

**At a meeting of the COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE held at HOUGHTON KEPIER SPORTS COLLEGE, DIARY LANE, HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING on WEDNESDAY, 4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2009 at 6.00 p.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor J. Scott in the Chair

Councillors Anderson, Blackburn, Ellis, Heron, D. Richardson, Rolph, D. Smith, Speding, Tate and Wakefield.

**Also in Attendance:-**

Judith Allen	- Family Adult and Community Learning, Sunderland Council
Susan Brown	- Coalfield Forum
Kath Butchert	- Youth Development Group, Sunderland Council
Graham Carr	- Highway Maintenance, Sunderland Council
Steve Dodds	- Nexus
Tim Ducker	- Rights of Way, Sunderland Council
Graham Finlay	- Northumbria Police
Paul Gray	- Sunderland TPCT
Emma Hindmarsh	- Democratic Services, Sunderland Council
Pauline Hopper	- Area Officer, Sunderland Council
Julie Heathcote	- Corporate Communications, Sunderland Council
Jill Laverick	- Corporate Communications, Sunderland Council
Vivienne Metcalf	- Community Development, Sunderland Council
Andrew Perkin	- Business and Investment Team, Sunderland Council
Les Platt	- Diversity Team, Sunderland Council
Mike Poulter	- Project and Service Development, Sunderland Council
Judith Quinn	- Sunderland College
Mike Shepherd	- Houghton Kepier School
Derek Welsh	- Housing and Neighbourhood Renewal Team, Sunderland Council
Paul Wilson	- Connexions

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillor A. Hall.

**Welcome and Introductions**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked all those present to introduce themselves.

## **Minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2009**

- i) Referring to page 5, paragraph 9, Councillor Wakefield advised that the Thematic Feedback report (Annex 2) gave a more accurate reflection of the action requested regarding the transplanting of trees from Russell Foster Woods.
- ii) Page 6, paragraph 4, 'taxi car' is amended to read 'taxi card' and the sentence "... Nexus need to be more accountable for public transport" be amended to read "Bus companies needed to be more accountable..."

### **1. RESOLVED that**

- i) the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2009 (copy circulated) be confirmed and signed as a correct record subject to the above amendments.
- ii) Members receive a list of all services subsidised (secured) by Nexus.

## **Questions to Area Committee**

There were no questions to the Area Committee received.

## **Variation in the Order of Business**

The Chairman proposed, and it was agreed to consider Item 8, Responsive Local Services at Item 5 on the agenda.

## **Responsive Local Services**

The Executive Director of City Services submitted a report (copy circulated) to advise the Committee of the commencement of the Responsive Local Services (RLS) project which forms part of the Council's Community Programme.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr. Mike Poulter, Head of Project and Service Development, was in attendance and presented the report advising that from the January cycle of meetings a report would be brought to the Committee indicating how neighbourhood services were performing and being delivered with regard to litter, refuse collection, grass cutting, graffiti and dog fouling.

Councillor Wakefield advised that it was important that an accurate baseline was established before performance could be measured.

Mr. Poulter informed the Committee that there would be an agreed generic service standard for everyone across the City with an established baseline.

In response to a question from Councillor Ellis, Mr. Poulter advised that feedback reports would be brought back to each Committee cycle, preferably with a pictorial visual aid that could be easily understood.

Councillor Rolph welcomed the move from a 'one size fits all' approach. However, she questioned the resource capacity of the City Services Directorate to be able to deliver the Project effectively.

Mr. Poulter advised that the resource implications had to be considered carefully in the first instance. Services needed to be tailored and delivered in an area and there was a clear imperative from the Directorate to establish a map of the issues and make headway in terms of tailoring.

Councillor Rolph referred to the Local Multi Agency Problem Solving Group (LMAPS) which already looked at anti social behaviour in an area and hoped that other groups would not be duplicating work that was already being done.

Mr. Poulter advised that the Area Committee would look at existing mechanisms in place and if necessary refer any issues to them. Furthermore if they deemed it appropriate, the Committee could agree that a working group is established to discuss a particular issue in more detail.

Councillor Anderson stated that the Coalfields was a large geographical area with differing priorities and preferences in respective neighbourhoods. She queried whether this was recognised within the project and how tailoring would work.

Mr. Poulter advised that the project was in its early stages and would initially focus on high volume neighbourhood services. As the project was developed, the second wave would be more sophisticated, tailoring service standards to match local need.

Councillor Speding referred the issues that could possibly arise when a number of providers were responsible for services in an area, for example, Gentoo and the Council both carry out grass cutting provision in certain neighbourhoods. As Gentoo would have different performance standards Councillor Speding queried how this would be resolved.

Mr. Poulter advised that the Council would work with partners such as Gentoo at a local level to ensure agreement on uniform service standards.

2. RESOLVED that the contents of the report be received and noted.

## **Coalfield a Learning Area Summary**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which asked Members to consider and identify their main proposals for further development and action in relation to their Learning Area priority theme.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms. Pauline Hopper, Area Officer, reminded Members that the Committee had agreed its work programme for the year at its meeting held in June and that the Learning priority was the third to come to the Committee for discussion and consideration.

Ms. Lynda Brown, Head of Standards, took Members through each of the seven priority issues, as detailed below. Each priority was considered in turn and Members were given an update with regard to current activity and actions taken for each.

- i) Provide non academic support and advice for children and young people.
- ii) Adequate youth provision to be available for all wards.
- iii) Prepare young people for adult life through encouragement and building of confidence.
- iv) Raise aspirations of children/young people and their families.
- v) Raise attainment levels and skills of young people.
- vi) More support for 14-19 year olds regarding employability skills.
- vii) Address issues around lack of public transport in some areas.

Kath Butchert, Integrated Youth Officer, Children's Services, provided a further update to the Committee regarding current youth provision in North and South Coalfields commissioned by the Council.

Ms. Brown stated that the information provided by Ms. Butchert related to that retained by the Youth Development Group and information from other Groups also needed to be considered.

Councillor Rolph asked that the Committee's request for funding application for mobile youth provision be included in the actions (taking into consideration that the Committee were given assurances by the Executive Director of Children's Services that Coalfields could be first to receive the provision).

Referring to the Mobile Youth Villages, Councillor Anderson asked whether records were taken of where the youths travelled from within the area.

Ms. Butchert advised that a survey was carried out with young people to determine where they lived. Of the 72 individuals surveyed, 49 provided details of their postcode – these were mainly from DH4/DH5.

Councillor Anderson stated that postcodes were not very helpful to Ward Councillors and the information would be much more meaningful if it was broken down ward by ward.

Ms. Brown advised that the way the information was collected would be revised and in future children would be asked to tick which village they came from.

Councillor Speding stated that the report did not acknowledge that some children crossed ward boundaries to attend schools, for example, Houghton Keping and Biddick. Councillor Rolph agreed that there needed to be consistency between different sets of statistics.

Ms. Brown agreed to carry out a data cleansing exercise to obtain an accurate reflection of statistics.

With regard to anti-bullying programmes, Ms. Brown circulated a DVD for Members regarding the successful project in the Coalfield whereby a student who had previously been bullied was used in a video to promote anti bullying.

Councillor Anderson emphasised the importance of adhering to the Anti Bullying Strategy. Peer support through a 'buddy' system had proved to be an excellent way of enhancing school life experience and helping to ensure bullying was not carried out 'in the dark'.

Referring to Education Business Connections (EBC) which was an organisation formed to support the closer joint working of schools and employers, Councillor Speding queried the extent to which they were able to deliver a cohesive service, especially when engaging with small businesses. Close attention needed to be given to local industrial estates' employment patterns as they were ideal "incubator units" for young people.

Andrew Perkin, Business and Investment Team, stated that the issue would be looked at as part of the economic review. Young people's aspirations needed to be raised through enterprise, for example Shiney Row College business start up opportunities.

Councillor Heron advised that it was important that such opportunities were followed up to gauge their success for the people involved.

Councillor Rolph agreed that it was important to widen participation in higher education. Year 9 pupils were key as that was the year they chose their options. Often options were chosen without any real advice, guidance or knowledge of the importance of choosing the right subjects.

Councillor Rolph referred to the partnership scheme that existed between Durham Sixth Form and Newcastle University. Students identified from areas where few

people progress into higher education were able to receive offers of places that require lower A-level grades than usual. In return they attend a summer school at the University. She suggested that Sunderland would benefit from a similar scheme.

Ms. Brown advised that a similar scheme had previously started in Sunderland.

With reference to raising attainment levels and skills of young people, Councillor Ellis queried how the statistics relating to the levels of residents over 16 with no qualifications, which was higher in Hetton and Houghton than the City average, had been obtained.

Ms. Brown advised that the data had been obtained from Children's Services data collection point and was based on basic skills levels using skills for life data.

Ms. Hopper agreed to request further information on how the data was compiled.

Councillor Anderson queried whether the Council had any links with 'Career Academies UK'.

Ms. Brown asked to be left with the details of the organisation for her to look at in more detail.

Councillor Rolph expressed concerns that some colleges may be preventing borderline students from taking challenging subjects in order to maintain league table positions. Using Bede College as an example, there was a fear that pass rates may be being put before encouraging students to achieve to the best of their ability.

Ms. Brown agreed to follow up the concerns with the college in question.

In addressing issues around lack of public transport in some areas, Members agreed there needed to be identification of areas/times when learners might have problems accessing colleges e.g. on an evening.

Mr. Dodds, Nexus, advised that the City of Sunderland College did have its own free bus service.

Ms. Hopper agreed to speak to Bob Donaldson, Transportation Manager, regarding further information on the current situation for Coalfields.

Councillor Rolph requested that the Committee receive a scattergram showing the correlation between where young people not in employment education or training (NEETS) resided in comparison to good bus services.

Ms. Brown agreed to provide the information.

The Chairman having thanked the Officers for the report, it was:-

3. RESOLVED that:

i) the report and actions within it and above be received and noted; and

ii) the following proposals be developed:-

- As part of the Youth Development Group's mobile youth provision ensure information, advice and guidance is available in all parts of the Coalfield (e.g. Shiney Row, Penshaw, Moorsley/Peat Carr and Fencehouses areas).
- Review anti bullying provision in schools and explore the need to extend anti-bullying programmes in primary schools in the Coalfield area.
- Review future delivery of GO4IT positive activities work with young people. Connexions and Youth Development Group.
- Review by FACL to identify and support the development of new providers of family learning
- Escalate to LSP a review of apprenticeship opportunities. Greater public sector commitment to the creation of more full apprenticeships is required - either by providing apprenticeships within statutory sector organisations or providing financial incentives to other employers.

### **Thematic Feedback Report**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided Members with feedback from the established working groups for each of the five thematic priorities the Area Committee had agreed and considered as set out in the work plan for 2009/2010.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms. Hopper took Members through the report highlighting any progress against the actions and identifying proposals which had come from them for Members consideration.

Councillor Speding referred to the security camera in Shiney Row and stated that it appeared to have been removed.

Inspector Finlay advised that the camera had been moved to Houghton. Currently there were 2 cameras in Fence Houses, 1 in Houghton and 1 in Easington Lane. He stated that movement of CCTV cameras was a protocol agreed through the Local Multi Agency Problem Solving Group (LMAPS).

Councillor Speding advised that it was important that Members were kept up to date with regard to camera movement.

Ms. Hopper agreed to send a notice of any changes agreed through LMAPS to Members in future. She also agreed to ascertain the feasibility of linking additional cameras into the current 3G system and any cost implications.

