					
19.7.06		12				
TOTAL	31	26	6	23	14	
TOTAL	100					

P/C PLAY CLUB

4. Other Funding

The following funding has been attracted to the project:

- Local children's network - £7000
- West Healthy City - £3000
- Awards for all - £4882
- Co-op – £200
- Play together ETEC - £400
- Community Chest - £350

5. Future Planning

The project has been successful and we are already looking to extend the facility. Additional space would provide crèche facilities to enable more groups to use the building.

The project fits well with the governments Extended Schools agenda and puts us in a strong position to offer the core service of extended provision. With this in mind, a bid has been submitted to the Extended Schools team for capital funding to increase the size of the building. If the bid for £60 000 is successful we aim to double the size of the building by March 2007 and so extend the range of activities we are able to offer to the local community.

Mr T. E. Walker
Headteacher

Coalfields Community Shopper

Section 2: Sponsor Details

2.1 Name of Lead Organisation / Group:

Age Concern Sunderland

Section 3 : Project Details

3.2 Project Title: (Please re-state title as per front sheet)

Coalfields Community Shopper

3.2 Project Start Date:

June 2005

3.3 Project End Date:

31st March 2006

3.4 Please describe the project:

The Coalfields Community Shopper will enable older people, especially those who are disabled and frail, to have access to transport to enable them to visit a local supermarket to purchase weekly provisions. Older people will register with the service and contact the Community Shopper Co-ordinator to arrange to be picked up from their home and taken to the supermarket. They will be able to have social / peer contact with others whilst on the bus and go for refreshments at the supermarket. Once they have completed their shopping they will be taken back to their home and helped with the carrying of the shopping into their homes.

This project will not only provide older people with access to affordable fresh fruit, vegetables and other daily provisions but will also act as a support network for those older people who would not normally be able to get out and about.

3.5 What service does the organisation currently provide and how will this be complemented by the project?

Age Concern Sunderland [ACS] provides a variety of support and services to older people throughout the City of Sunderland and this also includes the Coalfields area.

This includes:

45 Day Clubs

Social Focus Project

Leisure & Learning

Computer Suite

Telephone / Advice Service

Information & Advice

Companionship Service

Advocacy

Direct Payments

Home Security

Over 50's Forum

Insurance Services

However, the community Shopper project will be exclusive to the Coalfields area of the City.

ACS has run the Eating Well Project in the Coalfields area which allowed older people access to fresh fruit and vegetables, showed them how to cook on a budget and eat healthily. However, the Community Shopper will focus exclusively on providing older people with access to transport and enable them to shop at a local supermarket.

Older people within the Coalfields area have continually highlighted the need for better transport links and this project will link up with the issue of tackling social exclusion through transport.

3.6 What additional activity will SIB funding allow to happen?

(Please tick the appropriate statement)

- a) A project will go ahead which otherwise would not happen at all []
- b) A project will be provided to a higher quality / on a greater scale []
- c) The funding will accelerate the implementation of the project by 12+ months []
- d) A gap in funding will be filled pending other funding being secured []
- e) Other reason []

Please explain your answer:

Applications have been made to Nexus. Age Concern Sunderland has secured £10,000 from this element.

3.7 How will you publicise that you have received support from SIB?

(please refer to guidance note)

Publicity generated by the project will acknowledge SIB support. Any press releases will be made via the SIB Marketing and Communications team as per SIB requirements. All leaflets, posters, etc will acknowledge SIB funding.

3.8 Has there been any consultations concerning the need for this project?

Yes

If 'Yes' please provide details :

Older people involved with the Eating Well Project have been consulted about the experience of the Community Shopper element of the project and its quality and need. All 400 + older people commented that it was the Community Shopper element which was most needed and that it provided not only accessible transport but was 'a lifeline' regarding social contact and access to affordable foods.

3.9 Is there any documentary evidence available to support the need for this project?

Yes

If 'Yes' please provide details :

<p>'Listen To Our Elder' – Report Commissioned by West Healthy City Group STPCT Health Strategy 2005/06</p>
<p>3.10 Who will benefit from the services provided by the project? Older people within the Coalfields area.</p>
<p>3.11 Will there be any implications for Council Services arising from this project? No</p> <p><i>If 'Yes' please provide details :</i></p>
<p>3.12 Are any legal and other approvals required? No</p> <p><i>If 'Yes' provide details of type of approval, date secured, or date expected to be secured:</i></p>

<p>Section 7: Financial Information</p>
<p>7.1 How much SIB funding is requested? £10,000</p>
<p>7.2 Indicate the type of funding requested: (Please tick)</p> <p>Capital [<input type="checkbox"/>] Revenue [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] Both [<input type="checkbox"/>]</p>
<p>7.3 Has funding been requested / allocated from any other sources, including Council Directorates and if so how much? Nexus - £10,000</p>
<p>7.4 What other funding alternatives have been considered and why were these not appropriate? Urban II – as project only covered a small amount of Urban II geographical area. Big Lottery – large grant applications are very limited to this award body</p>
<p>7.5 What are the financial implications for the project should it not receive SIB funding? If SIB funding is not secured the project will not continue past the March 31st 2005 period. Whilst Nexus funding has been awarded, this was subject to the condition that SIB funding could also be secured.</p>

7.6 When SIB expenditure is complete how do you intend to continue this project?

Age concern Sunderland will work in partnership with Nexus and other community transport initiatives to research how to take this element forward in a sustainable manner, within the Tackling Social Exclusion through Transport programme.

7.7 Provide a profile of projected costs:

Funding Source	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	Total Cost
SIB :				
Coalfield		£10,000		£10,000
Other Sources: (Please state)				
1)Nexus		£10,000		£10,000
2)Age Concern Sunderland		£16,008		£16,008
Total Cost:		£36,008		£36,008

7.8 Please provide details of any 'in-kind funding (e.g Peppercorn rents), if included within the 'Other Sources' of funding shown above.

7.9 Please provide a breakdown of the Total cost to show the main areas of expenditure:

Full Time co-ordinator/Escort	19,622
Part time Driver	4,968
Management	3,800
Staff Travel	472
Volunteer Recruitment	580
Stationary	120
Publicity	540
Insurance	250
Postage	180
Telephone	649
Training	350
Vehicle Running costs	<u>4,477</u>
	36,008

Section 8: Additional Information

8.1 Please provide any additional information that may be of use in support of your project proposal (*Please append additional sheets if required*):

The Eating Well Project was a time limited 'pilot' project to identify the need for a variety of elements to enable older people to have access to fresh and affordable foods. The 'pilot' project has highlighted, with great success, the need for continued support to older people in relation to access to transport and local supermarkets.

This is especially in relation to those older people who are frail and have long term health needs where access to public transport is not an option and taxi fares are extremely expensive.

Section 9: Declaration

I declare that the information provided is correct and accurate and that, should this application be successful, the organisation will agree to the terms and conditions of SIB:

Name:
Alan Patchett

Position in Organisation:
Director

Date:
22.03.2005

Coalfield Area Committee- Strategic Initiative Budget

Coalfield Community Shopper

How the money has been spent

The total of the grant was used to pay wages, there has been no capital expenditure claimed.

Two Driver / Escorts have been employed to take older people shopping in the Coalfield area on the Age Concern Sunderland Shopper Bus.

The tasks these workers undertook as part of the project include: -

- Daily inspection of vehicles safety, to ensure roadworthy condition.
- To ensure that all persons on the bus are safe and comfortable.
- To plan an effective route.
- To assist passengers safely on and off the Bus.
- To assist in carrying shopping bags.
- To ensure that the vehicle is maintained both inside and out in a clean and respectable condition.
- To act a MAPPVA alerter.

Outcomes of the Project

The Shopper Bus had 500 people registered to use it taking over 70 people per week to the Local Supermarket, ensuring that older people residing in the Coalfields area were able to access a better choice of fresh, reasonably priced food.

The Shopper Bus is fully compliant in line with DDA requirements, ensuring that even the most frail, vulnerable older people were able to successfully access the service.

The added value of Age Concern Sunderland providing the service is that the service users were signposted to other projects and activities organised by ourselves such as: -

Leisure and Learning
Lunch Clubs
Telephone Service
Friendly Faces
Information and Advice

The service users also find the companionship they establish with other users an important part of the day. Many of the older people using the bus would be

limited to the company of their Home Care during the week, so to get out with their peer group and mix in an informal setting was an added bonus of the service.

The profile of users

90% Female

10% Male

50% experience frailty, long-term ill health

50% cite loneliness and isolation as why use service

Client Testimonies

Those who use the service weekly, tend to be the older people who live alone, have no family or carers and one user stated, "Each Wednesday is the only day I see someone"

"I am 90 year old and would find it impossible to get to any supermarket without the support I get from the shopper bus and the lads are a great help"

"I look forward to my shopping trip as enjoy seeing my friends"

"Cheaper than the local shops"

"I would not get out if it wasn't for the bus"

Other Funding

The project was further supported by £10,000 from Nexus and £16,008 from Age Concern Sunderland.

Key Lessons and issues from project

The biggest issue with this project is the amount of older people living outside of the Coalfields areas that would benefit from this service. Only a City Wide project would address this issue. Older people living outside the area where the service is not provided are reliant on the amount of time a home carer gets for shopping and this only permits a limited amount time where they can shop locally reducing choice and increasing cost.

Future Planning

It is imperative that the project continues, Nexus has funded the project in the interim for an amount £18,000 from April 2006. Plans are in progress to fund this project through Neighbourhood Renewal Fund.

PROJECT TITLE: Compass Community Transport

SIB Requested: £12,000 (City wide)/£2,000 per Area Committee

Section 2: Sponsor Details

2.1 Name of Lead Organisation / Group:

Compass Community Transport

Section 3: Project Details

3.3 Project Title: (Please re-state title as per front sheet)

Compass Community Transport – developing city-wide facilities

3.2 Project Start Date:

September 2005

3.3 Project End Date:

December 2005

3.4 Please describe the project:

Compass was established to address issues of significant social exclusion resulting from unmet need for transport in the south and west of Sunderland. This project is intended to extend and further develop Compass services to benefit other parts of Sunderland through development of a 'Brokerage' service, providing training and the recruitment of an extended pool of well-trained volunteers. It is also intended that these additional services will become self-financing to ensure the longer-term viability as a self-sustaining social enterprise.

However, a study of community transport across the City of Sunderland is being carried out by JMP Consulting as part of the Tackling Social Exclusion Through Transport (TSETT) initiative. The study includes actions to separate out transport provision from other care and support services, in order to develop centres of expertise, which will have the ability to take forward, transport developments and provide excellent, customer-focussed services. The study suggests that Compass Community Transport should be one of these centres of expertise. Historically, Compass Transport has been supported through SRB and NRF funding and significant income generation. A funding package, which addresses sustainability of the organisation, is currently being developed. Further funding applications for core funding have been delayed, awaiting the Community Transport Strategy. Funders will not consider Compass' applications until the study is finalised. This has therefore left a short-term gap in core funding for the organisation.