Councillor Rolph believed that 6 spare cameras were in existence and had been taken out of service for refurbishment. It was unclear where they were at the present time, however it was her understanding that they were intended to be shared by all areas throughout the City.

Ms. Hopper agreed to contact Steve Barnes, CCTV Liaison Officer, to find out further information.

The Chairman having thanked Ms. Hopper for her report, it was:-

4. RESOLVED that:-
  - i) the attached Annex 1 and Annex 2, 2a and 2b of the report be agreed; and
  - ii) the Committee note the initiatives already taking place to tackle Anti Social Behaviour; and
  - iii) the Committee note the work to be carried out by the Community and Safer City Scrutiny Committee Review;
  - iv) the Committee agree to receive a further report in April 2010.

### **Review of Local Area Plans**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated), which provided Members with the details of the review of the Local Area Plan.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms. Hopper presented the report advising that Members would be receiving a survey and self-assessment form to complete, to ensure that all Councillors would have an opportunity to influence and shape the Sunderland Way of Working.

Councillor Ellis stated that in relation to the Attractive and Inclusive Theme, 'Built Heritage' should have been included as a priority for consideration. Ms Hopper advised that the priority would be included in the Review.

The Chairman having thanked Ms. Hopper for her report, it was:-

5. RESOLVED that the report be noted and Members take part in the self-assessments and Members' surveys.

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

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) providing Members with the current expenditure from the SIB, SIP and Community Chest and applications for funding from these budgets in order to support new initiatives.



(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms. Hopper presented the report, advising that there were 15 projects for support from the 2009/2010 Community Chest budget and one project for support from the 2009/2010 SIB budget. Members were also advised of the financial statement for 2009/2010 and the SIB project update report.

Ms. Hopper took the Committee through each of the applications for funding as set out in the report.

Referring to the SIB project update report, Councillor Rolph queried whether the Hetton Lyons/Philadelphia Cricket development programme would be likely to request an extension given that the work was scheduled to be completed later than anticipated due to the contractors being unable to complete the majority of work until after the cricket season.

Ms. Hopper agreed to find out further information.

In response to Members' queries regarding why the ECO Schools in Sunderland had not spent any money. Ms. Hopper advised that three Area Committees had each provided funding for the project and as the project progressed, the money was drilled down from each Committee allocation in turn.

Councillors Rolph and Ellis also queried an aspect of the mature moves project. The update asserted, "during this quarter 133 one to one sessions were delivered and 15 of these were delivered in the Coalfield". Members felt that 15 appeared to fall short of the amount of sessions that should have been delivered in the area.

Ms. Hopper agreed to find out more information.

6. RESOLVED that:-

- i) approval is given to the 15 projects recommended for support from the 2009/2010 Community Chest budget with a total value of £7,396, as detailed in Annex 1 to the report;
- ii) approval is given to the Phoenix Project;
- iii) the financial statement for 2009/2010 as detailed in Annex 3 to the report be noted;
- iv) the Coalfield SIB project update be noted as detailed in annex 4.

### **Area Committee Handbook**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) seeking Members approval and adoption of the Area Committee Handbook 2009/2010, which had been developed by the Area Arrangements Project Board.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms. Hopper presented the report advising that the Handbook had been developed to provide guidance for everyone involved in the Area Committee. The guidance in the Handbook should be read alongside the Council's Constitution.

Ms. Hopper requested that Members forward any comments regarding the Handbook to her by the end of November.

7. RESOLVED that Members forward any comments regarding the Area Committee Handbook to Ms. Hopper by the end of November.

The Chairman then closed the meeting having thanked everyone for their attendance.

(Signed) J. Scott,  
Chairman.

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**Questions to Area Committee – Review of Pilot Scheme**

**1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To inform the Area Committee of the Questions to Area Committees received to date.
- 1.2 To seek the Area Committee's agreement to extend the pilot and for a review to be undertaken and reported to the March meeting of the Area Committee.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 At its meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2009 the Area Committee approved the protocol to the Questions to Area Committees Scheme and that a pilot be undertaken for the next two Area Committee meetings in September and November 2009, with Councillors being encouraged to invite local people along to these meetings to ask strategic questions affecting the Coalfield Area as a whole.
- 2.2 The Area Committee also agreed that after the pilot a review on how it was managed in terms of process and practicalities would be held, with the possibility of it being rolled out across the City in 2010.

**3. Questions to Area Committee**

- 3.1 Questions to the Area Committees have been received for the September and November 2009 meetings as follows:-

Coalfield Area Committee	-	0
East Area Committee	-	0
North Area Committee	-	0
Washington Area Committee	-	1
West Area Committee	-	1

- 3.2 At the time of writing this report questions have been raised in respect of the Area Committees for the January meeting as follows:-

East Area Committee	-	3
Washington Area Committee	-	6

- 3.3 In view of the relatively low number of questions received during the initial period and the fact that three of the five Area Committees have

not received any questions prior to the January meeting, it is proposed to extend the pilot and undertake a review with a report to be submitted to the March meeting of the Area Committee for Members' consideration.

**4. Recommendation**

To approve a review of the pilot to the Questions to Area Committees to be submitted to the March meeting of the Area Committee.

**5. Background Papers**

Minutes of the meeting and report of the July meeting of the Area Committee.

- 6. Contact officer:** Emma Hindmarsh  
Democratic Services Officer  
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Email: emma.hindmarsh@sunderland.gov.uk

## Coalfield Area Committee

6 January 2010

### Coalfield a Healthy Area Summary

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

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

#### 2. Description of Decision

2.1 Area Committee is asked to:-

- Note the **actions** identified in Annex 1

Provide more information on mobile health provision e.g. Sunderland Active Bus, to ensure that all areas of the Coalfield have access to services

Gather more information regarding healthy lifestyle activities commissioned by the Sunderland Teaching Primary Care Trust

Nexus to ensure full consultation with the Committee and local residents on the Secured Services Network

Request information from planners regarding bus accessibility at the new Primary Care Centre at Houghton

Refresh priorities in light of the health profile for the area (shown on page 2 of this report)

#### 3. Key Facts

3.1 Residents in Coalfield self report as part of the Place survey that their health is generally worse than the City average. More residents in Coalfield consider that older people in the local area are able to get the services and support they need to continue to live at home for as long as they want to when compared to the City average. Residents' satisfaction with GPs and also their local hospital is in line with the City average.

3.2 The table below provides a snap shot of what key measures are informing us of in the Coalfield area.

		Red = worse than City average		Green = better than City average	
Measure	City average	Copt Hill Ward	Hetton Ward	Houghton Ward	Shiney Row Ward
Residents claiming incapacity benefits	10.9%	11.3	15.9	11	11
Life expectancy	76.4 yrs	76	76.7	76.5	75.7
Mortality rates from circulatory disease	108 per 100,000 pop.	120.89	107.76	126.7	122.73
Mortality rates from cancer	136.15 per 100,000 pop.	99.9	160.22	143.69	148.31
% of residents smoking	25%	27	27	23	23
NHS Stop Smoking service users successfully quitting at 4 weeks	42%	53	56	51	50
Residents self reporting obesity BMI 30+	18%	15-18	11.5-15	15-18	15-18
Hospital admission due to alcohol related harm	610-1180 per 100,000 pop.	410-480	410-480	300-410	410-480
Children in Need (looked after within Local Authority, or supported by Local Authority)	4.1%	Below 4	Below 4	Below 4	5.7

#### 4. Refreshing priorities

4.1 Committee are asked to consider the Coalfield Profile with regards to health improvement and refresh the priorities under the theme to focus on the key areas for improvement. From the information gathered, it would appear that the main areas for improvement are to reduce mortality rates from cancer and circulatory disease. By focusing on the two priorities which can impact on this issue a) Adequate support to improve wellbeing, and b) Accessible sporting and exercise facilities, preventative measures can be developed to improve lifestyles and health.

4.2 Attached as Annex 1 is the area summary for the Healthy theme. The annex covers:

- Agreed priority
- Current activity
- Gaps/Risks
- Actions

#### 5. Background papers

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

**6. Contact Officer:** Pauline Hopper, Coalfield Area Officer  
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## 1 Ensure adequate support for vulnerable adults and support independent and safe living

### Background/Key Issues

One of the primary aims of adult social care is to promote the independence of vulnerable, often older, people, particularly to help them to live as long as possible in their own home. The Council works with customers and their carers to assess the risk to individuals and their needs in undertaking identified activities of daily living (e.g. washing, bathing, getting out and about) via a national assessment process called Fair Access to Care Services (FACS).

### Current Activity

An Older Person Needs and Aspirations Study will be sent out to 1200 people in the city to gain feedback relating to people's housing needs and aspirations; their current or expected care requirements; whether they require adaptations / aids in their homes to help them to live independently for longer and whether they require any energy efficiency measures in their home. In addition Sunderland City Council are compiling the evidence relating to people living in the City with mental health; learning disabilities and physical disabilities. Once all of this information is assessed it will be compiled into a Housing Strategy for Accommodation with Care during 2010.

Sunderland City Council's Health, Housing and Adult Services provide a range of services to adults with a social care need and their carers, following an assessment of need. These services are provided citywide and include:

- Home care
- Day care
- Short breaks
- Equipment
- Supported accommodation
- Residential Care
- Intermediate Care
- Advice on welfare rights
- Direct payments
- Support at home through assistive technology
- Companionship Scheme
- Carers Emergency Scheme

Health, Housing and Adult Services (HHAS) are implementing a commissioning strategy for accommodation solutions for vulnerable people including supporting resettlement for people with disabilities and extra care for older people.

An extra care scheme for older people is being developed in Hetton. The scheme will provide around 46, two bedroom apartments and communal facilities. 24 hour care and support will be on site, from the Council's Social and Health Care Staff with housing support from Housing 21 Court Manager. The Scheme will support tenants who are over the age of 55 who have social care needs, and also be the hub of outreach to older people in the local community.

The Sunderland Active Bus can promote safe living and support in assisting people to live healthy and active lifestyles

SAFC Foundation deliver sessions on substance misuse, peer pressure, confidence and self esteem raising through games, football and classroom activities

SAFC Foundation have a full time young people's counsellor who works in the Kickz project

Nexus have a social inclusion team who support vulnerable adults. In conjunction with Social Services, individual travel plans are developed and assistance is given to enable and empower those who need support to travel independently

Total Place is a new initiative that looks at how a 'whole area' approach to public services can lead to better services at less cost. It seeks to identify and avoid overlap and duplication between organisations – delivering a step change in both service improvement and efficiency at the local level, as well as across Whitehall. Sunderland is included in one of the 13 pilot schemes across the Country and is looking at how health services can be delivered more effectively.

### **Action**

Provide more information on mobile health provision e.g. Sunderland Active Bus, to ensure that all areas of the Coalfield have access to services

## **2 Easier access to health services e.g. GPs and hospitals**

### **Background/Key Issues**

There are six GP surgeries within the area. Two are located in Shiney Row, two in Houghton, and one each in New Herrington and Hetton le Hole. The Coalfields is the only area in the city with no hospital or Primary Care Centre. However, A new primary care centre is being built adjacent to Houghton Sports Centre. Residents satisfaction with GP and hospital provision is in line with the City level.

### **Current Activity**

The NHS Operating Framework for the NHS in England 2008/09 sets out the Government's key priority for improving routine access to GP services in evenings and at weekends, requiring PCTs to ensure that at least half of their practices offer extended opening to patients. 50 of the 55 GP surgeries within Sunderland have extended opening hours including late nights and Saturdays.