3.5 What service does the organisation currently provide and how will this be complemented by the project?

It currently provides group travel facilities, technical and vocational training and champions the needs of mobility disadvantaged people in the south and west ARF parts of the city. The project extends both the scope of the services provided the geographical coverage and the communities of interest that will

benefit.
<p>3.6 What additional activity will SIB funding allow to happen? <i>(Please tick the appropriate statement)</i></p> <p>a) A project will go ahead which otherwise would not happen at all [<input type="checkbox"/>] b) A project will be provided to a higher quality / on a greater scale [<input type="checkbox"/>] c) The funding will accelerate the implementation of the project by 12+ months [<input type="checkbox"/>] d) A gap in funding will be filled pending other funding being secured [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] e) Other reason [<input type="checkbox"/>]</p> <p>Please explain your answer: Delays in the production of the city wide Community Transport Strategy have meant that potential funders have not been able to consider applications from Compass.</p>
<p>3.7 How will you publicise that you have received support from SIB? <i>(Please refer to Section 3 of the guidance notes)</i></p> <p>Press releases, articles in the local press, technical press and specialist publications, conference presentations, acknowledgements on the we site, City Council logo on minibuses. The project will also utilise Area Committee Marketing Project</p>
<p>3.8 Has there been any consultations concerning the need for this project?</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>If 'Yes' please provide details: As part of the TSETT study. Report expected September 2005. Discussions with Back on the Map; Presentations to Washington Area Committee and Washington Pride, discussions with ward councillor citywide. In addition, the recent Community Spirit consultation highlights how transport is a consistent difficulty in access cultural and leisure activities throughout the city.</p>
<p>3.9 Is there any documentary evidence available to support the need for this project?</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>If 'Yes' please provide details: TSETT Community Transport Strategy and Action Plan Compass Accounts/Business Plan available</p>
<p>3.10 Who will benefit from the services provided by the project?</p> <p>People with disabilities, young people, older people, people from ethnic minorities, women, people seeking training to re-enter the labour market, community groups and organisations who require transport in connection with their activities.</p>
<p>3.11 Will there be any implications for Council Services arising from this project?</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>If 'Yes' please provide details: Enabling people to access services and facilities will reduce pressure on statutory services provided by the Council. If Compass Transport ceases to operate, an important resource will be lost.</p>
<p>3.13 Does this project require the support or sponsorship of a City of Sunderland Council Directorate?</p>

No
If 'Yes' please provide details:
3.13 Are any legal and other approvals required?
 No
 If 'Yes' provide details of type of approval, date secured, or date expected to be secured:

Section 7: Financial Information

7.1 How much SIB funding is requested?
 £12,000 (£2,000/Area committee)

7.2 Indicate the type of funding requested: (Please tick)
 Capital [] Revenue [X] Both []

7.3 Has funding been requested / allocated from any other sources, including Council Directorates and if so how much?
 TSETT - £12,000
 Funding applications being made to NRF, SRB, ESF, Coalfields Regeneration Trust, TSETT.

7.4 What other funding alternatives have been considered and why were these not appropriate?
 Northern Rock Foundation – eligibility restrictions

7.5 What are the financial implications for the project should it not receive SIB funding?
 The organisation will cease operations and staff will be made redundant.

7.6 When SIB expenditure is complete how do you intend to continue this project?
 Further funding applications for core funding. Income generated will cover operating costs of buses, training scheme etc.

7.7 Provide a profile of projected costs:

Funding Source	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	Total Cost
SIB :				
Coalfield	£2,000			£2,000
East	£2,000			£2,000
North	£2,000			£2,000
South	£2,000			£2,000
West	£2,000			£2,000
Washington	£2,000			£2,000
1) TSETT	£12,000			£12,000
Total Cost:	£24,000			£24,000

7.8 Please provide details of any 'in-kind funding (e.g. Peppercorn rents), if included within the 'Other Sources' of funding shown above.
Peppercorn rent for office at Felstead school

7.9 Please provide a breakdown of the Total cost to show the main areas of expenditure:

Salaries (3 staff) and operating costs for 3 months.

7.10 Please provide details of how you will ensure that the procurement and purchasing of services and equipment will be managed in accordance with requirements as detailed in the guidance notes and guidelines.

Include any estimates that you have and details of any contractors or suppliers to be used.

Not applicable.

Section 9: Declaration

I declare that the information provided is correct and accurate and that, should this application be successful, the organisation will agree to the terms and conditions of SIB:

Name:
Bill Robinson

Position in Organisation:
Director. Trustee

Date:
26/8/05

CITYWIDE AREA COMMITTEES – STRATEGIC INITIATIVE BUDGET

Compass Community Transport

In April 2005 whilst a citywide study of community transport was undertaken as part of the Tackling Social Exclusion Through Transport (TSETT) initiative a hold was put on all funding requests for transport. This was also implemented by external funding bodies, including Coalfields Regeneration Trust with whom negotiations for funding had already commenced. The results of the study were expected by July 2005 but were delayed until November and during this period Compass Community Transport (CCT) used its existing reserves to retain the level of service.

How the money has been spent

In August 2005 CCT applied to the six Area Committees to contribute £2,000 each to provide a match for £12,000 made available from the TSETT initiative. This would provide Gap Funding for 3 months towards core staff costs, the income generated by charges to user groups covering all other costs. Core staff at that time were Transport Manager, Senior Driver/Trainer, Administration/Finance Officer, Administration Assistant and 2 Drivers.

Outcomes of the Project

Allowed staffing levels to be retained thus avoiding redundancies and maintaining service levels whilst further funding secured.

Other funding

During this period further funding applications were made to assist CCT to develop in line with the findings of the study. Due to the time lapse Coalfield Regeneration Trust had allocated their regional fund towards transport initiatives and CCT were advised that no funding was available. NRF monies of £71,494 were secured to cover revenue spend for the remainder of the year ended 31 March 2006 and future support of £185,000 has been made available for years ended March 2007 and 2008 to develop services across the City.

Key lessons and issues from project

The key point to make is in noting the effect that external decision makers / policy changes can have upon such a business which is relying upon funding to supplement its income to maintain a community service.

Future Planning

CCT is working very closely with TSETT Group in developing its services citywide. It has created a separate commercial trading arm and will tender for contracts the revenue from which will hopefully help to support the community part of the operation.

***For additional information see attached annual directors report which provides greater detail regarding activities, funding and future planning.**

COMPASS COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

Directors Report year ended 31 March 2006

Structure, Governance and Management

Compass Community Transport Limited is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity whose constitution is set out in its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The Company has a Board of Directors (Management Committee), who are also Trustees of the Charity, elected by the members at the Annual General Meeting. The Management Committee meets on a monthly basis to oversee the affairs of the organisation focusing on legal, technical, financial and operational aspects. A Personnel Sub Group and Policy Sub Group is in place but their recommendations are brought to the monthly Management Committee Meetings for approval. Day to day operational issues are dealt with by the Transport Manager who reports directly to the Management Committee.

The first Directors / Trustees of the Company were the subscribers to the Memorandum and Articles of Association and held office until the members elected a new Management Committee at its first and subsequent Annual General Meetings. Existing Management Committee Members may stand for re-election. Article 34 of The Articles of Association allows co-option by no more than 2 other persons by the Management Committee to serve as full voting members.

New Directors / Trustees may be appointed at the Annual General Meeting by the membership and normally have a specific interest in the transport provision regarding a geographical area of the City or a particular group of users. If resignations occur, which depletes key skills relating to transport, personnel or finance, we circulate our membership looking for volunteers and also advertise through the volunteer bureau with a view to co-opting new Directors / Trustees. As an introduction new Directors / Trustees are provided with details of the services provided, copies of the minutes of recent meetings, the latest audited accounts and a copy of the publication "Responsibility of Charity Trustees" issued by the Charity Commission. A tour of facilities and staff introductions is also arranged by the Transport Manager.

Key Partners in the delivery of our services at present include the Local Authority and Nexus. Currently we invite representatives from these organisations, without voting rights, to attend the monthly management meetings in an advisory capacity.

The Directors / Trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the charity faces and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that the necessary steps can be taken to lessen these risks.

Objectives and Charities

The objectives of the charity are to provide a community transport service for the inhabitants of the City of Sunderland and its environs who are in need of such a service because of age, sickness or disability (mental or physical), or poverty, or because of lack of availability of adequate and safe public passenger services.

Activities in the year have included:

- a. The provision of group travel to member organisations by the hire of a fleet of modern, fully accessible minibuses using Criminal Records Bureau checked employed and volunteer drivers.
- b. Driver training for trainees to achieve Community Transport Association MiDAS accreditation and / or to gain further experience towards obtaining a passenger Carrying Vehicle driver licence.
- c. Bespoke passenger assistant training for local organisations who have requested a course more specific to their organisation and volunteers.
- d. Employment and training opportunities by providing work placements during the year for varying periods for people who are economically inactive.

The long term strategy is to expand the services to all areas of the City as the acquisition of additional funding and increases in our reserves allow. Organisation Membership increased during the year and as at March 2006 was 238, broken down by client group as follows:

People with physical disabilities	25
Elderly people	63
Youth Groups	27
Children's Groups	60
Others *	63

(*Includes community associations, church groups and groups that are involved with more than one of the above categories).

Contributions from volunteers to the overall management and delivery of services include the 8 Management Committee Members and currently 20 driver / passenger assistants.

Achievements and Performance

During the financial year to March 2006 the following specific outcomes were achieved:

Number of journeys undertaken	1661
Number of passengers carried	21593
Trainees achieving MiDAS qualification	36
Number of work placements provided	22

(Broken down to 1 administration, 5 escorts, 5 painters, 1 handyman & 10 drivers)

Funding support during financial year ended March 2006 of £95,494, to assist with core costs, was secured and utilised from Neighbourhood Renewal Fund, Single Investment Budget and the Tackling Social Exclusion Through Transport Initiative (TSETT).

Compass Community Transport continues to be involved in the development of the TSETT strategy a key theme of which is for greater co-ordination in the planning, funding and delivery of specialist transport services in the City. Future support of £185,000 from Neighbourhood Renewal Fund towards core costs for years ending March 2007 and 2008 has been secured.

The continuance of funding support from these sources beyond 2008 is reliant upon Government priorities and future policy. As such this is outside the charity's control as is current issues with world oil prices and developments require monitoring by the Directors / Trustees to react positively to any changes.

In order to generate additional income and to move towards long term sustainability a subsidiary trading arm of the Charity has been incorporated on 26 May 2006 - "Compass Commercial Transport Ltd". Various tenders have been submitted for the delivery of commercial contracts in respect of transport services in the public sector, e.g. Care Call Services. If successful it is the intention that trading will commence and initially a hire fee will be paid to Compass Community Transport Ltd in respect of the use of its vehicles and resources.

Financial Review

- a. Reserves Policy – as a capital intensive organisation requiring constant investment in vehicles, ICT, premises and staff it is necessary to ensure that sufficient finance is available in order that operations can be sustained without over-reliance on one-off funding packages or regimes. Fees and rates charged to member organisations for usage should reflect the need to make such provision from annual surpluses generated. The Charity will therefore need to set aside reserves and make provision for this in future budgets. Annual surpluses that arise should be allocated in the following order:
 - (i) General Reserve – up to a maximum of three months average total expenditure
 - (ii) Vehicle Replacement Reserve – in line with annual depreciation.

The reserves policy will be reviewed annually by the Management Committee be amended if considered appropriate to meet the current activities of the Charity.

- b. The principal funding sources are how they support the core costs of the Charity are explained in the section above headed Achievements and Performance.
- c. The Directors / Trustees have the power to invest in such assets as they see fit. The Charity sometimes needs to react quickly to particular needs and has a policy of keeping surplus liquid funds in short term deposits which can be readily accessed.

Plans for Future Period

The Charity's key objective is to continue with its plans to expand its current geographical area of service delivery and make membership available to other organisations within the City. A development officer, seconded from Nexus, is available to the Charity for the next two years to assist the Management Committee in this regard. Currently discussions are taking place with representatives from the East End and Coalfields Regeneration Areas of the City to ascertain demand. An increase in the number of vehicles to service this expansion is essential and may be achieved by brokering existing vehicles presently under utilised or new acquisitions.

As previously stated the constant review of charges and generation of income by the subsidiary trading company should ensure that progress is made towards achieving long term sustainability.

COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE**DRAFT SCHEDULE FOR FEEDBACK REPORTS**
(Previously Funded Strategic Initiatives Budget Projects)

<u>Committee Date</u>	<u>Proposed Projects</u>
November 1st 2006	Burnside Out of Hours Childcare and Community Access Compass Community Transport Coalfield Community Shopper
January 10th 2007	People's Pedal Power Springboard / Hetton Community Police: Youth Diversion Project The ISIS Project – Complementary Health and Education
March 8th 2007	Play Area project – Surestart Fencehouses Community Development project Volunteer Outreach Project

COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE MEETING
7th November 2006

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I

Title of Report:	
STRATEGIC INITIATIVES BUDGET (SIB) : REGENERATION ISSUES REPORT	
Author(s):	
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION	
Purpose of Report:	
This report requests Area Committee consideration of proposals for the allocation of Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB) to support a variety of new initiatives that will benefit the area.	
Description of Decision:	
The Committee is requested to approve:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) £11,613 from the 2006/7 budget as a contribution towards the Houghton Racecourse CAP led Administration support project. ii) £9,480 from the 2006/7 budget to restore the Coalfield Area Committee's Events budget to its upper operating level. 	
Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework?	
Yes	
If not, Council approval is required to change the Budget/Policy Framework	
Suggested reason(s) for Decision:	
Each Regeneration Framework area has been allocated a minimum of £200,000 per annum over the last eleven years from the Strategic Initiatives Budget to promote action on key priorities identified in the relevant Area Regeneration Frameworks, and to attract other funding into the area.	
Alternative options to be considered and recommended to be rejected:	
None	
Is this a "Key Decision" as defined in the Constitution?	Relevant Review Committee:
No	Regeneration and Community Review Committee
Is it included in the Forward Plan?	
No	

COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE

7th NOVEMBER 2006

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES BUDGET (SIB) : REGENERATION ISSUES REPORT

Report of the Director of Development and Regeneration

1.0 Purpose Of The Report

1.1 This report outlines current expenditure from the Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB) and applications for funding from this budget in order to support new initiatives which will benefit the area.

2.0 Description of Decision (Recommendation)

2.1 The Committee is requested to approve the following:

- Funding to support proposals for new projects. Full applications are included in Annex 1.

3.0 Background

3.1 Each Regeneration Framework area has been allocated a minimum of £200,000 per annum over the last eleven years from the Strategic Initiatives Budget to promote action on key priorities identified in the relevant Area Regeneration Frameworks, and to attract other funding into the area. Over this period, therefore, the Framework area has been allocated £2,274,284 in this way.

3.2 Annex 2 gives a summary of allocations since its creation in 1996/7 and a full breakdown of individual projects since 2003/4.

4.0 Current Position

4.1 Following the last Committee meeting on 6th September 2006, £130,054 was committed from the 2006/7 budget, and £4,895 was committed from the 2007/8 budget (subject to budget approval).

4.2 Since the last meeting, £540 has been returned to budget from the Area Renewal and Regeneration of Eppleton and Castletown project. This leaves a balance of £107,628 available to be allocated for 2006/7.

- 4.3 There are applications for funding at this Committee requesting £21,093 from the 2006/7 budget. Should the Committee grant these requests, £150,607 will be committed from the 2006/7 budget, leaving a balance of £86,535 to be allocated for 2006/7.

5.0 Reasons for the Decision

- 5.1 SIB was established to promote action on key priorities identified in the relevant Area Regeneration Frameworks, and to attract other funding into the area. Applications for SIB 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.

6.0 Alternative Options

- 6.1 Each project is required to indicate what alternative options they have considered in section 7.4 of its application form, which is attached as Annex 1.

7.0 Relevant Consultations

7.1 Financial Implications

Each project is required to indicate what financial implications there may be in section 7.5 of its application form, which is attached as Annex 1.

7.2 Implications for Other Services

Each project is required to indicate what implications there may be for other services in section 3.11 of its application form, which is attached as Annex 1. They are also required to identify any support or sponsorship that might be required from a City of Sunderland Council Directorate in Section 3.12 of its application form.

7.3 The Public

Each project is required to indicate what consultation it has undertaken and other documentary evidence it has to support its proposal in sections 3.8 and 3.9 of its application form, which is attached as Annex 1.

7.4 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, in Section 4 of its application form, which is attached as Annex 1.

7.5 Public Relations and Publicity

Each project is required to indicate how it will promote SIB via project publicity in Section 3.7 of the application form. The Marketing and Communications Co-ordinator for the City of Sunderland Council implements the publicity and public relations schedule on behalf of the Area Committee.

7.6 Procurement and Purchasing

Each project is required to provide details of how they will ensure that the procurement and purchasing of services and equipment will be managed in accordance with requirements as detailed in the guidance notes and guidelines, in Section 7.10 of its application form, which is attached as Annex 1.

8.0 List of Appendices

- 8.1 Annex 1. Proposals to this Area Committee meeting for SIB funding
- 8.2 Annex 2 Summary of SIB allocations since 1996/7 and a full breakdown of projects since 2003/4
- 8.3 Annex 3 SIB Criteria and Project Guidelines

9.0 Background Papers

- 9.1 Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB) : Regeneration Issues Reports to previous Area Committees
- 9.2 Regeneration Framework Files Coalfield



in partnership with Sunderland City Council

PROJECT APPLICATION 1 – HRCAP – Administrator Support

ANNEX 1

Project Title:	Administrator Support
SIB Requested:	£11,613

Section 1: Application Requirements

1.1

Please note that this application will be presented to the relevant Area Committee for its consideration when determining your SIB Grant Application. The Agenda and the Minutes of the Area Committee Meeting will be available for inspection by members of the public. Please therefore ensure that your organisation is agreeable to the content of the information that is set out in the form.

The Application Form should be provided in either electronic (e-mail or floppy disc) or typed format.

If you have a problem with returning this form in either electronic or typed format, please contact the appropriate Area Regeneration Officer. Contact / address details are provided on the covering letter and in the Guidance Notes and Criteria and Project Guidelines.

Please note that a representative of your organisation must be available to attend the pre-agenda and main committee meeting(s) to which this application is presented, as they may be required to answer questions. Failure to attend the meeting(s) may result in your application being deferred or rejected.

Dates and Venues of future meetings are provided as supporting information.

1.2 Which Area Regeneration Framework(s) does your project cover? (please tick)

Coalfield East North Washington West South

Section 2: Sponsor Details

2.1 Name of Lead Organisation / Group:		
Houghton Racecourse Community Access Point (HRCAP)		
2.2 Address of Lead Organisation / Group:		
46 – 48 Queensway, Houghton-le-Spring, Tyne & Wear, DH5 8EN		
2.3 Contact Name for Project:	2.4 Position in Organisation:	
Anne Ramshaw	Project Manager	
2.5 Tel. Number:	2.6 Fax Number:	2.7 E-mail Address:
0191 553 4020	0191 553 4022	anneramshaw@hotmail.com
2.8 Day to Day Contact Name / Details: (if different to 2.3 above)		

2.9 Legal Status of Organisation:		2.10 Registered Charity Number:	
Company Ltd by Guarantee with Charitable status		1091167	
2.11 Does your organisation have a bank account into which funds can be paid?			
Yes			
2.12 Has the organisation received SIB support previously?			
Yes [X] No []			
If 'Yes' please provide details:			
Gap funding for 6 months for Project Manager			
2.13 Are any trustees / members of the organisation employed by or are Elected Members of the City Council?			
Yes [] No []			
If 'Yes' please provide details:			
Cllrs Juliana and Robert Heron act as Board of Directors for the project			

Section 3: Project Details

3.1 Project Title: (please re-state title as per front sheet)	
Administrator Support	
3.2 Project Start Date:	3.3 Project End Date:
December 2006	June 2008
3.4 Please Describe the project:	
<p>SIB funding is required to enable HRCAP to employ a part-time Administrator for the period December 06 – June 08. This post has been identified by the Training Development Workers and Board of Directors from HRCAP and Easington Lane Community Access Point (ELCAP) to have responsibility for the completion and delivery of all appropriate paperwork for our training programmes delivered in both organisations through our Adult & Community Learning Contract, Learn Direct and WEA provision, which are structured training programmes developed and implemented by the Training Development Workers and based/identified on local peoples needs. This is a new post and by creating this post the Training Development Workers will be freed up to concentrate on developing further provision, rather than have to spend precious time on completing vast amounts of paperwork required by training services.</p> <p>By freeing up Training Development Workers time to spend on training activity rather than administration, SIB will help to safeguard the funding secured to deliver training.</p> <p>Both HRCAP and ELCAP are currently developing and expanding training and education programmes that will support the Lets Go Business Plan and compliment government directives in areas of e-learning, e-technology, Literacy and Numeracy and informal and academic provision in Shiney Row, Hetton, Copt Hill and Houghton wards.</p> <p>Since implementing the Lets Go Business Plan in March 2006, 250 learners across the</p>	

Coalfields have benefited, which is scheduled to increase by 100% in the next two years.

The City of Sunderland College no longer provides Test the City within the Coalfield area, therefore, HRCAP and ELCAP have identified the need to have this provision available through their service provision in delivering educational opportunities for local people. This provision will be available and accessible for the whole area.

Funding for this post will ensure that all appropriate and relevant paperwork, i.e. invoices, individual learning plans, course registers, evaluations etc are completed and up to date and in order to enable the effective outcome of targets that are needed to be reached.

Having an Administrator to be responsible for this vast amount of paperwork will free up the Training Development workers to implement other areas of development and the Lets Go Business Plan objectives, which are: Basic Skills Development, E-Learning, Capacity Building and Training, Vocational Opportunities, Work with Women/Confidence Building, Developing the Local Workforce, Cross Generation Work, Wellness Project, Support and Training for Parents and Youth Provision.

Without funding for a Support Administrator to concentrate and have responsibility for this specific work, there is a danger that subsequent work may not be carried out due to time consumption and volume of paperwork, which could therefore have an adverse affect not only on the services HRCAP and ELCAP provide but also on local community needs.

3.5 What service does the organisation currently provide and how will this be complemented by the project?

Services currently provided are Training and Education, Volunteer, Leisure, Social and Charitable activities, Youth Group, Play and Childcare.

Over the past year both projects have reached and even excelled targets expected. The need to expand provision has been identified by local people, staff members and Board of Directors. The support given by the Administrator to the Training Development Workers will provide the opportunity for workers to continue to develop, expand, promote and implement services available to local people and extend our high quality of services for the community.

3.6 What additional activity will SIB funding allow to happen (please refer to Section 3 of the guidance notes)

(a)	A project will go ahead which otherwise would not happen at all	[]
(b)	A project will be provided to a higher quality / on a greater scale	[X]
(c)	The funding will accelerate the implementation of the project by 12+ months	[]
(d)	A gap in funding will be filled pending other funding being secured	[]
(e)	Other reason	[]

Please explain your answer:

The funding of this post will ensure that all paper.work/provision/invoices etc will be of the highest standard and will free the Training Development Workers to develop further services as outlined in the Lets Go Business Plan and aims and objectives of both organisations to effectively and successfully deliver provision for local people and the community.

We are currently in the process of tendering for Adult and Community Learning, WEA and Learn Direct contracts totalling approximately £60,000

3.7 How will you publicise that you have received support from SIB?

(please refer to Section 3 of the guidance notes)

The project will work with the Development and Regeneration Directorates Marketing Team to publicise the project and the support it receives from the Area Committee and SIB. This will include acknowledgement on press releases, newsletters, Annual Report and website.

3.8 Has there been any consultations concerning the need for this project?

Yes No

If 'Yes' please provide details:

Discussions with leading members of staff, members of the Lets Go Sub group and Board of Directors of both projects have expressed the need to designate this role to one person for responsibility, who will be overseen by Training Development workers and Project Manager

3.9 Is there any documentary evidence available to support the need for this project?

Yes No

If 'Yes' please provide details:

Lets Go Sub Group minutes and Board minutes.

3.10 Who will benefit from the services provided by the project?

Target areas are adult learners aged 16+ from across the whole of the Coalfields area.

3.11 Will there be any implications for Council Services arising from this project?

Yes No

If 'Yes' please provide details:

3.12 Does this project require the support or sponsorship of a Sunderland City Council Directorate?

Yes No

If 'Yes' please provide details:

3.13 Are any legal and other approvals required?

Yes No

If 'Yes' please provide details of type of approval, date secured, or date expected to be secured:

Section 4: Equal Opportunities

4.1 Does your organisation have an Equal Opportunities Policy?

Yes No

If 'Yes' please describe how the project will comply with the Policy:

Both HRCAP and ELCAP have an active policy that is reviewed on an annual basis. Both projects are committed to challenging discrimination and we encourage and provide access to opportunities to all members of the community. Both projects have had work carried out on the premises as part of the Disability Discrimination Act.