## **3 Provide adequate support to improve wellbeing (including mental wellbeing)**

### **Background/Key Issues**

The key principles of the Wellness Service is to shift the balance from treatment services to preventative measures and provide Wellness opportunities either as an alternative or support for treatment. Promoting healthy lifestyles such as healthy cooking and eating, smoking cessation and low level exercise are all beneficial to the overall wellbeing.

### **Current Activity**

The Wellness service provide a range of physical activity opportunities to increase levels of activity which contributes to improved mental health and well-being.



Sunderland Mind helps people take control of their mental health. They do this by providing high-quality information and advice, and campaigning to promote and protect good mental health for everyone

Ecominds is a grant programme which helps people with experience of mental distress get involved in local environmental projects that improve mental and physical health. Ecominds, which is run by Mind as an award partner of the Big Lottery Fund, is looking to fund smaller projects with grants of up to £20,000 due to the phenomenal success of the other funding sizes. The closing date for applications is June 2010.

Supporting local groups to speak out against mental health discrimination, The Open Up Initiatives scheme offers support, mentoring, training and help with expenses to people with experience of mental distress who want to challenge discrimination in their local area. For more information [www.mind.org.uk](http://www.mind.org.uk)

### **Gaps**

Locally delivered, community based activities need to be available in all areas. Lack of funding for community groups may result in support for residents not being available in some areas.

### **Action**

Gather more information regarding healthy lifestyle activities commissioned by the Sunderland Teaching Primary Care Trust (STPCT)

## **4 Provide more accessible sporting and exercise facilities**

### **Background/Key Issues**

The key principles of the Wellness Service is to shift the balance from treatment services to preventative measures and provide Wellness opportunities either as an alternative or support for treatment. As a result of a fully engaged scenario with a range of key partners the service reaches and impacts on the individuals that are most in need and subsequently is contributing to reducing the inequalities that are so prevalent within Sunderland.

### **Current Activity**

The Community Wellness programme enables residents to access Wellness facilities at a local level. Community Wellness venues are currently located at Easington Lane Access Point (ELCAP) and YMCA Herrington Burn

The Wellness Service is in the process of developing, producing and marketing a citywide walking programme. The programme will involve developing a number of 'way marked' routes in 10 city parks, two in each of the city's five areas. Dependent on the size of the park, routes will typically be 1, 2 or 3 miles in distance and will be suitable for walkers, runners, wheelchair users and pushchairs.

Sport and Leisure provide an affordable pricing policy for Sunderland City Council leisure facilities ensuring affordable opportunities exist for all.

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Sport and Leisure are constructing a new swimming baths and sports complex in Hetton. A new programme of sporting and exercise opportunities will be available following the opening of the complex early in 2010

SAFC Foundation work with primary schools in the area to deliver a one hour session each week including team games to compliment topics in the classroom and work with two secondary schools to deliver lunchtime and after school clubs

The Fit for Footy Sunderland Active Bus will carry out health checks, promote active and healthy lifestyles and provide advice, guidance and support to enable people to access sporting activity

A new City-wide exercise referral and weight management programme provides greater choice of activities for patients. Exercise referral activities currently take place in Houghton Sports Centre and ELCAP

Exercise classes for people over 50 are tailored to the needs of individuals and include both seated and standing exercise. The classes improve mobility, balance and co-ordination which decrease the likelihood of falls and increase ability to continue to live independently into old age

## **5 Address issues around lack of public transport in some areas**

### **Background/Key Issues**

Some parts of the Coalfield area feel they do not have adequate transport links to access all relevant health services/provision. Public transport services and road and rail links

### **Current Activity**

The Link Up service is available to enable people to get closer to local health provision than the main bus service may provide. Nexus provide a taxi bus service to Kepier Health Centre and a taxi card scheme for people with a disability provides a £2.50 discount on taxi rides

The 168 service in Hetton has been modified to ensure access from Moorsley

Private companies run buses from Hetton and Houghton to Sunderland Royal Hospital and the NHS operate Patient Transport Services to take patients to and from their appointments. Doctors, Dentists and Midwives can arrange this depending on patient needs

Services run to Houghton Sports Centre, and Go Ahead have changed the 35 service to pass the Silksworth Sports Centre

Nexus work with Compass to provide group travel. Community Travel and Community Centre provision is provided by Compass, subsidised by Nexus

### **Gaps/Needs**

There is little provision for bus accessibility at some healthcare sites (e.g. turning circles, adequate roads etc..)

There are still some areas of the Coalfield with limited public transport provision

### **Actions**

Nexus to ensure full consultation with the Committee and local residents on the Secured Services Network

Request information from planners regarding bus accessibility at the new Primary Care Centre at Houghton

# Coalfield Area Committee

6 January 2010

## Report of the Chief Executive

### Thematic Feedback Report

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

- 1.1 At its first meeting of the municipal year in June 2009, the Committee agreed the work plan for the 2009/10. It was deemed necessary to establish Area Action Plans for each theme identified in the Local Area Plan (LAP) to ensure that all priorities are addressed throughout 2009-10.
- 1.2 Each Area Committee has a standing agenda item allowing for updates to be given on all five thematic priorities throughout the year and at the November meeting summary templates showing updates on actions were presented. Progress on key actions, with ratings of red, amber or green will be presented at each meeting. Progress on all other actions identified at Area Committee will be available on line via [www.sunderland.gov.uk/localareaplans](http://www.sunderland.gov.uk/localareaplans) and updated bi monthly to provide up to date information on performance and progress. In addition, the Area Action Plan updates presented to Committee will show performance against key indicators, again rated red, amber or green in comparison with the City performance. Area Action Plans for Safe, Attractive and Inclusive and Learning are attached at Annex 1.

#### 2. Safe Area Action Plan Update

- 2.1 In July 2009, the Area Committee agreed a number of actions and proposals, relating to the **Safe** priorities. An action agreed to was for Youth Offending Services (YOS) to investigate and feedback the possibility of linking hours from the Community Payback Scheme into Area Committee. Discussions have been held with YOS who have agreed that it is feasible for Area Committee to discuss and recommend a hotspot in their area that will improve the quality of life for local residents, via LAPs priorities, for example, removal of graffiti, litter pick, etc. Members are asked to consider any potential areas and send details to the Area Officer two weeks in advance of the next Area Committee, who will then forward to Area Committee. Area Committee will then be asked to select one area to be targeted. It is important to remember that the Community Payback scheme is established primarily to support the victims of crime, and as such, their requests for work will always be given priority for action.
- 2.2 Another action identified was to investigate the Positive Futures social inclusion programme model. Positive Futures is a national programme using sport and leisure activities to engage with disadvantaged and socially marginalised young people. The programme works to tackle social deprivation and reduce health inequalities by enabling young people from deprived areas to access safe and positive activities. Sessions need to be delivered locally, at an accessible time, and designed to raise aspirations but at the same time be fun. The annual costs for the Positive Futures scheme which attracts 100% external funding is circa £50,000 for a range of sessions per week. Further information on key actions from the Safe Area Action Plan are outlined in Annex 1.

### **3. Attractive and Inclusive Area Action Plan Update**

- 3.1 In September 2009, the Area Committee agreed a number of actions and proposals relating to Attractive & Inclusive priorities. Progress on all actions is outlined in Annex 1.

### **4 Learning Area Action Plan Update**

- 4.1 In November 2009, the Area Committee agreed a number of actions and proposals relating to the Health priorities. Progress on all actions is outlined in Annex 1.

### **5 Description of Decision (Recommendations)**

Area Committee to forward areas which would benefit from Youth Offending Service Community Payback Scheme to Area Officer two weeks before next meeting

Area Committee to note Positive Futures information and discuss once the commissioning exercise for youth provision is complete

### **6 Background papers**

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

- 7 **Contact Officer:** Pauline Hopper, Area Officer for Sunderland North and Coalfields  
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Annex 1: Area Action Plans for Safe, Attractive & Inclusive and Learning

# Coalfield Area Action Plan- Safe

Annex 1

Action	Lead Officer	Progress	Next Steps/Who?	Performance Measure	City wide	Area wide	Copt Hill	Hetton	Houghton	Shiney Row
Improve intelligence sharing between partners, Fire Service, Police, Gentoo, Environmental Enforcement Officers and Councillors	Jeff Wilkinson	The LMAPS group provides the forum for information sharing and problem solving regarding 'safe' issues. Suggestion at Area Committee to set up informal meetings between Police and Councillors between Area Committee meetings.	<b>Northumbria Police/Area Committee</b> A pilot informal meeting has been arranged for 6 p.m. on Thursday 2 February.							
Area Committee to identify hotspots or areas of concern around illegal sales of alcohol, to enable targeted bottle tracing exercises and test purchase exercises to be completed with child volunteers. Use of licence reviews where appropriate to impose new conditions	Tom Terret	The Police have visited 23 off license premises during a three week period in September 2009. There is little intelligence, in the way of reporting, to suggest unlawful sales or licensing offences. PACT meetings are being asked to identify any problem premises. A number of cans (39) and bottles (39) of alcohol were seized during a youth alcohol operation held in the school holidays.	ASB incidents are showing a 21.7% decrease this year. Feedback will be given to Area Committee on future exercises	% of residents who consider people being drunk or rowdy in public spaces to be a problem	32.7%	30.1%				
				% of residents who consider young people hanging around on streets to be a problem	30.6%	32.9%				
Continuation of the work done through Phoenix project and secure longer term project funding to allow for future planning.	Alan Scott	The Area Committee approved funding to deliver the Phoenix project in the Coalfield area.	Feedback on progress will be given via the project update report	Number of young people contacted through the Youth Service						
				Rate of youth related incidents of anti social behaviour	42.2		31.3	43.4	36.2	24.7
				Number of incidents of fire related anti social behaviour						
Investigate and feedback the Positive Futures social inclusion programme model used at Raich Carter, with a view of rolling it out	Andrea Baldwin	A report outlining the programme has been sent to Area Committee.	Area Committee to note Positive Futures information and discuss once the commissioning exercise for youth provision is complete							
Provide costings of delivering the Youth Fire Fighters Association across the area, linking this into Duke of Edinburgh and Mayors Award (with Childrens Services)	Jeff Wilkinson	No feedback at present								
Provide information on Youth provision, Youth Villages and Youth Commissioning	Judith Hay	The Youth Development Group held a meeting with Councillors in October 2009. A Youth Village event was also held in October.	The Youth Development Group will keep Area Committee informed and consultation will be ongoing							
Support the set up and continuation of activities for young people. Look at funding issues and consider sustainability and long term impact	Judith Hay/ Andy Neal	The Youth Development Group are developing services for young people via ward based contracts for youth providers. Mobile youth provision (youth villages) is being extended to cover more locations across the area to meet need	Review of Youth Provision across the area is required. Youth Development Group will keep AC informed. Members are invited to a steering group meeting on Friday 12 February 2010 (3-5 p.m.)							

Action	Lead Officer	Progress	Next Steps/Who?	Performance Measure	City wide	Area wide	Copt Hill	Hetton	Houghton	Shiney Row
YOS to develop proposals around establishing a Community Payback Scheme, where x amount of hours are awarded to the Area Committee to allocate against improving the quality of life, via LAPs priorities i.e. removal of graffiti	Simon Smart	Initial discussions have been held with the Youth Offending Service (YOS) who have agreed that it is feasible for Area Committee to discuss and recommend a hotspot in their area that will improve the quality of life for local residents e.g. removal of graffiti, litter picking etc..	Members are asked to consider potential areas and send details to the Area Officer two weeks before the next Area Committee. One location will be chosen by the Area Committee from the list presented. <i>NB requests from victims of crime will be given priority for action</i>							
Feedback on the success of Neighbourhood Wardens, which were used in Sunderland North to improve the quality of life for local people	Liz McEvoy	Information provided at September 2009 meeting	<b>Review</b> A City wide approach to be developed around the Neighbourhood Warden scheme. Further information when available.	% of people who feel safer Rate of anti social behaviour incidents Crime Rate	85% 113.6 82.5	86%  25.0	87.9 65.5	117.8 71.4	62.3 99.6	77.4 53.9
Establish a communications strategy for Area Committee.	Deborah Lewins	A Communications Officer has been assigned to the Coalfield area. The Officer (Julie Heathcote) will work closely with the Committee	Comms Officer to work in partnership with Area Committee	% of residents who feel they can influence decision in their locality % of residents who strongly believe they belong to their neighbourhood	26.3	25.0				
Promote the PACT meetings (Police and community together) across the area	Insp G Finlay	Dates of meetings available from Northumbria Police website and posters in local venues.	Comms Team and Councillors promote on ongoing basis.	% of residents who strongly believe they belong to their neighbourhood	64.6	67.2				
Provision of ASB fire related statistics to inform structure to Neighbourhood Policing/Council Teams to allow monthly targeting of Hotspots Areas.	Jeff Wilkinson	Statistics are provided to LMAPS by the Tyne & Wear Fire Service. Any issues will be dealt with at LMAPS	Area Committee to be kept informed (via feedback on the safe theme).							
Gentoo to share information on the number and type of tenancy breaches recorded	John Chapman	Gentoo will provide information and work closely with the Area Committee and partner organisations (through LMAPS)	LMAPS will be the forum for receipt of information. Area Committee to be kept updated							
Results from the Fear of Crime Survey to be fed into the LAPs	Julie Smith		Data available from Performance Improvement Team and will be included in 'refresh' of LAPs							

## Coalfield Area Action Plan- Attractive and Inclusive

Action	Lead Officer	Progress	Next Steps/Who?	Performance Measure	City wide	Area wide	Copt Hill	Helton	Houghton	Shiney Row
Scoping report regarding the Cox Green to Fatfield Bridge wheeled pedestrian section of the River Wear trail to be presented to Area Committee. This will inform SIB/SIP application	Tim Ducker	Funding application presented to this (January 2010) Area Committee for consideration	To be developed - depending on the outcome of the SIB application	% of residents who think rubbish and litter lying around is a problem	43%	35%				
				% of residents satisfied with how well land is kept clean of litter and refuse	54%	57%				
Provide update on the provision of public toilets in Houghton Town Centre	Les Clark	A meeting has taken place, a site visit has been carried out and various options discussed. Les Clark, Head of Street Scene is checking out legal clarification regarding use of Co-op toilets	A meeting will be convened by Les Clark once legal advice has been received. Scrutiny are dealing with this issue. A progress report will be given when available							
Explore possibility of using semi mature trees from Russell Foster woods to replace damaged trees on Market Street	Pauline Hoppe	Forestry Commissioned have confirmed that around 100 trees from the site have been replanted. The other trees will be shredded and used as chippings elsewhere on site where possible	No further action to be taken							
Review the current policy and alternative options regarding unadopted roads	Dave Smith, Chief Executive	This issue is now being reviewed and Dave Smith, Chief Executive, City of Sunderland Council is taking it forward with the relevant Heads of Service	Progress to be reported to Area Committee on a regular basis							
Provide summary of legislation and council policy and powers in relation to private landlords	Derek Welsh	A report was presented at the November 2009 meeting	Derek Welsh will bring further reports to Area Committee							
Provide summary of legislation and council policy and powers in relation to private landlords	Derek Welsh	A report was presented at the November 2009 meeting	Derek Welsh will bring further reports to Area Committee	Number of affordable homes	230					
				New additional homes provided	299					
				Empty properties back into use	387					
Area Committee to consider receiving an application for SIP/SIB funding to enable all current outstanding highway and carriageway requests etc... to be completed	Graham Carr	SIB application to be presented at this (January 2010) Area Committee meeting	Area Committee to make decision on whether to fund the Street Scene improvements	% of residents who feel the Council is making the area cleaner and greener	66%	70%				
				% of residents satisfied with how well land is kept clear of litter and refuse	54%	57%				
				% of residents who are satisfied with the recycling services	70%	75%				

## Coalfield Area Action Plan- Learning

Action	Lead Officer	Progress	Next Steps/Who?	Performance Measure	City wide	Area wide	Copt Hill	Hetton	Houghton	Shiney Row
As part of the Youth Development Group's mobile youth provision ensure information, advice and guidance is available in all parts of the Coalfields	Lynda Brown			Emotional health of children Under 18 Conception rate 15-17 year olds						
As part of the consultation for the new Youth Provider contracts, the Youth Development Group to provide information on what the current provision consists of (what, when, where)	Lynda Brown									
Explore the opportunities for cross border working with Durham County Council (e.g. Fencehouses crosses boundaries)	Lynda Brown									
<b>Review</b> anti bullying provision in schools and explore the need to extend anti-bullying programmes in primary schools in the Coalfield area.	Lynda Brown									
<b>Review</b> future delivery of GO4IT positive activities work with young people. Connexions and Youth Development Group.	Lynda Brown									
<b>Review - FACL</b> to identify and support the development of new providers of family learning	Lynda Brown			% of population aged 16-64 who have no qualifications	36.9%		36.8%	42.4%	39.5%	36.2%
no action identified	Lynda Brown			% of pupils attaining Key Stage 2 Level 4 English	81%	79%				
				% of pupils attaining Key Stage 2 Level 4 Maths	78%	78%				
				% of pupils attaining Key Stage 2 Level 4 5+ A-C	57%	64%				
				% of pupils attaining Key Stage 2 Level 4 A-C English & Maths	42%	43%				
<b>Escalate to 14-19 partnership</b> - review apprenticeship opportunities. Greater public sector commitment to the creation of more full apprenticeships is required - Either by providing apprenticeships within statutory sector organisations or providing financial incentives to	Lynda Brown			No of young people aged 16-18 NEET (Not in Education, Employment or	1184	185	42	47	53	43
				Take up of 14-19 learning diplomas	148					
Nexus to provide further information	Pauline Hopper	Nexus provided a list of Secured Services in the Coalfield area. This information has been forwarded to Area Committee members	Nexus will attend future meetings and give input where appropriate	% of residents satisfied with public transport	57%	42%				



**Coalfield Area Committee meeting  
6 January 2010**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I**

**Title of Report:**

Financial Statements and Funding Request

**Author(s):**

Office of the Chief Executive

**Purpose of Report:**

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

**Description of Decision:**

The Committee is requested to approve 12 projects for support from the 2009/10 Community Chest as detailed in Annex 1.

The Committee is requested to consider 7 project for support from the 2009/10 SIB, and approve 3 as recommended, as detailed in Annex 2.

The Committee is requested to approve 2 projects for support from the 2009/10 SIP as detailed in Annex 3.

The Committee is requested to consider receiving an SIB application for Green Teams as detailed in Annex 5.

Note the financial statement for 2009/10 in Annex 4.

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

**Yes**

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

SIB and SIP was established to promote action on key priorities identified in the relevant Local Area Plan, and to attract other funding into the area. Applications for SIB/SIP funding should demonstrate the potential benefits to local communities the proposed project would bring, and subsequently be able to provide evidence and statistics that can illustrate these benefits.

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

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

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

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

No

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

No

**Relevant Review Committee:**

**Management Scrutiny Committee**

# Coalfield Area Committee

6 January 2010

## Report of Chief Executive

### Financial Statements and Funding Request

#### 1.0 Purpose Of The Report

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

#### 2.0 Description of Decision (Recommendation)

2.1 The Committee is requested to approve 12 projects for support from the 2009/10 Community Chest as detailed in Annex 1.

2.2 The Committee is requested to consider 7 projects for support from the 2009/10 SIB as below and detailed in Annex 2. Committee is also asked to consider receiving an application for SIB funding from Groundwork for the Green Team Project (see Annex 5)

##### Recommend Deferral

- |                                   |         |                    |
|-----------------------------------|---------|--------------------|
| • River Wear Trail                | £19,500 | Recommend deferral |
| • Community Leaders of the Future | £11,543 | Recommend deferral |

##### Recommend Rejection

- |                          |         |                     |
|--------------------------|---------|---------------------|
| • Kool Kids              | £11,891 | Recommend rejection |
| • Sea Front Improvements | £10,000 | Recommend rejection |

##### Recommend Approval

- |                          |         |                    |
|--------------------------|---------|--------------------|
| • Street Scene           | £44,134 | Recommend approval |
| • Miners Memorial window | £5,000  | Recommend approval |
| • Kepier Hall            | £3,134  | Recommend approval |

2.3 The Committee is requested to consider two projects for support from the 2009/10 SIP as detailed in Annex 3

##### Recommend Approval

- |  |         |                    |
|--|---------|--------------------|
| • (Hetton) Flatts Play Area                    | £20,000 | Recommend approval |
| • (Shiney Row) Village Street Lighting Project | £25,300 | Recommend approval |

2.4 Note the financial statement for 2009/10 in Annex 4.

#### 3.0 Background

3.1 The Council has reduced the amount of Regeneration Frameworks across the City from six to five. This has resulted in a new calculation of SIB funding to be awarded to the Coalfield Area Committee of £241,514 to be allocated up until March 2010. All allocations of funding should be matched against the criteria outlined in delivering the key priorities of the area, identified within the Local Area Plan(LAP).

3.2 SIP was approved at Cabinet in March 2008. Included within the plan was an additional one-off allocation of £1.426m to Area Committees. The amount allocated to each Area Committee was the same as SIB allocation for 2008-09. This equates to £237,142 for the Coalfield. It was agreed by Committee in September 2009 that SIP be split across the four identified wards of the area, totalling £59,285 per ward, with local ward Councillors and service delivers being responsible and accountable for its expenditure against the LAP priorities, with proposed projects being presented to Area Committee for a final decision.

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

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

4.1 Following the November 2009 Committee meeting, a balance of £249,733 remains to be allocated this financial year.

4.2 Projects recommended for approval total £52,268. Should Committee approve those recommended for approval the remaining balance would be £197,465.

4.3 Members should note that any uncommitted expenditure from this financial year (2009/10) will be carried forward to next year's (2010/11) budget. This has been confirmed by the Director of Finance.

#### **5. Current position SIP**

5.1 The full allocation of £237,142 remains to be allocated and fully expended by March 2011. Should Committee approve the two projects in Annex 3, the remaining balances would be

Copt Hill	£59,285
Hetton	£39,285
Houghton	£59,285
Shiney Row	£33,985

#### **6 Current Position Community Chest**

6.1 To date approvals for each Ward total:

Copt Hill	£10532
Hetton	£12487
Houghton	£10722
Shiney Row	£8900

6.2 The projects listed on Annex 1 total:

Copt Hill	£1125
Hetton	£0000
Houghton	£3825
Shiney Row	£1250

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

Copt Hill	£574
Hetton	£0000
Houghton	£1421
Shiney Row	£2350

## **7.0 Reasons for the Decision**

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

## **8.0 Alternative Options**

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

## **9.0 Relevant Consultations**

### 9.1 Financial Implications

The Director of Financial Resources has been consulted on this report and all costs associated with developing SIB, SIP and Community Chest applications.