If 'No' please describe how your organisation addresses equal opportunities requirements:	
4.2 Does your project specifically address any of the following issues?	
Ethnic Issues	Yes [] No [X] (please tick)
If 'Yes' please provide details as to how the project is in line with the Race Relations Act 1976:	
Gender Issues	Yes [] No [X] (please tick)
If 'Yes' please provide details as to how the project is in line with the Sex Discrimination Act 1975:	
Disability Issues	Yes [] No [X] (please tick)
If 'Yes' please provide details as to how the project is in line with the Disability Discrimination Act 1995:	

Section 5: Relationship of Project to the Area Framework(s)

5.1 Identify which Area Regeneration Framework Action Plan Strategic Priorities your project will address through the use of SIB, and demonstrate how these will be achieved:
<p>Creating a prosperous city – HRCAP currently employ an ICT Employment Co-ordinator to support in area of CV's, letter writing skills, applications, interview skills, ICT training packages etc for those who are looking for employment. ELCAP are currently developing business start up units as part of the Lets Go Business Plan to develop community enterprise.</p> <p>Extending cultural opportunities – through training, youth, childcare and play provision cultural barriers are explored and discussed and opportunities are made available for local people to develop their knowledge and understanding of diversity of cultures. Both CAP's also have input into the Coalfield Forum which encourages local people to participate in decision making processes which can influence service delivery.</p> <p>Improving health and social care – both CAP's continue to work in partnership with Healthy Cities West, The Isis Project and Surestart to promote, support and offer opportunities in relation to health as part of the Wellness agenda within the Lets Go Business Plan.</p> <p>Improving the quality, choice and range of housing – drop in housing sessions are held at both projects where local people can consult with housing development officers and partnerships for awareness raising events have been conducted over the past months.</p> <p>Reducing crime and the fear of crime – both projects have successful youth provision within the area which encourages the engagement of young people and therefore addressing some of the issues of youth disorder and dissatisfaction. Staff members have attended drugs awareness training and cascade this information down to young people through issue based sessions. Both CAP's have supported many local people in the issue of domestic violence and work in partnership with Surestart to offer opportunities for local people that can encourage and support independence.</p> <p>Developing an attractive and accessible city – both projects have had work carried out to comply with DDA regulations. Training course provided are many and various including garden management and maintenance. Both projects encourage recycling initiatives and networking links have been set up with transport agencies through Driving Force project.</p> <p>Raising standards and improving access and participation to learning – both projects currently implement a structured training programme accessible for all and based on</p>

community need. We are currently in position of expanding our provision based on local peoples needs. Government directives in relation to e-learning, e-technology and literacy and numeracy are at the forefront of this provision as well as informal and academic education programmes.

5.2 Identify outputs / outcomes against which the delivery of the project can be evaluated. Demonstrate how these will contribute to the Area Regeneration Framework(s).

HRCAP:

Over the past year our approximate statistics have been:

- 1,300 people have participated in training and education opportunities
- HRCAP have successfully delivered a training contract through Adult & Community Learning (based on local peoples needs)
- 409 people have accessed advice on issues such as domestic violence, substance abuse/misuse/, unemployment and support.
- 112 young people have accessed our youth provision
- 161 children have accessed play and crèche provision.

We still continue to develop partnerships and networking with other agencies in the area to reduce duplication of provision.

ELCAP

- 1,850 people have participated in training and education opportunities.
- 546 people have accessed information, advice and guidance.
- 195 young people have accessed youth provision
- 225 children have accessed play and crèche provision.
- 5,546 people have accessed the Community Transport Scheme.

Administration procedures are an integral part of both projects as it enables the smooth running of services.

5.3 If the project relates to two or more Framework Areas, on what basis have you decided how to share the costs?

N/a

Section 6: Management Arrangements

6.1 Describe how the project will be managed:

Training Development workers and Project Manager will manage the project on behalf of both projects. HRCAP and ELCAP have all relevant policies and procedures in place and are both supported by Community & Cultural Services through Service Level Agreements.

6.2 Are there any significant risks or uncertainties that may affect either the timeliness of the project, or whether it achieves its objectives?

SIB funding will provide HRCAP and ELCAP training provision to be managed more effectively and efficiently while expanding current provision has been ascertained by emerging needs within the local community.

Section 7: Financial Information

7.1 How much SIB funding is requested?

£11,613

7.2 Indicate the type of funding requested: (please tick)

Capital [] Revenue [x] Both []

7.3 Has funding been requested / allocated from any other sources, including Council Directorates and if so how much?

Both projects have rigorous funding strategies carried out by Project Managers. Project Manager of HRCAP has ultimate responsibility of securing funds for staff positions, activities, projects etc. As part of funding strategy every funding avenue available is being sought and each criteria and position is judged and applied for according to criteria of funding etc and the emerging necessities and urgency to enable provision of services from both Community Access Points to develop to their fullest potential and highest quality possible.

7.4 What other funding alternatives have been considered and why were these not appropriate?

A wide range of funding streams are already being accessed by the organisation and future funding plans are already being developed. Seeking funds other than SIB to provide this element of the project would have eliminated another funding stream that may hopefully provide far more financial support than the amount being requested from SIB. Furthermore, few, if any, funding streams provide as quick and efficient turnaround as SIB does, and it is important for us that we are able to progress this project as soon as possible in order to maximise available funding resources and provide the necessary support.

7.5 What are the financial implications for the project should it not receive SIB funding?

As this need has been identified through recent compilation of required paperwork etc through our ACL contract and expanding our training/education provision this role is a key element in the delivery of our high quality training provision. If funding is not secured for this post it will have a detrimental affect/impact on the quality of service that HRCAP and ELCAP provide. It could have a major adverse affect on not only the Training Development Workers but on the community as a whole. This could send our training provision into decline rather than raise our high quality standards of provision.

7.6 When SIB expenditure is complete how do you intend to continue this project?

HRCAP and ELCAP have rigorous approaches to funding over the next year. Many areas for development and funding are being explored based on and identified by local peoples needs. The Project Manager is currently in the process of updating the Business plan to incorporate the new strategic planning objectives of the Board of Directors

7.7 Provide a profile of projected costs:

Funding Source	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	Total Cost
SIB:				
Coalfield	11,613			11,613
Other Sources (please state)				
1) ACL contract	25,000			25,000
2) Learn Direct	8,320			8,320
3) WEA	10,000			10,000
Total Cost:	54,933			54,933

7.8 Please provide details of any 'in-kind' funding (e.g Peppercorn rents), if included within the 'Other Sources' of funding shown above.

Substantial other costs for the running of the projects are taken up by other funding we already have. The costs detailed above only relate to the funding element for SIB purposes. Line management and supervision of worker will be given in kind by Training Development Workers and Project Manager.

7.9 Please provide a breakdown of the Total cost to show the main areas of expenditure:

SIB Element

Salary costs including pay rise	10,462
On costs	1,151
Total cost	11,613

Other Element

Below is a breakdown of projected external funding (2006/07 only) to secure the delivery of both accredited and non accredited qualifications, including crèche, additional learner support, resources and transport which will reduce the barriers faced by local people across the Coalfield wards:

Adult & Community Learning	£25,000
Learn Direct	£8,320
WEA	£10,000

7.10 Please provide details of how you will ensure that the procurement and purchasing of services and equipment will be managed in accordance with requirements as detailed in the guidance notes and guidelines. Include any estimates that you have and details of any contractors or suppliers to be used.

While procurement and purchasing of services and equipment for the wider project is managed appropriately, SIB is sought purely for this element of Administrator support costs.

Section 8: Additional Information

8.1 Please provide any additional information that may be of use in support of your project proposal (Please append additional sheets if required):

Section 9: Declaration

I declare that the information provided is correct and accurate and that, should this application be successful, the organisation will agree to the terms and conditions of SIB:

Name:

Anne Ramshaw

Position in Organisation:

Project Manager

Date:

3rd October 2006

PROJECT APPLICATION 2 – Coalfield Events Budget

Project Title:
Coalfield Events Budget
SIB Requested:
£9,480

Section 1: Application Requirements

1.1
<p>Please note that this application will be presented to the relevant Area Committee for its consideration when determining your SIB Grant Application. The Agenda and the Minutes of the Area Committee Meeting will be available for inspection by members of the public. Please therefore ensure that your organisation is agreeable to the content of the information that is set out in the form.</p> <p>The Application Form should be provided in either electronic (e-mail or floppy disc) or typed format.</p> <p>If you have a problem with returning this form in either electronic or typed format, please contact the appropriate Area Regeneration Officer. Contact / address details are provided on the covering letter and in the Guidance Notes and Criteria and Project Guidelines.</p> <p>Please note that a representative of your organisation must be available to attend the pre-agenda and main committee meeting(s) to which this application is presented, as they may be required to answer questions. Failure to attend the meeting(s) may result in your application being deferred or rejected.</p> <p>Dates and Venues of future meetings are provided as supporting information.</p>
1.2 Which Area Regeneration Framework(s) does your project cover?
Coalfield <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> East <input type="checkbox"/> North <input type="checkbox"/> Washington <input type="checkbox"/> West <input type="checkbox"/> South <input type="checkbox"/>

Section 2: Sponsor Details

2.1 Name of Lead Organisation / Group:		
Development and Regeneration Directorate		
2.2 Address of Lead Organisation / Group:		
PO Box 104, Civic Centre, Sunderland, SR2 7DN		
2.3 Contact Name for Project:	2.4 Position in Organisation:	
Bill Blackett	Area Regeneration Officer (Coalfield and East Sunderland)	
2.5 Tel. Number:	2.6 Fax Number:	2.7 E-mail Address:
0191 – 553 1162	0191- 553 1599	bill.blackett@sunderland.gov.uk
2.8 Day to Day Contact Name / Details: (if different to 2.3 above)		
N/a		

2.9 Legal Status of Organisation:		2.10 Registered Charity Number:	
Local Authority			
2.11 Does your organisation have a bank account into which funds can be paid?			
Yes			
2.12 Has the organisation received SIB support previously?			
Yes [x] No []			
If 'Yes' please provide details:			
The Directorate has received SIB support on several occasions as evidenced by details included in Annex 2 of the SIB report.			
2.13 Are any trustees / members of the organisation employed by or are Elected Members of the City Council?			
Yes [x] No []			
If 'Yes' please provide details:			
This is a City Council application for a City Council led project.			

Section 3: Project Details

3.1 Project Title: (please re-state title as per front sheet)	
COALFIELD EVENTS BUDGET	
3.2 Project Start Date:	3.3 Project End Date:
November 2006	October 2008
3.4 Please Describe the project:	
<p>The project proposes to enhance the Events Budget for the Coalfield Area Committee. This project provides support to local groups operating in the area.</p> <p>Whilst SIB and Community Chest applications can be made by local groups using existing procedures, occasions arise where a group cannot obtain support due to the timescales involved in applying for funding. For example, a group might require urgent support for an event which is due to take place in advance of the next Area Committee meeting. In such a circumstance the group would be unable to seek support from the Area Committee, (as funding support cannot be applied retrospectively), and so would risk missing out on the planned activity.</p> <p>The Events Budget enables groups to make an approach to the Chair or Vice-Chair of the Area Committee and, providing that the request is deemed to be of sufficient urgency to warrant support in advance of the existing application timescales, the group would be directed to the Committee's Area Regeneration Officer who arranges for completion of an application form. Previously, this would be signed and approved by either the Chair or Vice Chair of the Committee. However, following a decision of the September 2006 Area Chairs meeting, the form must now be signed by both the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee, or in the case of either of them being unavailable, the Chair or Vice Chair, plus one other Member of the Committee.</p> <p>Payment is subject to the receipt of invoices and written confirmation that the invoices relate to work undertaken in support of the event/project.</p> <p>The majority of Area Committee's currently maintain an Events Budget. These have been</p>	

used to support various urgent requirements as described above, support for information and promotional events, support for local groups who may require additional funding for their own events; to cover additional costs arising from work that needs to be undertaken urgently etc.

Events budgets have to date been established at a level of £10,000 and this application, if approved, will restore the Coalfield Events budget to that level.

3.5 What service does the organisation currently provide and how will this be complemented by the project?

The Development and Regeneration Directorate currently co-ordinates SIB and Community Chest applications on behalf of the Coalfield Area Committee. The Events Budget enhances the responsiveness of the Committee in supporting activities in the Area.

3.6 What additional activity will SIB funding allow to happen (please refer to Section 3 of the guidance notes)

(a)	A project will go ahead which otherwise would not happen at all	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b)	A project will be provided to a higher quality / on a greater scale	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c)	The funding will accelerate the implementation of the project by 12+ months	<input type="checkbox"/>
(d)	A gap in funding will be filled pending other funding being secured	<input type="checkbox"/>
(e)	Other reason	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please explain your answer:

If support for the Events Budget is discontinued, support will continue to be offered by the Area Committee using SIB and Community Chest. However, this will be dependent on the Committee timescales being appropriate to meet the required needs (as described under Section 3.4 above).

3.7 How will you publicise that you have received support from SIB?
(please refer to Section 3 of the guidance notes)

The Events Budget enhances the delivery of SIB. Any support offered to local groups will help to raise the profile of SIB through direct links to the Area Committee Marketing Project.

3.8 Has there been any consultations concerning the need for this project?

Yes No

If 'Yes' please provide details:

Enquiries are regularly received asking about the procedure for securing support from SIB/Community Chest. However, the urgent timescales involved have meant that the funds could not have been approved until after the event / activity.

Events budgets were also discussed at the September meeting of the Area Committee Chairs.

3.9 Is there any documentary evidence available to support the need for this project?

Yes No

If 'Yes' please provide details:

Previous Events Budget applications

3.10 Who will benefit from the services provided by the project?

All Local Groups in the Coalfield Area will potentially benefit from the project

3.11 Will there be any implications for Council Services arising from this project?	
Yes []	No [x]
If 'Yes' please provide details:	
3.12 Does this project require the support or sponsorship of a Sunderland City Council Directorate?	
Yes [x]	No []
If 'Yes' please provide details:	
Support for the project through Head of Service. Cover sheet signed. (Hard copy available)	
3.13 Are any legal and other approvals required?	
Yes []	No [x]
If 'Yes' please provide details of type of approval, date secured, or date expected to be secured:	

Section 4: Equal Opportunities

4.1 Does your organisation have an Equal Opportunities Policy?	
Yes [x]	No []
If 'Yes' please describe how the project will comply with the Policy:	
SIB is already subject to the City Council's Equal Opportunities Policy. The Events Budget will be managed in accordance with existing Equal Opportunities requirements.	
If 'No' please describe how your organisation addresses equal opportunities issues:	
4.2 Does your project specifically address any of the following issues?	
Ethnic Issues	Yes [] No [x] (please tick)
If 'Yes' please provide details as to how the project is in line with the Race Relations Act 1976:	
Gender Issues	Yes [] No [x] (please tick)
If 'Yes' please provide details as to how the project is in line with the Sex Discrimination Act 1975:	
Disability Issues	Yes [] No [x] (please tick)
If 'Yes' please provide details as to how the project is in line with the Disability Discrimination Act 1995:	

Section 5: Relationship of Project to the Area Framework(s)

5.1 Identify which Area Regeneration Framework Action Plan Strategic Priorities this project will address through the use of SIB, and demonstrate how these will be achieved:

The Project has the potential to contribute to activities that will support all of the Area Regeneration Framework Action Plan priorities.

5.2 Identify outputs / outcomes against which the delivery of the project can be evaluated. Demonstrate how these will contribute to the Area Regeneration Framework(s).

Whilst it is not possible to attach output targets to this project (as it basically enhances the flexibility of the existing SIB Budget), usage of the Budget will be reported to the Area Committee via the Live Project Update report.

5.3 If the project relates to two or more Framework Areas, on what basis have you decided how to share the costs?

N/a

Section 6: Management Arrangements

6.1 Describe how the project will be managed:

The project will be managed by the Area Regeneration Officer, in accordance with established financial procedures.

6.2 Are there any significant risks or uncertainties that may affect either the timeliness of the project, or whether it achieves its objectives?

No

Section 7: Financial Information

7.1 How much SIB funding is requested?

£9,480

7.2 Indicate the type of funding requested: (please tick)

Capital [] Revenue [] Both [x]

7.3 Has funding been requested / allocated from any other sources, including Council Directorates and if so how much?

None

7.4 What other funding alternates have been considered and why were these not appropriate?

There are no funding alternatives – the Events Budget should be considered as an integral enhancement to the existing SIB budget.

7.5 What are the financial implications for the project should it not receive SIB funding?

Without an Events Budget, SIB will continue to be administered in accordance with existing timescales.

7.6 When SIB expenditure is complete how do you intend to continue this project?

It is intended that the budget will continue to operate as an integral part of the Coalfield Area

Committee SIB budget.

7.7 Provide a profile of projected costs:

Funding Source	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	Total Cost
SIB:				
Coalfield	£9,480			£9,480
Other Sources (please state)				
1)				
Total Cost:	£9,480			£9,480

7.8 Please provide details of any 'in-kind' funding (e.g Peppercorn rents), if included within the 'Other Sources' of funding shown above.

N/a

7.9 Please provide a breakdown of the Total cost to show the main areas of expenditure:

The whole of the budget will be used to support those kinds of activities as already described under section 3.4.

7.10 Please provide details of how you will ensure that the procurement and purchasing of services and equipment will be managed in accordance with requirements as detailed in the guidance notes and guidelines. Include any estimates that you have and details of any contractors or suppliers to be used.

Area Regeneration Officer will ensure procurement and purchasing requirements are met as requests are made.
Additional statement added to the Events budget monitoring form. See attached.

Section 8: Additional Information

8.1 Please provide any additional information that may be of use in support of your project proposal (Please append additional sheets if required):

See attached Protocols and details of previous approvals

Section 9: Declaration

I declare that the information provided is correct and accurate and that, should this application be successful, the organisation will agree to the terms and conditions of SIB:

Name:
Bill Blackett

Position in Organisation:
Area Regeneration Officer

Date:
6/10/06

Coalfield Events Budget – Projects approved / Pending

	Project	Amount	Reason	Approval Date / Pending
1	St Michaels RC Housebound Club	£500	Provide Xmas Party for 50 Housebound Older People aged 80 to 98. Group were unable to apply to Area Committee due to timescales (next meeting being January 05), so Events budget was used.	November 2004
2	Houghton le Spring and District Piping Society	-	£1,700 was approved to support the festival of Houghton Feast. This was intended to enable more Pipe bands to take part by helping with transport costs. However despite repeated requests to the Lead Agent, no claim for funds has been made. The application approval should therefore now be considered as void.	September 2005
3	Foxcover Road Anti Fly Tipping Measures	£1,250	Local Councillors had identified need for anti-fly tipping measures. However, Committee cycles would have delayed the work. £2,500 was required for the installation of two posts (by D&R Security Section), to enable the installation of flash cameras to counter fly tipping and anti social behaviour. The road in question runs between Coalfield and South Areas so costs were split 50:50.	March 2006
4	Shiney Advice and Resource project security shutter	£390	A shutter on the building was broken and this jeopardised the security of the building. As Sharp are experiencing a cash flow problem, Events budget was used to effect repair rather than risk a break in and the much higher cost that would be entailed.	April 2006
5	Houghton Rugby Union Football Club	£1,000	Support requested to support Houghton RUFC's junior tournament for players U13 to U17. This was held on April 29 th and 30 th . SIB was used to contribute to provision of St John's ambulance and toilet facilities. The event fell between Committee cycles so use of Events Budget was required. A letter of thanks was provided together with a press article which recognised the support of SIB and the Area Committee.	April 2006
6	Unity	£2,000	Contribution towards Multi Cultural Family Event (MELA). £2,000 support provided by 5 of the 6 Regeneration Areas. <i>(Note – City wide events are no longer eligible for Events Budget)</i>	June 2006
7	KECO	£2,050	Cost of operation of summer canoe and kayak activities for Coalfield residents.	July 2006
8	Shiney Row Childcare	£2,290	Operation costs for summer playscheme	July 2006
Amount requested to restore budget is £9,480				

COALFIELD EVENTS BUDGET – APPLICATION FORM

1 Name and address of Lead Organisation / Group:	
2 Contact Name for Project/Position in Organisation:	3 Telephone Number:
4 Project Title:	
5 Project Start Date:	6 Project End Date:
7 Please describe the project:	
8 How much SIB funding is requested?	
9 Please provide a breakdown of the Total cost to show the main areas of expenditure:	
10: Please explain why the project requires urgent funding from the Events Budget, and why other funding sources (such as SIB / Community Chest from the next available Area Committee) are not appropriate.	
11. Where relevant, please provide details of how the project will meet purchasing and procurement requirements.	
12. I declare that the information provided is correct and accurate:	
Name:	
Position in Organisation:	
Date:	
12. Approved by Chair / Vice Chair of Area Committee: <i>(please sign)</i>	Date:

Once this form has been completed and signed by the Chair / Vice- Chair of the Area Committee, it should be returned to :

Bill Blackett, Area Regeneration Officer (Coalfield and East Sunderland) at: City of Sunderland, Development and Regeneration, PO Box 104, Civic Centre, Burdon Road, Sunderland, SR2 7DN.

Telephone: 0191 – 553 1162 e.mail: bill.blackett@sunderland.gov.uk



Name
Company
Address line 1
Address line 2
Address Line 3
Address Line 4
Postcode

Date:
Our ref:
Your ref:

Dear

REQUEST FOR EMERGENCY FUNDING: XYZ PROJECT

I am pleased to inform you that the Chair and Deputy Chair of the xxxx Committee have agreed to your request and approved funding of **£xx.xx** from the **xxxx Area Committee's SIB Events Budget**.

Please note the funding is subject to the normal terms and conditions, which apply to the Strategic Initiatives Budget and can only be used for the purposes specified in the application form.

This offer of SIB support remains available for four weeks from the date of this letter and you must sign and return the enclosed acceptance, within that timescale, to signify agreement with its terms and conditions.

Should you have any queries about anything contained in this letter, or are unsure about SIB terms and conditions, please do not hesitate to contact me on the number below, or my colleague Louise Bell on 0191 553 1195, e-mail: louise.bell@sunderland.gov.uk .

Yours sincerely

Area Regeneration Officer
Direct Line 0191
E-mail @sunderland.gov.uk



in partnership with Sunderland City Council



SIB Events Budget

Declaration of Acceptance

We understand the terms and conditions relating to payment of the Strategic Initiatives Budget Events Fund and agree to abide by them. We accept the details of the Schedule and understand the amount of grant to be paid and how much our organisation has to contribute.

Signed

Position in Organisation

Date

Events: Procedures and Protocols

1. Events Budget is an SIB project and the relevant ARO is the lead agent managing and monitoring the budget.
2. Applications must satisfy normal SIB procedures and be in need of urgent funding, which cannot wait for the next meeting of the Area Committee.
3. Applicants must approach and discuss any possible application with the appropriate ARO.
4. An Events application must be completed.
5. The Chair and Deputy Chair must agree and sign off any applications. In the absence of one of the aforementioned, another councillor from the Area Committee must also agree and sign off the application.
6. Citywide applications are ineligible.
7. Successful applicants will receive a letter confirming the award of grant and must sign and return the acceptance form within four weeks of confirmation.