### 9.2 Implications for Other Services

Each project is required to indicate what implications there may be for other services in the application business process.

### 9.3 The Public

Each project is required to indicate what consultation it has undertaken and other documentary evidence it has to support its proposal in during the application business process. Residents have been consulted about the priorities in the Local Area Plans and bids support these identified priorities.

### 9.4 The Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 and the Councils Race Equality Scheme.

Each project is required to indicate whether it has an equal opportunities policy, or what measures it employs to address equal opportunity issues, during the application business process.

### 9.5 Public Relations and Publicity

Each project is required to indicate how it will promote funding awarded from Area Committee.

### 9.6 Councillors

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

## **10.0 List of Appendices**

- 10.1 Annex 1 Community Chest: Proposed projects for approval
- 10.2 Annex 2 SIB: Proposed projects
- 10.3 Annex 3 SIP: Proposed projects
- 10.4 Annex 4 Financial statement
- 10.5 Annex 5 Green Team information

## **11.0 Background Papers**

11.1 The following background papers were used:

- Community Chest Application Forms
- Schedule of projects circulated at the panel meeting held on 9 December 2009.
- Reports to previous Area Committees
- Coalfield Local Area Plan

## ANNEX 1

### COMMUNITY CHEST 2009/2010

#### PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR APPROVAL

	<b>Recommended Grant subject to final estimates, invoices, up to:</b>
<b>COPT HILL WARD</b>	
<b>Hetton Park Bowls Club</b> – Contribution towards social activities for senior citizens.	250
<b>Houghton &amp; District Fitness &amp; Youth Boxing Club</b> – Purchase of equipment.	625
<b>Houghton Feast 2010</b> – Contribution towards feast expenses, health & safety etc.,	250
<b>Total</b>	<b>1125</b>
<b>HOUGHTON WARD</b>	
<b>The Kepier Trust</b> – Purchase of tables and chairs.	1000
<b>Houghton &amp; District Fitness &amp; Youth Boxing Club</b> – Purchase of equipment.	625
<b>St. John's Methodist Church</b> – Purchase of boiler.	650
<b>Houghton Swifts Over 40's</b> – Purchase of football strips, jackets etc.,	600
<b>Houghton C.W. C.C.</b> – Contribution towards pitch fees.	860
<b>Youth Musical Spectacular</b> – Contribution towards hire of theatre, lighting, sound systems, catering etc.,	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>3835</b>
<b>SHINEY ROW WARD</b>	
<b>Houghton Feast 2010</b> – Contribution towards feast expenses, health & safety etc.,	250

<b>Garden Recreation Group</b> – Purchase of garden furniture, bbq, accessories etc.,	500
<b>Old Penshaw Village Hall</b> – Contribution towards refurbishment of toilet area.	500
<b>Total</b>	<b>1250</b>
<b>Total of Projects</b>	<b>6210</b>

## SIB Funding Applications

<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>River Wear Trail</b>	
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	<b>Sunderland City Council</b>	
<b>Total Cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total SIB Requested</b>
£72,000	£26,000	£ 46,000 (£26,500 from Washington and <b>£19,500 from Coalfield</b> )
<b>Project Duration</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
2009/10	2010/11	March 2011

**The Project**

The proposal is seeking £19,500 from the Coalfield Area Committee towards a £72,000 project to restore to a high standard the accessibility of the River Wear Trail between Cox Green and Fatfield bridges. The route will become step free enabling the north and south bank circuit to be used by those in wheelchairs and with push chairs. The project will also resolve the condition of Alice Well at Cox Green riverside.

**The Need for the Project**

The improvement of the riverside was identified in the Tyne & Wear Rights of Way Improvement Plan, which was subject to extensive consultation with residents, councillors, businesses and land owners.

**The Outputs for the Project**

Output Code	Description	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
A1	Number of new or improved community facilities and equipment		1	
A2	Number of people using new and improved community facilities		tbc	

**The key milestones for the Project**

Milestone and key event	Forecast Dates
Revetment, surfacing, fencing, signing and access controls completed	March 2010
Fatfield Bridge ramping of steps	March 2010
Cox Green ramping of steps	May 2010

**Recommendation: Defer on the basis of:**

- The project does not demonstrate a clear link to the current priorities identified in the LAP
- Evidence of relevant consultation is not provided
- There is no evidence that other agencies have been involved in the design, or will be involved in the delivery of the project.
- The output, A2, needs to have forecast figures in order to monitor improvement. The application states that the route is popular, evidenced by its use, however current usage is not quantified.
- Environment Agency permission is required. There is a need to clarify whether any other permissions are required due to the route being a public right of way. It should also be considered whether any objections may be received (local residents and Friends of James Steel Park will be advised once designs are complete)

Once the above have been addressed satisfactorily, the application may come forward to a future Committee meeting.



<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Community Leaders of the Future</b>
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	<b>Education Business Connections</b>

<b>Total Cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total SIB Requested</b>
£75,915	£18,200	<b>£57,715 (£11,543 from Coalfield Committee)</b>
<b>Project Duration</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
Two years	January 2010	December 2011

### The Project

It is a two-year project which includes a high profile citywide competition open to all secondary and special schools with a key theme of volunteering whilst developing both key employability skills, work readiness and entrepreneurship on participating young people. It will culminate in a high profile awards event to mark the European Year of Volunteering in 2011. There will be 4 large scale events during the two years. A secondary school from each of the five regeneration areas, with pupils in the range 11 to 13, will be invited, to take part in the competition and activities plus 2 citywide special schools and one citywide voluntary aided school

The project includes a number of core elements all designed through a phased learning programme to raise awareness in targeted young people of the impact they can make in supporting local VCS organisations in their community. There is also accredited training for young people resulting in NCFE awards. In particular the programme will aim to develop young people's work readiness and employability skills, foster a sense of entrepreneurship and an understanding that volunteering makes a real difference to everyday life across the city and that young people can be positive about giving freely of their time and energy as a preparation for adulthood and citizenship.

### The Need for the Project

The project would appear to fill a gap for schools and young people. The applicant states that having worked with all the city's secondary schools, there is a clear demand and an unmet need to deliver more activities. In particular, the application states that schools have requested curriculum enhancing activities around involving business and enterprise activities, friendly competitions between schools, programmes which embed employability skills and which reward pupils' achievements, as well as connecting the schools to local communities. This project would actually meet all of these requirements, in particular for the 8 schools involved and their pupils (which will number 30 from each secondary and 10-15 in each special school).

There is evidence in the application around the importance of volunteering and the need to engage young people in this activity as early as possible in terms of developing their citizenship skills, an understanding of their communities as well as learning, life and employability skills.

### The Outputs for the Project

Output Code	Description	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
A3	Number of community/vol groups supported	8		
P3	No of young people in voluntary work	230		
S5	No of young people benefiting from youth inclusion/diversionary activities	230		

### The key milestones for the Project

Milestone and key event	Forecast Dates
Market and recruit project to schools	Feb 2010
Presentations and initial classroom work	March – May 2010
Official launch	June 2010
Project activity: Classroom activities; Pupils review business plans, etc; re-profile income generating target etc;	June – October 2010

Mix of face-to-face and online support from third sector organisations and EBC to complete gathering of evidence for NCFE qualification submissions; Cut off for completion of NCFE qualification portfolios Updating of website based on project activity Mid term evaluation	
Skills/industry/employment Event	October 2010
Project activity	November – June 2011
Third Sector Event	May 2011
Fundraising Enterprise Event	July 2011
Project activity	August – November 2011
Celebratory Event	December 2011

### Recommendation: Defer

Although the project is innovative and ambitious, it requires a high level of support from schools, including a commitment to identifying and supporting at least 30 young people over a 2 year period. Therefore until the project has been discussed with the schools identified and they have given, at least, their initial commitment to supporting the project for a two year period, the project should be deferred. The project is also reliant on commitment from a number of voluntary sector organisations to ensure success of the project. Again, an indication of the support from these organisations would strengthen the application.

<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Kool Kids</b>
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	<b>Sunderland Dance</b>

Total Cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total SIB Requested
<b>Revenue: £46,580</b> <b>£11,645 per area</b>	£985 – in kind	<b>£11,645 per area (Washington, Coalfields, Sunderland West and East)</b>
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
1 year	February 2010	February 2011

### The Project

The proposed project is seeking funds from four of the five Area Committees to deliver a 48 weeks urban dance programme, in two community venues per area. Each venue will receive a weekly 2 hour session, 1<sup>st</sup> hour targeting the under 12's, 2<sup>nd</sup> hour 12 plus. The Kool Kids programme was piloted in the North area of the City during 2008-09 which was funded by North Area Committee SIB. The project delivered against its objectives. The Lead Agents now wish to roll the programme out across the City. The project will be delivered in the Comrades Club Fencehouses and the Hettton Centre

### The Need for the Project

The Lead Agent are currently commissioned via Youth Development Group to deliver dance, via the XL Youth Villages, in addition to working with local schools and community youth projects. Many of the currently participants of these projects and programmes have requested more dance activities. The Lead Agent refers to a strong connection towards a Safe City, and identifies how the programme can reduce ASB, also four individual Officers from Northumbria Police have written letters of support for the project.

### The Outputs for the Project per area

Output Code	Description	Target 2010/11
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L7	Number of additional youth sessions delivered per week.	2
S5	Number of young people benefiting from youth inclusion/diversionary projects	100

### The key milestones for the Project

Milestones and Key Events	Forecast Dates
Promoting new Kool Kids projects completed	Feb 2010
25% of output numbers of young people met and engaged	Mar 2010
50% of output numbers of young people met and engaged	Jun 2010
75% of output numbers of young people met and engaged	Sep 2010
100% of output numbers of young people met and engaged	Dec 2010
Initial project statistical information on youth disorder supplied by police	Jan 2010
Mid project statistical information on youth disorder supplied by police	Jul 2010
End of project statistical information on youth disorder supplied by police	Dec 2010
Social Return On Investment information gathered to gauge the impact of the project	Jan 2011

### Recommendation: Reject

- Children Services, Youth Development Group are advertising tenders for the delivery of youth provision in each of the 25 wards across the City, with contracts to be awarded over the Winter. This will allow for a scoping document to be produced identifying all the needs/gaps in provision across an area. This will identify if this project will bring added value to existing provision.
- If the need to supply a dance programme is identified, after the contracts have been awarded, the Area Committee can Call for Projects and seek competitive applications to deliver the project, with the Committee deciding upon the outputs and costs of the project.
- The application does strategically fit under the Local Area Plan, but the Lead Agent already receives core funding to deliver dance across the City via XL youth villages. In addition, the suggestions that the participants who currently attend the youth villages, schools, etc are asking for more dance sessions, would imply that the same participants would benefit from the extended provision, again questioning the added value, no new beneficiaries.

<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Sea Front Improvements</b>
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	<b>Sunderland City Council</b>

Total Cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total SIB Requested
£168,000	£128,000 (from North Area Committee)	<b>£ 10,000 each from Coalfield, West, East and Washington Areas</b>
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
1 year 3 months	January 2010	March 2011

### The Project

The proposal is seeking £10,000 from this Area Committee towards a £168,000 package of public realm improvements at Seaburn upper and lower promenades. The project will resurface areas of the promenade, install new street furniture and planting and improve the soft landscaping of the area. This is the first phase in a more comprehensive improvement scheme for Seaburn.

### The Need for the Project

The community spirit survey in 2007 and, more recently, the Sea Front strategy consultation in Spring 2009 raised the need for a more attractive, improved sea front. The consultation took

place with residents from all five areas in the City who highlighted the importance of the sea front to the City.