SIB Coalfield Resources Statement as at 1st November 2006Annex 2

	Approval	Allocations £000's	Approvals £000's	Unallocated £000's
Total SIB Allocation Pre 2003/2004		1,400.000	1,377.112	22.888
<u>2003/2004 Approvals</u>				
Budget allocation		200.000		
Shiney Row Shopping Improvements	08.01.03		50.000	
LIAZE	08.01.03		80.371	
The Kepier Trust	04.06.03		5.500	
Monument Consortia	04.06.03		20.000	
Stanley Terrace	04.06.03		4.500	
Gilpin Woods	04.06.03		6.000	
Whitehill Road	04.06.03		6.000	
Fence Houses YMCA	03.09.03		13.740	
Coalfield Sport & Leisure Forum	03.09.03		4.250	
Admin Worker Coalfield Forum	03.09.03		4.650	
Sure Start Linkages	03.09.03		6.986	
East Rainton Community Access Zone	29.10.03		7.500	
ShARP	29.10.03		5.349	
Out of Hours Childcare - Burnside School	02.03.04		10.000	
Eco Rangers	02.03.04		1.000	
Events Budget	02.03.04		10.000	
Returned Funding in 2003/2004				
Herrington Burn YMCA	(14.03.02)	5.488		
Community Resource Worker	(09.11.00)	4.099		
Durham County Show	(14.03.02)	2.069		
Easington Lane Access Point	(06.03.03)	0.797		
Fence Houses YMCA	(03.09.03)	13.740		
Active Communities Fund	(13.09.01)	2.196		
Youth Review / Strategy	(15.06.00)	0.213		
		228.602	235.846	-7.244
Total resources available				15.644

SIB ARF Allocation : Coalfield

<u>2004/2005 Approvals</u>	Approval	Allocations £000's	Approvals £000's	Unallocated £000's
Budget allocation		200.000		
Gilpin Woods	04.06.03		1.000	
Coalfield Sport & Leisure Forum	03.09.03		3.250	
Admin Worker - Coalfield Forum	03.09.03		7.787	
Sure Start Linkages	03.09.03		22.821	
New Herrington Homezone	07.01.04		60.000	
LIAZE	02.03.04		18.500	
Sunderland Support For Parents with Disabilities	05.05.04		2.000	
Development of Hydrotherapy Pool at Fulwell Day Centre	05.05.04		2.500	
Youth Drop In at the Hetton Centre	05.05.04		9.038	
Hetton Lyons Country Park Weekend Ranger Area Renewal & Regeneration of Eppleton & Castletown	05.05.04		34.704	
Bridge Positive Mental Health Project	05.05.04		15.000	
Bridge Positive Mental Health Project	08.09.04		16.392	
Hetton-le-Hill Lighting Provision	08.09.04		6.250	
Hetton Town Health & Boxing Club	08.09.04		5.000	
Feast of Sound & Light Project II	08.09.04		5.000	
City - Wide 5-a-side Leagues Project	08.09.04		3.000	
Connecting the Coalfield Environmental ILM Project	08.09.04		1.793	
Houghton Older People's Enterprise (HOPE)	03.11.04		4.394	
Gilpin Woods Review	12.01.05		2.000	
Area Committee Marketing Project	08.03.05		4.000	
Eco Rangers	08.03.05		1.500	
The ISIS Project - Complementary Health & Education	08.03.05		1.765	
Returned Funding in 2004/2005				
Dubmire School Feasibility Study	(12.12.02)	4.090		
Moorsley Community Association	(12.12.02)	4.000		
East Rainton Community Access Zone	(29.10.03)	3.960		
		212.050	227.694	-15.644
Total resources available				0.000

SIB ARF Allocation : Coalfield

<u>2005/2006 Approvals</u>	<u>Approval</u>	<u>Allocations £000's</u>	<u>Approvals £000's</u>	<u>Unallocated £000's</u>
Budget allocation		237.142		
Sure Start Linkages	03.09.03		24.608	
Connecting the Coalfield Environmental ILM Project	08.09.04		7.167	
All Our Yesterdays	12.01.05		3.435	
The ISIS Project - Complementary Health & Education	08.03.05		8.235	
ShARP - Community Development Project	08.03.05		15.000	
Hetton Town Trust Community Crèche	08.03.05		19.700	
WearAble - Gap Funding	08.03.05		5.100	
Castletown & Eppleton Neighbourhood Renewal Programme Community Consultation and Communication	08.06.05		7.500	
Coalfields Community Shopper	08.06.05		10.000	
Springboard/Hetton Community Police: Youth Diversion Project	08.06.05		10.000	
Burnside Primary Out of Hours Child Care & Community Access	08.06.05		6.000	
Coalfield Forum Gap Funding	08.06.05		1.773	
Volunteer Outreach Project	07.09.05		3.333	
Physical Disabilities Alliance Project	07.09.05		2.000	
Horticultural Training at Doxford Park	07.09.05		1.500	
Racecourse Community Access Point - Gap Funding	07.09.05		13.383	
Houghton Feast Opening Ceremony 2005	07.09.05		5.000	
Play Area Project - Surestart	07.09.05		20.000	
Fencehouses Community Development Project	07.09.05		8.387	
People's Pedal Power	07.09.05		2.150	
Monument Centre - Gap Funding	07.09.05		9.343	
Compass Community Transport	07.09.05		2.000	
Coalfield Forum	02.11.05		13.182	
Shiney Row Childcare Ltd - Gap Funding & Training Development Project	02.11.05		15.293	
Sunderland Training Education Farm	02.11.05		1.500	
Construction Challenge Project	02.11.05		6.500	
Phoenix Project - Community Outreach Programme	02.11.05		6.000	
Sunderland Juvenile Service Project	11.01.06		9.000	
Easington Lane CA - Gap Funding	11.01.06		2.022	
Hetton & Houghton Business Club	11.01.06		7.958	

SIB ARF Allocation : Coalfield

Returned Funding in 2005/2006	Approval	Allocations £000's	Approvals £000's	Unallocated £000's
Hetton-le-Hill lighting Provision	(08.09.04)	6.250		
Improvements to Whitehill Road	(04.06.03)	1.284		
Sunderland Support for Parents with Disabilities	(05.05.04)	0.830		
Physical Disabilities Alliance project	(07.09.05)	0.666		
All Our Yesterdays	(12.01.05)	0.897		
		247.069	247.069	0.000
Total resources available				0

<u>2006/2007 Approvals</u>	Approval	Allocations £000's	Approvals £000's	Unallocated £000's
Budget allocated		237.142		
Connecting the Coalfield Environmental ILM Project	08.09.04		9.851	
	07.09.05			
Fencehouses Community Development Project			13.750	
Coalfield Forum	02.11.05		16.067	
Construction Challenge Project	02.11.05		5.000	
Eco Rangers	07.03.06		1.500	
Houghton Youth Project	07.03.06		10.000	
Shiney Advice & Resources Project	07.06.06		23.644	
Sit 'n b' Fit - Improving the Health & Independent living of Sunderland's Elderly People	07.06.06		3.120	
Rhyme Around the Nursery	07.06.06		11.520	
Houghton Hillside Cemetery - Lych Gate Restoration	07.06.06		7.500	
School Battle of Bands 2006	07.06.06		3.000	
Hetton School Community, Educational & Recreational Facility Project	06.09.06		20.000	
The Kepier Trust	06.09.06		5.102	
Returned Funding in 2006/2007				
Area Renewal & Regeneration of Eppleton & Castletown	05.05.04	0.540		
		237.682	130.054	107.628
				107.628

<u>Approvals subject to SIB Budget allocation for future years</u>		£000's
<u>2007/2008 Approvals</u>		
Coalfield Forum	02.11.05	4.895
		4.895

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES BUDGET (SIB)
CRITERIA AND PROJECT GUIDELINES

1 ABOUT THE SIB FUND

- 1.1 SIB was established in 1996/7 to promote action on key priorities identified in the relevant Area Regeneration Frameworks, and to attract other funding into the area. Each Regeneration Framework area is currently allocated a minimum of £200,000 per year. Applications for funding are approved by the relevant Area Committee or Cabinet.
- 1.2 SIB is approved on an annual basis as part of the full Council budget process in February or March each year. It is possible that due to financial constraints in a particular year, the allocation may be reduced or withdrawn. Approvals from future years' SIB allocations are therefore subject to this budget process and cannot be guaranteed.
- 1.3 Applications therefore will only be approved for the current year unless exceptional circumstances can be established, such as the need to secure other funding over a period of time or enable the recruitment or retention of staff to proceed. Projects that apply for funding from future years' allocations do so at their own risk.

2 APPLYING FOR SIB

- 2.1 The Council's Development and Regeneration Directorate administers SIB through its Regeneration and Housing Service. Any project wishing to enquire about a possible application, or who have any queries regarding the process, should in the first instance, contact the relevant Area Regeneration Officer below :

Bill Blackett Sunderland East, and the Coalfields
Telephone 553 1162 Fax 553 1599
e-mail bill.blackett@sunderland.gov.uk

Karen Graham Sunderland North, and Washington
Telephone 553 1214 Fax 553 1599
e-mail karen.graham@sunderland.gov.uk

Richard Parry Sunderland South and Sunderland West
Telephone 553 1217 Fax 553 1599
e-mail richard.parry@sunderland.gov.uk

- 2.2 Once the suitability of the project has been established, an application form will be sent out electronically or by post accompanied by these guidelines, guidance notes for filling in the application form, and a copy

of the relevant Framework(s) and Action Plans. As a copy of the completed application form will be attached to a covering report as part of the Area Committee's agenda, we would appreciate it if the form could be returned electronically to the relevant Area Regeneration Officer at the appropriate e-mail address provided above. If this is not possible, a typed copy can be sent to the address shown on the covering letter. The covering letter will also provide the date of the next pre-agenda and the full Area Committee meetings, and the deadline for returning the completed application form.

- 2.3 Where an SIB application refers to inputs or support from other Council Directorates, either financial or otherwise, the Lead Agent should seek the agreement of the relevant Directorate. Agreement should be at the appropriate level within the Directorate and should be in place prior to the application being placed on the pre agenda. The appropriate Directorate contact name will be supplied and support or authorisation will be included in the application.
- 2.4 Where possible, a representative of the project must attend the pre agenda and the full Area Committee meetings in order to respond to any queries the Elected Members may have. Please note however, that attendees will not be expected to speak on behalf of the application but to respond to any questions there may be regarding the application
- 2.5 An application to the Area Committee should not be interpreted as a guarantee of its approval. The Committee reserves the right to defer or reject any submission on the basis of available SIB funding in the current financial year and the project's suitability in the light of Area Framework priorities and SIB criteria. However, it will make a decision at the meeting whether to grant the full amount being requested, make a contribution of a lesser amount, defer the request or refuse the application.

3. CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1 SIB is intended to address the Area Regeneration Framework priorities, which are identified in the Action plan . Although an application does not need to address these priorities in order to receive approval, preference will be given to those proposals that clearly demonstrate a link with the Action Plan.
- 3.2 Applications should also 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.
- 3.3 SIB is mainly intended for one off projects, capital expenditure and "pump priming" of new initiatives. Revenue support can be included in any application, but this will only be at the commencement of a new project or as "gap funding" to enable a project to continue while other funding is being sought. Ongoing or repeat revenue or maintenance

costs, such as electricity or rent, will not normally be considered for SIB funding.

- 3.4 A major aim of SIB is to attract other funding into the area. While the lack of other funding would not disqualify any application, priority is given to those projects that are seeking or have secured additional funding from other sources such as Single Regeneration Budget, Lottery, European funding, sponsorship or grants from charitable institutions.
- 3.5 Applicants are normally expected to make a contribution towards overall project costs, although this is not essential for SIB support to be considered.
- 3.6 Applications will normally only be approved for the current year unless exceptional circumstances can be established, such as the need to secure other funding or enabling the recruitment or retention of staff to proceed. In such cases, future years' allocations would therefore become 'active' once the full Council's budget for that year had been formally approved.
- 3.7 Any project applying for SIB funding must have a management committee, some form of written constitution and a dual signatory bank/building society account.

4 NON-ELIGIBILITY

- 4.1 Individuals or groups that are not formally constituted are ineligible for SIB funding.
- 4.2 SIB should not be used to finance projects that would normally be funded through other sources or to compensate for budget reductions in mainstream provision.
- 4.3 SIB cannot provide ongoing revenue or maintenance support to projects (see 3.3 above) or for payments for redundancy.
- 4.4 SIB cannot be used for activities of a political or exclusively religious nature.
- 4.5 SIB cannot be used to fund retrospectively i.e. for expenditure already incurred before the application has been approved.