### The Outputs for the Project

Output Code	Description	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
A4	events/programmes of work to improve appearance of streets		2	

### The key milestones for the Project

Milestone and key event	Forecast Dates
Develop detailed design proposals	January 2010
Procure contractor	April 2010
Commence works on site	May 2010
Completion of first phase of works/project	July 2010

#### Recommendation: **Reject:**

- Although the project will provide a valuable improvement for the benefit of the whole City, it does not meet any of the key priorities identified in the Coalfield Local Area Plan (LAP)

<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Street Scene Improvements</b>
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	<b>Sunderland City Council</b>

Total Cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total SIB Requested
£93,804	£49,670	<b>£ 44,134</b>
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
3 months	February 2010	May 2010

### The Project

The proposal is seeking £44,134 towards a £93,804 package of street scene improvement which will include road markings, guard rails, street name plates, road patching and drainage in the four wards in the Coalfields LAP area. Improvements will add value to the programmed highways work through the mainstream budget and will address some of the issues raised by residents, ward councillors, and through the LAP consultation process.

### The Need for the Project

Reports from Councillors, the public (via the Contact Centre and other sources) and from Highway Inspectors highlight the need.

### The Outputs for the Project

Output Code	Description	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
A4	events/programmes of work to improve appearance of streets	4 (one scheme for each ward)		

### The key milestones for the Project

Milestone and key event	Forecast Dates
Project approval	January 2010
Commencement of works	February 2010
Progress report to Area Committee	March 2010
Completion of works/project	May 2010

**Recommendation: Approve subject to:**

- Detailed list of works with specific locations provided to Area Committee
- Information being provided regarding future maintenance and repair and how these improvements will be taken into the Councils annual repair and maintenance programmes should be provided to demonstrate sustainability.
- Confirmation as to whether contingencies have been allowed for down time due to inclement weather

<b>Name of Project</b>		<b>Miners Memorial Window – Civic Suite</b>
<b>Lead Organisation</b>		<b>Culture &amp; Tourism (SCC)</b>
<b>Total Cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total SIB Requested</b>
£25,000	£0	<b>£25,000 (£5k from Coalfield Area Committee)</b>
<b>Project Duration</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
5 months	January 2010	March 2010

**The Project**

This project will deliver a bespoke design for the glazed area above the entrance to the Civic Centre Suite. The aim is to provide visitors and Council members with a high quality commission, which will be visually exciting and create an engaging and contemporary design that will complement the Civic Centre Building. The design will reference the past mining industry specifically the 1984 -1985 Miners Strike. The mining industry was a major determinant of the city’s development and its heritage and culture.

The artist will create a design for the glass area above the entrance door to the Civic Suite ensuring that the work can be viewed from both inside and outside the civic centre and will:

- make a visually appealing feature of the entrance to the Civic Centre Council Chamber
- be robust in construction, require minimal maintenance, and adhere to health and safety requirements.
- reference the history of the 1984 -1985 strike
- be permanent (i.e. should function effectively on the site for a period of not less than 20 years)

**The Need for the Project**

The project has been identified and supported by families and individuals connected to the city’s mining history. The project will be delivered in partnership with the Durham Miners Association.

**The Outputs for the Project**

Output Code	Description	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
A6	Number of community/educational events	1		

**The key milestones for the Project**

Milestone and key event	Forecast Dates
Artist contracted and presentation of designs	Jan 2010
Technical development	Jan – Feb 10
Unveiling of artwork	6 Mar 2010

**Recommendation: Approve Subject to:**

- Additional outputs identified – set a target for A2 – Number of people using improved community facility. The application will be strengthened by confirming the number of people who would be able to access the artwork
- Confirmation no planning permission is required
- Confirmation of who will be invited to the launch event (numbers, families, community?)
- Confirmation of future repair, maintenance and cleaning programme in place

<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>The Kepier Hall</b>
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	<b>The Kepier Trust</b>

<b>Total Cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total SIB Requested</b>
£31,330	£28,196	<b>£ 3,134</b>
<b>Project Duration</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
8 weeks	April 2010	June 2010

### The Project

The project will contribute to restoration of Kepier Hall, a Grade 2 listed building. Window and masonry repairs are the third phase of major works for the Hall. The completion of the works will allow a wide range of activities to be delivered to the local community in a community setting. The hall is used by a number of groups and clubs.

### The Need for the Project

A feasibility study was carried out in 2004, since which there has been steady progress completing the recommendations. Phase 3 is the last element of the Kepier project.

### The Outputs for the Project

Output Code	Description	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
A1	Improved facilities	1		
A3	Number of community/voluntary groups supported	17		

### The key milestones for the Project

Milestone and key event	Forecast Dates
Secure Biffaward	March 2010
Complete ground floor accommodation	July 2010

### Recommendation: Approve

- The approval of SIB funding will potentially allow the project to raise over £28,000 match funding
- The Kepier Hall is an important historic building and a valuable asset for the community
- The project supports community development and supports local voluntary sector organisations

### SIP Funding Applications

<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Flatts Play Area</b>
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	<b>Sunderland City Council</b>

<b>Total Cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total SIB Requested</b>
£93,071	£73,071	<b>£ 20,000</b>
<b>Project Duration</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
4 months	January 2010	April 2010

#### The Project

The project will provide £20,000 (Hetton SIP) towards a total scheme of £93,071 to provide an exciting and stimulating play area providing outdoor opportunities free of charge for the young people 0 -19 of the local area. The location and types of equipment have been chosen in consultation with the young people to ensure they have a dynamic and fun place to hang out, play and be physically active

#### The Need for the Project

The Play and Urban Games strategy highlights this area as a priority in need for development for free play activities for young people. Easington Lane Community Access point have been key partners to conducting and extensive consultation with 70 young people to gauge their interest and requirements for the proposed development. This was completed by 1:1 interviews and by completion of a needs questionnaire.

Residents were consulted by postal questionnaire and were also invited to attend Northumbria Police PACT meetings and an evening consultation to share their views and needs for the development. Additional consultation has also been carried out with Local Councillors , Hetton Town Council, Northumbria Police and The Local Multi Area Problem Solving Groups (LMAPS)

#### The Outputs for the Project

Output Code	Description	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
L9	Number of new youth play services provided		1	
A2	Number of people using new or improved community facilities		200	

#### The key milestones for the Project

Milestone and key event	Forecast Dates
Contractor to commence on site	January 2010
Completion of works	April 2010

#### Recommendation: Approve subject to:

- Outputs revised to those stated above (previously double counted)
- Milestones to include post-completion milestones and monitoring of usage

<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Village Street Lighting Project</b>
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	<b>Sunderland City Council</b>

<b>Total Cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total SIB Requested</b>
£25,300		<b>£ 25,300</b>
<b>Project Duration</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
3 months	February 2010	April 2010

### **The Project**

The funding (Shiney Row SIP) will provide embellishments and ornamental lighting to the villages of Penshaw and New Herrington. There will be 23 lamps installed to improve the physical appearance and style of the identified locations.

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

The need has been identified by residents via Ward Councillors. It is felt the ornamental style lighting is more in keeping for a village than the standard lighting currently provided.

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

Output Code	Description	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
A4	events/programmes of work to improve appearance of streets	2 (one in each of the two villages)		

### **The key milestones for the Project**

Milestone and key event	Forecast Dates
Project approval	January 2010
Commencement of works	February 2010
Progress report to Area Committee	March 2010
Completion of works/project	April 2010

Recommendation: **Approve**



## Annex 4 : Financial Statement for 2009-10

### SIB: Coalfield SIB Statement 6th January 2010

\* £241,514 was allocated for 2009-10, £26,797 was carried over from 2008-09: Balance £268,311

	<b>Committee Date</b>	<b>Main SIB Fund Approvals</b>	<b>Opportunities Approvals</b>	<b>Total 100%</b>
<b>Available Funding 2009/10 *</b>	29.06.09	£268,311	-	£268,311
Project Name	-	-	-	-
Eco Schools	03.09.08	£5,000	-	£263,311
Phoenix Project	05.11.09	£13,578	-	£249,733
<b>Balance</b>	-	<b>£249,733</b>	-	<b>£249,733</b>

### SIP: Coalfield Statement 6th January 2010

	<b>SIP Budget</b>	<b>Approvals</b>	<b>Balance</b>
<b>Available Funding 2009/10</b>	£237,142	£0	£237,142
Copt Hill	£59,285	£0	£59,285
Houghton	£59,285	£0	£59,285
Hetton	£59,285	£0	£59,285
Shiney Row	£59,285	£0	£59,285
<b>Balance</b>	<b>£237,142</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£237,142</b>

### Community Chest: Coalfield Statement 6th January, 2010

\* £10,000 was allocated per ward from 2009-10, Budget includes carry over from 2008-09 of £13,186

	<b>Community Chest Budget</b>	<b>Approvals</b>	<b>Balance</b>
<b>Available Funding 2009/10</b>			
Copt Hill	£12,231	£10,532	£1,699
Houghton	£15,968	£10,722	£5,246
Hetton	£12,487	£12,487	£0
Shiney Row	£12,500	£8,900	£3,600
<b>Total</b>	<b>£53,186</b>	<b>£42,641</b>	<b>£10,545</b>

## **Green Team Programme**

This report provides information to the Coalfields Area Committee on the Green Team proposal that has been developed by Groundwork North East in partnership with Sunderland City Council, gentoo and other partners. The proposal seeks to maximise the investment of an employability initiative so it can deliver locally identified aims within the Coalfields area Action Plan. Green Team will use secured Future Jobs Fund support to meet the objectives of the Attractive & Inclusive City Delivery Partnership at a local level. Additional funding is requested from the Area Committee to match this funding and support the successful delivery of this initiative. Groundwork has consulted extensively in the development of this proposal which has been informed and shaped accordingly by partners' contributions.

### **Project Description**

The Green Team Programme seeks to establish a bridge to employment for unemployed young people aged 18-24 and other unemployed individuals who will assist in the renewal of the neighbourhoods of the Coalfields area. A programme of small scale community based environmental improvements will be delivered through a squad of five unemployed people who will be supported by a local supervisor.

Groundwork will work closely with local neighbourhood groups to develop a programme of environmental improvement works which will also be informed by consultation with key partners such as Sunderland City Council and gentoo. The principle objective of this project is to provide a bridge to employment for young residents who are furthest removed from the labour market and are considered Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETS). The project will also target other hard to reach long term unemployed individuals who are on other out-of-work benefits (Income Support, Incapacity Benefits, Employment support Allowance).

The Green Team Programme will create an extended period of employment (6 months) for unemployed clients by moving them from a culture of benefit dependency into a real world environment through support e.g. counselling & training, and then onto sustainable employment when they are 'job ready'. This project will provide at least 14 places in the Green Team over 18 months and cover the Coalfields area of Sunderland. It is anticipated that as the majority of the participants will come from the communities they will be working in and that this will engender a sense of respect and responsibility for their communities. If an individual gains further employment or moves on from the programme, a spare place will be available and will be advertised locally through the Job Centre Plus who will make direct referrals on to the project. Working in partnership with gentoo the project will provide business start-up advice to clients to actively encourage and support the establishment of new enterprises.

### **Rationale**

This report seeks permission to submit for consideration an application for funding to support a Partnership approach that meets the aims of the Attractive & Inclusive City by working together with the local area arrangements. The Sunderland Partnership's Attractive & Inclusive City Delivery Group has discussed how programmes such as employability initiatives can be used to support the strategic aim of ensuring that Sunderland becomes a clean, green city with a strong culture of sustainability that

nurtures its natural and built environment. This project has been devised as a direct response of these discussions.