5 APPROVAL AND PAYMENT

- 5.1 If the application is approved in full or in part, an offer letter confirming the allocation will be sent out to the nominated contact person within a week. Funding will only become available once the terms and conditions accompanying the offer letter have been signed and returned. ***These terms and conditions that accompany the offer letter should be***

read carefully, as this constitutes a contract between Sunderland City Council and the project.

- 5.2 The grant will not be released as a “lump sum”. Funding will be released to cover appropriate expenses as they occur and not in advance or anticipation of need. Relevant documentation (e.g. invoice, receipt) must be produced before payment is made.
- 5.3 There is not the facility to overspend on specific allocations. It is the project’s responsibility to have estimated the costs correctly, and the Council does not accept any liability should these estimates prove inaccurate or insufficient. Should the available funding prove inadequate to meet the project’s aims, it will be the project’s responsibility to seek additional funding. If this is not possible, the Lead Agent should seek advice from the relevant Area Regeneration Officer regarding the current status of their SIB allocation. Any project that exceeds the original allocation will be required to find the overspend from their own resources.

6 CONDITIONS

- 6.1 Projects must be managed in accordance with all appropriate statutory requirements and employment legislation and must not be conducted in any way as to bring Sunderland City Council into disrepute

6.2 Purchasing / Procurement requirements

The Council has a duty to ensure that, where it awards public monies to external organisations, value for money and probity is demonstrated as monies are expended.

Where any such monies are used to procure goods, materials, services or works the following procurement requirements must be applied.

Procurement up to £10,000

Records must be kept to demonstrate that value for money has been achieved, by keeping suitable records. For example, if all or part of a grant was to be used to purchase computer equipment it would be appropriate to contact at least four suppliers of the equipment concerned and ask for a price from each supplier. A note should be retained of the price and specification quoted in each case. If the supplier used is not the supplier quoting the lowest purchase price, a record should be kept with the quotes to explain why the chosen supplier was used. This would normally be on the grounds of quality. This process would also apply to suppliers of services. This process would also apply to suppliers of services, e.g. consultancy services for feasibility studies and for purchases classified as capital works.

Procurement Between £10,000 and £50,000

For procurement of this value, at least four written quotations must be obtained and kept for inspection from suitable contractors or suppliers. If less than four quotations are obtained (e.g. because the work is specialised) or considered the reason for this should also be recorded. Finally, if the supplier used is not the supplier quoting the lowest purchase price, a record should be kept with the quotes to explain why the chosen supplier was used.

Procurement Over £50,000

A formal tender process must be used for all procurement exceeding £50,000.

This means that at least six suitable contractors or suppliers should be invited to tender for the contract on the basis of a clear detailed specification. A deadline should be set for receipt of the tenders from those invited, and tenders received after the deadline should not be considered. Tenders received by the deadline should be opened together in the presence of at least two responsible people. The value of each tender should be recorded and the record signed by both persons present. If the supplier used did not tender the lowest price, a record should be kept to explain why the chosen supplier was used.

Potential conflicts of Interest

Any potential conflicts of interest (e.g. the supplier is a friend or relative of the person procuring the service, goods or works) should be declared and those affected should not participate in the procurement process or decision.

Retention of Records

Records of all of the above processes should be retained for a period of three years and must be available for inspection by representatives of the Council if required.

Failure to comply with any of the above conditions could result in clawback of monies and further claims or awards not being approved.

Please note: Projects will be required to submit all relevant documentation with regard to the appointment of a contractor or supplier with the first Quarterly Monitoring Return (or the most appropriate).

- 6.3 Projects are required to provide accurate and verifiable information for monitoring, evaluation and reporting purposes, and must fill in and return the quarterly monitoring return form that is sent requesting information on

projects' progress. Additionally, projects are subject to audit and monitoring throughout their duration by officers of the Development and Regeneration Directorate. Failure to return monitoring forms or comply with any other financial requests made may result in the remainder of the allocation being withheld or future applications being refused.

- 6.4 Once a project has used its full SIB allocation, projects will be required to submit a written report and attend a future Area Committee meeting to discuss the project's impact. Lead Agents will be informed of when this report and presentation will be required by the relevant Area Regeneration Officer.
- 6.5 It is the project's responsibility to keep the relevant Area Regeneration Officer informed of any changes that may affect its SIB allocation. In this respect it should be noted that:
- The normal practice will be to make SIB funding available for the period indicated in the funding profile in Section 7 of the application form. If funding is not claimed in accordance with the profile of projected costs in Section 7 of the application form or once the projected completion date has been reached, any unused allocation may be reclaimed, unless the project has indicated a reason for the delay and requested an extension to their funding period.
 - No project will be allowed to access SIB funding beyond 2 years from the date of the original offer letter, unless it has received approval for funding over several years. Beyond this period, any unused allocation will be returned to SIB and any project still requiring the funding would need to submit a new application.
 - SIB can only be used for the purposes outlined in section 3.4 and section 7 of the application form. If a project for any reason wishes to use their allocation for purposes other than the ones originally proposed, they would need either to return the unused allocation and submit a new proposal to the Area Committee or make a formal request to the Area Committee to vire the allocation.
- 6.6 The project should ensure that, wherever appropriate, publicity generated by the project acknowledges SIB support. It is a condition of SIB that any press releases be made via the SIB Marketing and Communications team (Tel 0191 553 1933). Please note that in cases where SIB has provided support for the feasibility stage of a capital build project, SIB support will need to be acknowledged on site billboards at the construction stage. The SIB logo can be obtained from the SIB Marketing and Communications team.

Item No.12

7th November 2006

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES BUDGET UPDATE

Report of the Director of Development and Regeneration

1.0 Purpose Of The Report

1.1 This report provides Members with an update on live projects for which the Area Committee has previously approved funding through its Strategic Initiatives Budget.

2.0 Background

2.1 Members will recall that each Regeneration Framework area has been allocated a minimum of £200,000 per annum over the last eleven years from the Strategic Initiatives Budget to promote action on key priorities identified in the relevant Area Regeneration Framework document. Over this period, therefore the Framework area has been allocated £2,274,284 in this way. An update on all projects that are still operating is attached as Appendix 1.

3.0 Recommendations

3.1 That this report be noted.

Background Papers

Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB) : Regeneration Issues Reports to previous Area Committees
Regeneration Framework File, Coalfield

**Strategic Initiatives Budget: Coalfield Live Report -
1st November 2006**

APPENDIX 1

2005/6 PROJECT ALLOCATIONS					
Project	Approval	Alloc. £k	date	£k	Lead Agent
Neighbourhood Renewal	09.06.05	7.5	2.250	5.250	Regeneration
<p>Joint SIB approval from Coalfield and North areas. Funding is to be used to provide a more extensive community consultation and communication programme for the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme in Eppleton & Castletown, and will ensure community engagement is developed and retained on the programmes. Any activity and progress will be communicated to residents via one central point, so they are kept up-to-date and have a face-to-face point of contact to receive information and ask questions on the ongoing works. Funds from other sources have been utilised to date. The project has until June 2007 to spend.</p>					
Project	Approval	Alloc. £k	Exp to date	Balance £k	Lead Agent
Springboard / Hetton Community Police: Youth Diversion Project	09.06.05	10	6.789	3.211	Springboard
<p>SIB funding is contributing towards the cost of running this project, which provides young people living in the Coalfield area with a wide range of outdoor based activities during school holidays. These activities include residential, water sports, mountain biking, team building, orienteering, fell walking and rock climbing, etc. Since the start of the project a number of activities have taken place. These include two residential at Allendhead Lodge, Northumberland in the October and February school holidays, where nineteen young people attended, and various local young people have taken part in activities during the summer holidays, which have included horse riding, bowling, arts & crafts making and mountain biking. The project and expenditure are ongoing.</p>					
Project	Approval	Alloc. £k	Exp to date	Balance £k	Lead Agent
Volunteer Outreach Project	07.09.05	3.333	0	3.333	Volunteer Centre Sunderland
<p>Funding across all six areas to enable the centre to provide an Outreach Service across the six Area Frameworks within the City. SIB funding contributes towards the cost of an Outreach and Development Worker, an Admin Officer, equipment, stationary and staff travel etc. The project has experienced delays in securing further funding to recruit other members of staff to fulfil the aims and objectives of the project. The lead agent anticipates that this problem should be resolved within the next six to eight months. The project has until September 2007 to spend.</p>					

**Strategic Initiatives Budget: Coalfield Live Report -
1st November 2006**

Project	Approval	Alloc. £k	Exp to date	Balance £k	Lead Agent
Coalfield Forum - Sustaining the Standards	02.11.05	13.182	0.361	12.821	Coalfield Forum
Year 2 of 3 year funding. SIB has helped to secure substantial match funding from Urban 2, Lottery etc. This has enabled the recruitment of a Development Co-ordinator and E - Communications Officer. This has allowed the Forum to build on its existing work, develop valuable links with other community organisations within the area and provide support and assistance to both voluntary and community groups, within the Coalfield area.					
Project	Approval	Alloc. £k	Exp to date	Balance £k	Lead Agent
The Phoenix Project - Community Outreach Programme	02.11.05	6	0	6	The Phoenix Project
SIB funding was provided from all six Area Committees to support the Phoenix Project. The project, led by the Fire Service, works in partnership with the Youth Offending Service, by delivering intensive work experience and courses to offenders. SIB funding contributes towards the refurbishment and upgrade of the Community Safety Centre at Sunderland Fire Station, by providing a lecture room in which a further 200 - 300 young people can access the courses on offer.					
	Approval	Alloc. £k	Exp to date	Balance £k	Lead Agent
Sunderland Juvenile Service	11.01.06	9	7.8	1.2	Sunderland Juvenile Service Project
The project through the help of SIB funding aims to encourage young people at risk of offending or re-offending to take part in constructive training, learning and leisure pursuits in the hope of diverting them from anti-social or criminal behaviour. SIB Funding across all six areas is enabling the project to attract further match funding, which in turn will allow the expansion of the existing service and contribute towards their ultimate aim of reducing youth offending and preventing re-offending, by offering information, guidance and support to young people, their families and carers. This quarter the project have received 54 referrals from across the City. The project and expenditure are ongoing.					