### **Partnership working**

Groundwork has undertaken extensive consultation about how the Green Team will work collaboratively with the City Council's Local Responsive Service and other council provision – City Services Street Scene. A referral mechanism has been agreed to make sure that the activities delivered by the Green Team will complement and avoid any duplication. The environmental works will be of community benefit and entirely additional to any Council Services and other partners' statutory responsibility. Work requisitions will come from community partners including Friends of Parks Groups, Allotment Associations, Residents Groups, Neighbourhood Action Partnerships and Community Forums.

Groundwork recognised that the success of this project is dependent upon the partnership working and would not happen without the support and input of the Coalfields Area Committee.

### **Sunderland Coalfields Local Area Plan 2009-11**

The project supports the following key priorities identified in the Coalfields LAP that relate to the Attractive & Inclusive City which the Coalfields Area prioritised as their third priority:

- To make the streets more attractive, landscaping rundown areas, removing litter and graffiti
- To make more of key attractions, and attract more visitors to the City to see them

In addition the project will support the Coalfields Area Committee's Work Plan which prioritises making estates and residential areas more attractive, reduce the problems caused by unadopted roads and reducing environmental crime. The project also meets other identified priority items raising aspirations and employability skills under the Prosperous City.

### **Funding & Value for money**

Groundwork has successfully secured funding through Future Jobs Fund this would normally cover the costs associated with placing an unemployed young person in an existing organisation – pay their wage and cover some support costs. However, this initiative is creating the structure around which the individual can gain useful employment and the local communities can benefit from environmental improvements. In order to successfully deliver a squad based initiative within Sunderland Coalfields these additional costs which cover the employment of the supervisor and management of the programme and also the equipment and vehicle hire and running costs need to be financed. It is this funding that Groundwork is requesting from the Coalfields Area Committee which is £53,850 to match secured funding of £91,000.

As these types of employability initiatives are intensive to run with the costs of wage subsidiaries and support structures, the unit cost is traditionally between £15,000-£18,000. However this programme will operate at a unit cost of under £10,500 which represents good value for money. Groundwork has experience of delivering these initiatives in other local authority areas at this level of budget.

### **Beneficiaries & outcomes**

Unemployed young people (18-24) will benefit from

- Training in practical activities relating to environmental improvements that will provide them with direct skills required to access local employment opportunities in the environmental, landscaping or construction industries;
- Trainees are also supported to complete accredited learning;
- Training provides both direct, relevant skills and additional life skills;
- Young people receive a package of individual support plans including housing, childcare and alcohol and drugs advice;
- Ongoing jobs brokerage support offered after completion of project;

Local communities and neighbourhoods will benefit through the following ways

- Neighbourhood environmental focus will help increase residents overall general satisfaction with local areas and support the employment rate because it has the capacity to absorb new jobs;
- Support community cohesion and intergenerational focus based upon consultation with young people themselves and agencies such as Jobcentre Plus and witness improvements being undertaken by local unemployed young people will challenge established view of youths by elderly residents;
- Addresses the problems of take up of services caused by poor environmental quality there would then be a knock-on effect in terms of improved take up of services for the many health inequalities indicators.
- Support the eradication of child poverty through a waged temporary employment contract targeted at those who are Not in Education, Employment or Training.

### **Sustainability**

Future Jobs Fund (FJF) which is the main funder of this activity could potentially be extended and therefore could support the activity beyond the stated end date. Additional support would need to be secured to enable the programme to continue in its envisaged form. Potentially some aspects of the delivery could become mainstreamed although a thorough evaluation would need to prove the effectiveness of the delivery and its cost implications which might be manageable through absorption. An alternative to FJF could be the planned Community Task Force which could be used to sustain part of the delivery.

Gentoo will offer the clients advice and support to set up a small enterprise. It is anticipated that at least one business start up would come from a city wide initiative. In addition, working closely with the Environmental Services, the programme seeks to provide interviews for clients with agencies such as LMR who supply staff to work for our Parks section each year carrying out grass cutting operations etc. Further discussion with Street Scene has indicated that successful clients could following an interview be directly recruited into Council workforce.

### **Conclusion**

This report requests that the Coalfields Area Committee considers a funding application for £53,850 SIB to support the Green Team Programme at February's committee.

**Samuel Palombella**

**Chair of Attractive & Inclusive Delivery Partnership**

**Director of Tyne & Wear, Groundwork North East**

## **Coalfield AREA COMMITTEE**

**6 January 2010**

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

#### **AREA REVIEW PROCESS: - INTRODUCTION OF A REFERRAL CRITERIA AND PROCESS FOR DEALING WITH ISSUES OF LOCAL CONCERN INCORPORATING A REVISED MECHANISM FOR COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION - INITIAL PROPOSALS**

##### **1. WHY HAS IT COME TO AREA COMMITTEE?**

1.1 During the development of the new Area Governance arrangements agreement was given to the introduction of an Area Review process (outlined as Protocol 4 of the Area Committee Handbook). This report outlines the proposed introduction of a Referral Criteria and process for dealing with such reviews and which can be used by Area Committees, Scrutiny Committees and the Sunderland Partnership, and includes amalgamation with the Councillor Call for Action mechanism (CCfA).

##### **2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

2.1 The CCfA mechanism came into force on 1 April 2009 namely through the Police and Justice Act 2006 and the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. Such provisions provide Members with the opportunity to ask for discussions on issues where local problems have arisen and where other methods of resolution have been exhausted.

2.2 In Sunderland, two local issues have been raised through the CCfA mechanism and as a result of those referrals; it has become apparent that the current procedure should be reviewed to ensure both current and future CCfAs are addressed in a timely, open and transparent way.

2.3 At the same time work is also being undertaken to develop the Area Committees links with both Scrutiny Committees and the Sunderland Partnership, one of which is the signposting and escalation of local issues to the most appropriate body for resolution where appropriate as referred to in the current Area Review process.

2.4 The remainder of this report outlines the initial proposals for Referral Criteria and process for dealing with such reviews which can be used by Area Committees, Scrutiny Committees and the Sunderland Partnership, and includes amalgamation with the Councillor Call for Action mechanism

##### **3. INITIAL PROPOSALS**

3.1 Consideration has been given on a practical level as to how best to implement a 'referral' mechanism within existing policies and practices to escalate / re-direct issues of local concern either raised by an Elected Member/Committee, member of the public or external partner to the appropriate body namely the Area Committees, the City Council's Scrutiny and Sunderland Partnership.

3.2 To assist those bodies in determining the appropriateness of undertaking an investigation triggered either by the non-mandatory / CCfA referral route, the following selection criteria is proposed for future use by such bodies, at the point of the referral being considered at the next available meeting:-

- (i) Clear evidence that reasonable attempts have been made to resolve the issue with relevant partners / council departments?
- (ii) Has a significant impact on a group of people living within the Sunderland area;
- (iii) Relates to a service, event or issue in which the Council has direct responsibility for, significant influence over or has the capacity to act as public champion;
- (iv) Not be an issue which Overview and Scrutiny, Area Committees or LSP have considered during the last 12 months (unless circumstances have changed substantially);
- (v) Not relate to an on-going service complaint or petition (including the ability to exclude any matter which is vexatious, discriminatory or not reasonable) ;
- (vi) Not relate to matters dealt with by another Council committee, unless the issue deals with procedure and policy related issues; and
- (vii) If meets the criteria, agree which body most relevant to consider further, Overview and Scrutiny, Area Committees or LSP.

3.3 The proposed selection criteria outlined above, clearly makes provision for the processing of referrals to be undertaken in an open and transparent way and provides a formal record as to whether the issue is worthy of further investigation together with the agreed course of action and any associated / prescribed timescales.

3.4 **Appendix A** outlines the revised procedure for determining the appropriateness of undertaking such an investigation.

3.5 Furthermore, it should be noted that the CCfA measure requires the Councillor to use every available tool to resolve the issue in the first instance without involving the relevant Area Committee or Scrutiny Committee, therefore any additional burden should be minimal as the mechanism is designed as a last resort after all other avenues have been exhausted.

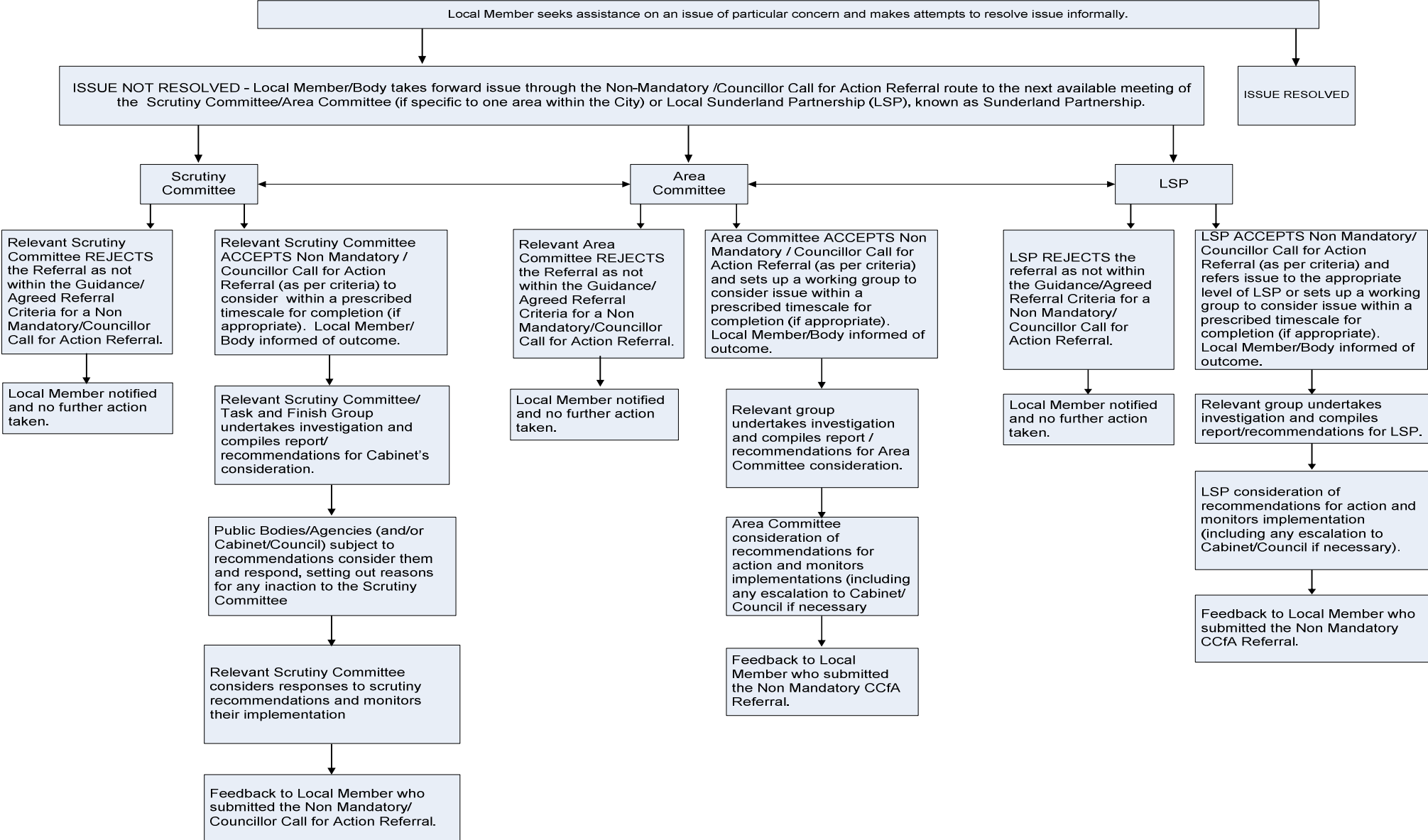
#### **4. RECOMMENDATIONS**

4.1 It is recommended that the Area Committee:-

- (a) Supports the introduction of the referral criteria and process for determining the appropriateness of undertaking an investigation triggered either by the non-mandatory referral / Councillor Call for Action route;
- (b) Subject to the comments received from the Area Committees (along with the Scrutiny Committees and Sunderland Partnership), the revised procedure be referred to Cabinet for approval, implemented and included in the Area Committee Handbook.