**Strategic Initiatives Budget: Coalfield Live Report -
1st November 2006**

2006/7 PROJECT ALLOCATIONS					
Project	Approval	Alloc. £k	Exp to date	Balance £k	Lead Agent
Fencehouses Community Development Project	07.09.05	13.750	2.399	11.351	Barnardo's
<p>Year 2 of SIB funding which is being used to support community development, within the local community. Phase one has included the refurbishment of an existing community facility in Fencehouses into a suitable environment. SIB funding has been used as a contribution towards the purchase of furniture, equipment and minor works to the premises etc. The refurbishment, decoration and purchasing of equipment and furniture are now complete and the community base is open Tuesday to Friday each week. The centre is also being used by the Police, Housing Services and Connexions to hold surgeries and various meetings. An open day was held in July for local people to look around the centre and to meet the workers. The centre are also working in conjunction with Dubmire Primary School and the Teaching Primary Care Trust to produce a community newsletter, 'Community Catch Up', where local groups can promote their activities and gain information. The remaining SIB is being used to contribute towards staffing costs to kick start phase two of the project.</p>					
Project	Approval	Alloc. £k	Exp to date	Balance £k	Lead Agent
Construction Challenge Project	02.11.05	5	0	5	Sunderland Housing Group
<p>Year 2 of 2 year funding to provide construction skills training opportunities on new housing development sites, for year 10 & 11 pupils across the City opting for an alternative curriculum route into construction. This allocation is to build upon the successful work of the original pilot project and extend it City -Wide. September has seen the project enter it's 4th academic year and has secured further funding from the Coalfield's Regeneration Trust, which has allowed Sunderland Housing Group to open a sister site within the City. The project and expenditure are ongoing.</p>					
Project	Approval	Alloc. £k	Exp to date	Balance £k	Lead Agent
Coalfield Forum - Sustaining the Standards	02.11.05	16.067	0	16.067	Coalfield Forum
<p>Year 3 of 3 year funding as described above.</p>					

**Strategic Initiatives Budget: Coalfield Live Report -
1st November 2006**

<i>Project</i>	<i>Approval</i>	<i>Alloc. £k</i>	<i>Exp to date</i>	<i>Balance £k</i>	<i>Lead Agent</i>
Houghton Youth Project - Herrington Burn Y.M.C.A	07.03.06	10	2.5	7.5	Herrington Burn Y.M.C.A
<p>This new initiative supported by SIB, Herrington Burn YMCA, Connexions, and the Youth Development Group has established a youth based shop front in Houghton Town Centre. The shop acts as a central point for local young people to meet in a relaxed cafe type space where they can seek advice, support and access training opportunities. The youth worker manages the day to day running of the building, with the support of members from the Coalfield 'Youth R Us!' group and other young people from the local area who make decisions on what activities are to take place etc. This provides an opportunity for the young people to improve their existing skills at the same time as them making a positive contribution and providing them with a sense of ownership. A Steering Group has also been set up which involves a number of partnerships including the Youth Development Group, Connexions, members of the local community, the Police, and staff and Board Members of the Y.M.C.A. This is to allow the partnership groups from the area to be aware of new developments and how they can support, monitor and guide the project.</p>					
<i>Project</i>	<i>Approval</i>	<i>Alloc. £k</i>	<i>Exp to date</i>	<i>Balance £k</i>	<i>Lead Agent</i>
Connecting the Coalfield Environmental ILM Project	07.03.06	18.811	5.102	13.709	INTO Work
<p>The aim of the project is to integrate unemployed people aged 16-63 years from the "Connecting the Coalfield" area (Target Community Wards of South Hetton, West Murton, East Murton, Haswell Hetton-le-Hole and Eppleton) into sustainable employment through the Intermediate Labour Market. Activities include practical work experience on Environmental Projects, Vocational Training and Jobsearch Activities. SIB funding is to be used as a contribution towards salaries, overheads, training, materials and insurances etc for Sunderland Coalfield beneficiaries. The Lead Agent has reported a delay on the project due to an unsuccessful application to secure further funding sources. As a result of the delays, an extension to the project was granted at the Area Committee, March 2006 to enable other funding to be secured and to allow the project to finally commence.</p>					
<i>Project</i>	<i>Approval</i>	<i>Alloc. £k</i>	<i>Exp to date</i>	<i>Balance £k</i>	<i>Lead Agent</i>
Shiney Advice & Resources Project - Secure the Future	07.06.06	23.644	6.198	17.446	ShARP
<p>SIB has been sought as gap funding for a six month period to enable the project to continue and secure further funding. Current expenditure has been utilised for salary costs, utilities, stationary, building maintenance, volunteer support and other associated running costs. The expected completion date of the funding is December 2006.</p>					

**Strategic Initiatives Budget: Coalfield Live Report -
1st November 2006**

Project	Approval	Alloc. £k	Exp to date	Balance £k	Lead Agent
Sit 'n b' Fit - Improving the Health & Independent Living of Sunderland's Elderly People	07.06.06	3.120	0	3.120	Sit 'n b' Fit
Funding across all six areas to improve health, mobility and to extend people's ability to sustain independent living through appropriate seated exercises. The aim of the project is to encourage people living in residential homes and sheltered accommodation to take part in exercise to improve their health, confidence and self esteem and also to encourage the general public to come into sheltered accommodation or care homes, by offering activities with the other residents and their families to increase social interaction and improve their quality of life. SIB funding is contributing towards a trainer, transport costs, provision of equipment, training new tutors and first-aid courses.					
Project	Approval	Alloc. £k	Exp to date	Balance £k	Lead Agent
Rhyme Around the Nursery	07.06.06	11.520	5.702	5.818	Rhyme Around the Nursery
Rhyme around the nursery is an interactive performance comprising of two actor / facilitator in role as Old Mother Hubbard and her Dog. The characters bring to life different nursery rhymes and encourage children to participate by using props, costumes and puppets. The Arts company will travel around schools in the Coalfield area to help the schools deliver their curriculum. Funding to date has contributed towards the costs of props, scenery, costumes and scripts, etc.					
Project	Approval	Alloc. £k	Exp to date	Balance £k	Lead Agent
Houghton Hillside Cemetery - Lych Gate Restoration	07.06.06	7.5	0	7.5	Houghton Hillside Cemetery
SIB has been sought as a contribution along with other funding streams which include the Local Heritage Initiative fund, towards the restoration of the Lych gate entrance to Houghton Hillside Cemetery. The restoration will include new railings and stonework to the gateway. An Open Day was held in August where various activities took place including demonstrations of stone masonry work, children's games, vintage horse rides and site tours where the work could be viewed by the local community. It is anticipated that the project will be complete by October 2006.					
Project	Approval	Alloc. £k	Exp to date	Balance £k	Lead Agent
School Battle of the Bands 2006	07.06.06	3	0	3	Community & Cultural Services
Joint funding across the Coalfield and Washington areas to provide a residency for a regionally based professional music organisation to work with local schools and 6th Form Colleges, to encourage the development of young talent and to showcase this talent to a wider public audience. The main event will take place in September with the completion of the project in October, at Houghton Feast with the 'Battle of the Bands 2006'.					

**Strategic Initiatives Budget: Coalfield Live Report -
1st November 2006**

<i>Project</i>	<i>Approval</i>	<i>Alloc. £k</i>	<i>Exp to date</i>	<i>Balance £k</i>	<i>Lead Agent</i>
Events Budget	07.06.06	2.810	2.291	0.519	Development & Regeneration
Recent expenditure to date has been in respect of projects including: a contribution towards a Junior Rugby Tournament at Houghton Rugby Club; a contribution towards kayak and canoe sessions as part of the summer holiday programme delivered by KECO; a contribution to the Multi-Cultural Event, MELA and a further summer playscheme for children aged 8-13 yrs delivered through Shiney Row Childcare.					
<i>Project</i>	<i>Approval</i>	<i>Alloc. £k</i>	<i>Exp to date</i>	<i>Balance £k</i>	<i>Lead Agent</i>
Hetton School Community, Educational & Recreational Facility	06.09.06	20	0	20	Hetton School
The aim of the project is to increase the quality and quantity of education, sport, health and recreation facilities for the local Community. This will be delivered as a result of a new sports facility at Hetton School, which will include a dance / aerobic studio, a fitness room, new changing rooms, an IT classroom / training room, a fitness room, a multi-use games area and car parking facilities. SIB has been sought as a contribution towards equipping the fitness room with cardiovascular equipment, weights, wellness software, a PA system and TV monitors etc. Once the construction work of the new facility is complete the fitness equipment will be purchased.					
<i>Project</i>	<i>Approval</i>	<i>Alloc. £k</i>	<i>Exp to date</i>	<i>Balance £k</i>	<i>Lead Agent</i>
The Kepier Trust	06.09.06	5.102	0	5.102	The Kepier Trust
SIB funding will be used as a 10% contribution to secure additional funding from the Biffaward to complete the essential repair to the roof of the Kepier Hall. It is hoped that all the necessary funding will be in place by January 2007, and the work will commence shortly after.					
Total		189.339	41.392	147.947	

<p>COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE MEETING 7th November, 2006</p>	
<p>Title of Report: STRATEGIC INITIATIVES BUDGET : 2006/07 WARD BASED COMMUNITY CHEST</p>	
<p>Author(s): Director of Development and Regeneration</p>	
<p>Purpose of Report: The purpose of this report is to bring forward 18 recommendations relating to the 2006/07 Community Chest Scheme.</p>	
<p>Description of Decision: The Committee is requested to: i. approve all 18 proposals for support from the 2006/07 Community Chest as detailed in Annex 1</p>	
<p>Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework? *Yes</p>	
<p>If not, Council approval is required to change the Budget/Policy Framework</p>	
<p>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 2006/2007, £10,000 for each Ward. This scheme is operated under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.</p>	
<p>Alternative options to be considered and recommended to be rejected: The circumstances are such that there are no realistic alternatives that could be considered.</p>	
<p>Is this a "Key Decision" as defined in the Constitution? No</p>	<p>Relevant Review Committee: Regeneration and Community Review Committee</p>
<p>Is it included in the Forward Plan? No</p>	

**STRATEGIC INITIATIVES BUDGET :
2006/2007 WARD-BASED COMMUNITY CHEST**

Report of the Director of Development and Regeneration

1.0 Purpose of the Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to bring forward 18 recommendations relating to the 2006/2007 Community Chest Scheme.

2.0 Description of Decision

2.1 The Committee is requested to approve all 18 proposals for support from the 2006/07 Community Chest as detailed in Annex I.

3.0 Background

3.1 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 2006/2007, £10,000 for each Ward. This scheme is operated under Section 137 of the Local Government Act.

4.0 Current Position

4.1 To date approvals for each of the Wards total:

Copt Hill	£3825
Hetton	£3775
Houghton	£3625
Shiney Row	£5489

4.2 The projects listed on Annex 1 total :

Copt Hill	£2288
Hetton	£3687
Houghton	£2699
Shiney Row	£500

4.3 Should the Committee grant the requests listed on Annex 1 the remaining balances would be:

Copt Hill	£3887
Hetton	£2538
Houghton	£3676
Shiney Row	£4011

5.0 Reason for Decision

5.1 Community Chest support is given to projects which clearly demonstrate that they will address identified local needs, as detailed in Area Regeneration Frameworks, normally providing genuine community benefit and which can subsequently provide evidence/measurement of success in this respect.

6.0 Alternative Options

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

7.0 Relevant Consultation

7.1 Members have been consulted on all applications for Community Chest support.

7.2 The City Treasurer has been consulted on this report, all costs associated with developing Community Chest applications are resourced by the Strategic Initiatives Budget admin fee.

7.3 Residents have been consulted about the priorities in the Area Regeneration Frameworks Community Chest grants support these identified priorities.

8.0 Background Papers

8.1 The following background papers were used:

- Community Chest Application Forms
- Schedule of projects circulated at the panel meeting held on Wednesday 18th October, 2006.

COMMUNITY CHEST 2006/2007

PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR APPROVAL

	<i>Recommended Grant subject to final estimates, invoices, up to £:</i>
COPT HILL WARD	
Hetton Junior F.C. – Purchase of new equipment.	500
Shiney Row Male Voice Choir – Purchase of inscribed folders, recording equipment, music etc.,	300
Bethany Christian Centre – Purchase of netball equipment.	338
The Hetton School P.E. Cluster – Purchase of netball posts, bibs, balls etc.,	400
Princess Gardens Communal Hall – Contribution towards bus trip and Christmas meal.	350
Sunderland Remembrance Day Parade Steering Group – Contribution towards expenses, bands, hire costs etc.,	100
St. Benedict's Hospice – Contribution towards refurbishment of garden.	300
Total	2288
HETTON WARD	
Nidderdale Communal Hall – Contribution towards bus trip and Christmas meal.	500
Elemore F.C. – Purchase of training kit and equipment.	500
The Hetton School P.E. Cluster – Purchase of netball posts, bibs, balls etc.,	1487
East Rainton Neighbourhood Watch & Village Action Group – Contribution towards printing of Christmas cards and Christmas activities.	600
Hetton Senior Citizens Forum – Contribution towards Christmas activities, meal, entertainment etc.,	600

Total	3687
HOUGHTON WARD	
St. John's Methodist Church – Contribution towards metal security fence.	750
Lambton Memorial Group – Contribution towards transport costs to mining museum.	600
Shiney Row Male Voice Choir - Purchase of inscribed folders, recording equipment, music etc.,	312
Houghton & Peterlee Athletics Club – Purchase of equipment and training costs.	700
Bethany Christian Centre – Purchase of netball equipment.	337
Total	2699
SHINEY ROW WARD	
St. Oswald's Church Hall – Contribution towards repairs and decoration.	500
Total	500
Total of Projects	9174