**Contact Officer:** Allison Patterson, Area Co-ordination Manager  
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**PROPOSED NEW PROCEDURE FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF  
NON-MANDATORY/COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION REFERRALS TO  
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY**



# Coalfield Area Committee

6 January 2010

## Report of the Executive Director of City Services

### Area Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Networks and Volunteering in Your Area.

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

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Area Committees of progress and proposed future development regarding the involvement and representation of the Voluntary and Community Sector [VCS] within the new Area Arrangements, enabling a more proactive level of participation in the delivery of the Local Area Plans.
- 1.2 This report will also inform Area Committees of the intention to celebrate the contribution of volunteers within each of the five areas of the City and to seek feedback from Committee on arrangements for area based celebrations

#### 2. Background

- 2.1 VCS organisations provide an important route for individuals to become actively involved in their communities. This ranges from helping out with the local youth club to being a member of the Management Committee of the local Community Association. This results in more empowered and involved citizens who are contributing to the aims of the Sunderland Strategy, LAA and Local Area Plans.
- 2.2 Sunderland Community Network [SCN] is the vehicle for representation of the VCS to the Sunderland Partnership and, in the 2009 – 2013 Business Plan is seeking to engage smaller community based organisations. This aligns with the City Council's Area Arrangements which seek to involve local communities.
- 2.3 In order to achieve an environment where local people feel that they are able to have a say in decision making (NI 4) and where our local VCS organisations are thriving and vibrant (NI 7) the City Council, in partnership with SCN, has developed the Area VCS Networks.
- 2.4 Sunderland City Council is also committed to increasing levels of volunteering in the city (NI 6) by encouraging residents to become involved in volunteering opportunities both within the statutory and VCS organisations. Volunteering is an important expression of citizenship and essential to democracy, as recognised in the Sunderland Compact Volunteering Code of Practice. This commitment is recognised by Elected Members at Ward, Area, and at a City Wide level.

#### 3. Current Position

- 3.1 The Vice Chairs of all five Area Committees have agreed to co chair the inaugural Area VCS Networks with a nominated VCS representative. The networks will be unique as they will be made up of VCS organisations operating within the five distinct areas.



- 3.2 Area VCS Networks will be established following a series of inaugural meetings throughout all five areas in December 2009. The Area VCS Networks have been invited to nominate three individuals to represent the sector at area committee level, this will include the VCS vice chair of the Area VCS Network. City Services (Community Development function) will administer the nomination process. SCN will ensure individuals from the organisations are supported to take their place on the three agreed VCS places on Area Committees.
- 3.3 Nominated individuals will represent the views of the VCS within their areas (rather than their own organisational interests) thus providing an opportunity for all VCS organisations within the areas to have a nominated and supported representative at Area Committee.
- 3.4 The Council will support the Area VCS Networks by officer involvement from the Council's Community Development function; this involves a dedicated Area Community Coordinator for each of the five areas of the City. This role is distinctly different to the role of the Area Officers, based in the Office of the Chief Executive. The Area Officers will continue to support Area Committees however the two council functions will be complementary as in the first instance the Area Community Coordinator in the Community Development function will ensure VCS organisations are supported to become involved in the Area Committees and associated Local Area Plan delivery arrangements.
- 3.5 Sunderland City Council and partner organisations from the Sunderland Partnership co-ordinate and fund an Annual Volunteer Celebration hosted by the Mayor of Sunderland at the Seaburn Marriott Hotel in National Volunteers Week [June 1<sup>st</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>]
- 3.6 To complement the annual volunteer event in 2010, it is proposed that area based celebrations are also held to ensure as many volunteers across the city are recognised for their contribution. The area based celebrations will be co-ordinated through the Area Committee process and held prior to the annual city wide celebration at the Seaburn Marriott Hotel. This will provide an opportunity for the Area Committees to thank volunteers for the invaluable contribution they make to their area.

#### **4. Recommendation**

- 4.1 To note this report as an update on the position of the Area VCS Networks and provide feedback in relation to the area based Volunteer celebrations.

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

- 5.1 None

#### **6. Contact Officer:**

- 6.1 Jane Hibberd, Assistant Head of Service (Community Development)  
Tel 561 4587 [jane.hibberd@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:jane.hibberd@sunderland.gov.uk)

**RESPONSIVE LOCAL SERVICES**

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CITY SERVICES AND THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To present current Service Standards to Coalfield Area Committee for the services currently being reviewed as part of the Responsive Local Services (RLS) project and to ascertain present service performance for the Coalfield Area.

**2. INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Area Committee agreed at their meeting in November 2009, to move forward with the Responsive Local Services project, focussing initially important high volume neighbourhood services - graffiti removal, refuse collection, litter, dog fouling and grass cutting services.
- 2.2 In essence the Responsive Local Services project provides each Area Committee with the tools required to tailor services in the locality and communicate the improvements effectively to residents to improve satisfaction and resident understanding of the elected Member's community leadership role.

**3. CONTEXT OF AREA**

- 3.1 Coalfield has 47,001 residents, 16.7% of the City's population. According to figures and categories used in the Census 2001, the area has a predominantly White Ethnic Group. Older People (women over 60 and men over 65) in Coalfield make up 20.2% (9505) and children under 16 make up 18.8% (8837) of the population.
- 3.2 In relation to housing tenure the percentage of owner occupied property is 63.3% which is higher than the City average of 60.2%. Levels are higher than the City average across all wards in Coalfield with the exception of Hetton (58.4%). Levels of social housing are similar to the City average. Gentoo stock accounts for 23.1% of property compared to a city average of 23.2% levels are higher in Hetton where Gentoo stock is 27.8% of housing tenure. Housing associations comprise 8.8% of property compared to a city average of 10.3%.
- 3.3 The Coalfield Area is made up of Copt Hill, Hetton, Houghton and Shiney Row wards. In accordance with the Place Survey 2008, residents are generally satisfied with the services provided with 65% stating that rubbish or litter lying around was not a problem. 72% of residents do not see Graffiti as a problem and 86% are satisfied with refuse collection. 57% are satisfied with keeping public land clear of litter and refuse and 85% satisfied with grass cutting of open spaces.

**4. CURRENT SERVICE STANDARDS**

- 4.1 Refuse Collection and recycling
- carry out a weekly collection of waste from households in a green wheeled bin;
  - carry out fortnightly collections of green waste (brown wheeled bin) and other recyclable materials (black kerb-it box)

- collect, free of charge, bulky items of household waste or sacks of garden refuse or other waste which cannot be accommodated in the wheeled bin. 3 collections (of 8 items or less) in any one financial year (1st April to 31st March).

4.2 Graffiti removal – Graffiti is removed from highways and public buildings. The council also removes graffiti from private property subject to owners' authorisation. The target in 2009/2010 is to remove graffiti within 2 working days from the time it is reported.

4.3 Grass Cutting – General Standards

- Grass is maintained within the city on varied frequencies from 1 occasion per year to up to 30 occasions per year, depending on the site and growing conditions. The majority of grass is cut 18 occasions per year at 2 to 3 weekly intervals, depending on weather conditions.

4.4 Dog Fouling – Sunderland City Council has actively been promoting responsible dog ownership in the City through a rolling programme of education and awareness. However, in order to further the campaign against dog fouling the Council has now adopted the provisions of the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996.

Under the Act it is an offence for anyone in charge of a dog to fail to clear up after it has fouled in a designated area. The majority of land in Sunderland open to the public is designated land. Sunderland City Council is enforcing the law and offenders may receive an on the spot fine of £50.00 or up to £1000 if the matter goes before the Court.

The service standard that applies to the removal of dog fouling is 24 hours or immediately if an operative is at the location.

4.5 Litter removal - Sunderland City Council carry out regular and routine cleaning and litter-picking of pavements, footpaths, carriageways and verges throughout the City.

The service standard for litter removal is 24 hours for a standard response or 2 hours for an emergency response e.g. broken glass.

## **5. SERVICE PERFORMANCE – SEPTEMBER TO OCTOBER 2009**

5.1 Refuse Collection – Each month we empty on average 84,623 wheeled bins within the Coalfield Area and provide 1,384 assisted collections per week. At present we have an average of 25 missed bin collections reported each month (0.0003%) and 1 missed assisted collection (0.0007%).

5.2 Graffiti removal – The speed at which graffiti reported to the council is removed is monitored. The target in 2009/2010 is to remove graffiti within 2 working days from the time it is reported. Across the city we are presently averaging removal within 0.29 working days.

5.3 Grass Cutting – 2 requests for service were received to remove grass from paths, 1 of which was reported via the Staff Reporting Line.

5.4 Dog Fouling – 18 incidents of dog fouling were reported, 1 of which was reported via the Staff Reporting Line.

5.5 Litter removal – 67 reports of litter or debris were received, 54 of which were reported via the Staff Reporting Line.

- 5.6 An officer will attend the area committee in January to highlight the work being undertaken in this area.
- 5.7 It is intended that the Committee receives further updates relating to service performance at future meetings. The detail provided, including service responsiveness and levels of satisfaction, will also be improved to build a more detailed picture of environmental service issues in the area. Analysis of this data, including geographical distribution of incidents and service requests, will assist in allocating resources to solve local problems and tailoring services to meet local needs.

## **6. LOCAL AREA PLANNING**

- 6.1 The priorities within the Coalfield Local Area Plan for the Attractive and Inclusive Theme are to 'Make streets and the environment more attractive'.
- 6.2 The local objectives, related to the Responsive Local Services project are:
- reduce environmental crime including dog fouling litter and graffiti
  - improve local shopping centres
  - make landlords accountable for state of property
  - make estates / residential areas more attractive

## **7. LOCAL PROBLEM SOLVING**

- 7.1 The current service standards coupled with current performance information provides committee with a sound platform to discuss area issues in relation to the five services noted. An issue log will be completed to ensure all discussions are recorded.
- 7.2 It is important to note that, at this time, the project can only consider any service tailoring on an area basis, not community or neighbourhood. As the project develops and becomes more sophisticated the potential for more localised tailoring can be considered.
- 7.3 Should the committee feel that the information provided highlights a local problem that should be addressed they can bring partners together via an existing group or sub group of the committee to undertake joint working to address the problem. Progress in this respect will be reported to the committee at the next meeting.

## **8.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 8.1 The Coalfield Area Committee are requested to note this report for information and to accept further updates from the committee sub group.

## **9.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 9.1 Staff Reporting Line information statistics – September to October 2009
- 9.2 Customer Services Requests for Service – September to October 2009
- 9.3 Place Survey 2008
- 9.4 Coalfield Local Area Plan