

Item 3 Annex 2

Sunderland City Council Service Plans – Washington Area Priorities, for information purposes only.

ADULT SERVICES: Strategic Commissioning Team and Strategic Safeguarding Team

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Washington Old School	In partnership with Strategic Housing, development of Supported Living Accommodation for adults with social care, support and accommodation needs	7/22	11/23	Phased approach undertaken with 14 units now occupied. Final incoming tenant moving in w/b 21/11/23. Service will be fully operational at this point.
Washington Community Resource Centre	Redevelopment of building-based day care services	4/23	TBC	<p>Building surveys have been undertaken by Property Services and improvement works have been identified. Discussions are ongoing in relation to the implementation of the improvement works.</p> <p>Due to the implications around Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) and the immediate need for SCC to prioritise surveys/inspections across the Councils building assets in the short term, Property Services are unable to take forward the required works in the day centres. As a consequence, we are in discussion with SCC on options that can support Commissioning to take development work forward.</p>
Moor Way	Development of extra care accommodation provision for adults with social care, support and accommodation needs, with partnership with the Housing provider	1/24	Completion early 2026	Planning permission has been obtained. Building work will start beginning of Jan 2024 with completion anticipated early 2026. Ongoing meetings TBA with the support provider which will involve Adult Social Care reps.

CITY DEVELOPMENT: Economic Regeneration

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Arts Centre Washington improvement works	Improvement works funded through the capital programme	4/23	3/24	<p>Internal improvements completed to Low Barn, Granary, Theatre and Foyer including improved bar facilities, new lighting, M&E improvements, flooring and decoration throughout.</p> <p>New accessible lift installed to access Granary and operational.</p> <p>External improvements to commence January 2024 to external courtyard including new paving, and landscape works.</p> <p>Improvements to car park completed.</p>
Washington library improvements	Improvement works funded through the capital programme	4/23	3/24	<p>Washington Library will close on Saturday 11th November – The decant of all internal furniture will take place in the weeks following ready for construction work to begin on site WC Monday 4th December 2023.</p> <p>Alternative provision in Washington will be provided during this time including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Click and collect service from Connections (opposite the library) • Pop up library delivered from The Building Blocks Centre. • Extended Books at home provision
North East Community Forest 2023/24 planting	Tree and hedgerow planting at a series of individual sites as part of Low Carbon Framework. Options for sites in each area to be assessed and then discussed with Neighbourhood & Community Boards	9/23	3/24	<p>Individual planting schemes developed in further detail, with some requiring further consultation before the overall programme is finalised. Seven sites currently have in-principle funding approval: Holmeside Phase 2 (East); Hetton Primary School (Coalfield); Rickleton Primary School (Washington); Roker Park (North), Silksworth Ski Slope and Pit Wheel (West); Doxford Park (East); Ryhope Junior School (East). An additional 3-4 sites are also being considered and are currently at the feasibility stage.</p>

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Low Carbon Framework and Action Plan	Range of city-wide low carbon programmes and projects across the seven strategic priority areas to include implementation within individual Area Committee areas			<p>Additional green-infrastructure projects (over and above NE Community Forest activity) include 'Tiny Forests' schemes to be planted at Sandhill View Academy (West) and Hudson Road Primary (East) subject to feasibility and final approvals; Link Together Heritage Lottery bid for £915,000 has been submitted – if successful it will support greenspace uplift to 13 sites across the Coalfield.</p> <p>Sunderland City Council is working in partnership with energy suppliers Utilita and E.On on the current phase of Energy Company Obligation (ECO4), which requires energy suppliers to implement energy efficiency improvements in residents' homes. The scheme is aimed at lower income and/or vulnerable households and less energy efficient properties with the aims of tackling fuel poverty, reducing carbon emissions from the domestic sector and improving thermal comfort. The ECO4 scheme was launched in October and is available to residents in all areas of Sunderland (city-wide). Utilita will include a particular focus on engaging with residents in Southwick (North) and E.On with residents in Hendon (East) during Nov/Dec to raise awareness of the scheme and its benefits to residents. Eco-4 will run to 2026 across the city.</p>

CITY DEVELOPMENT: Regulatory Services

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Enforcement Project (currently AC funded)	<p>1 x Enforcement Officer <i>Enforcement Signage</i> <i>Replacement of wheellied bins/equipment in residential multi occupied properties</i> <i>10 Streetwatch cameras</i></p> <p>Proactive approach to complement and add value to the current Sunderland City Council and Gentoo provision and allow for the flexibility to respond to Councillors requests and reporting of incidents as well as forging relationships with, working in partnership with and supporting other current initiatives such as Clean and Green and Together Clean and Green.</p>	04/21	03/24	<p>AC update submitted October 2023 via agreed reporting</p> <p>Paper will go to Novembers Board meeting outlining the new Motorcycle Disorder team and the ask of AC.</p>

CORPORATE SERVICES: Smart City Team

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Digital Inclusion	Delivery of a range of DI initiatives subject to interest/approval	4/23	4/26	Significant work ongoing, a newsletter is available and can be circulated if of interest and further information can be found in the City Resources section of our website: www.sunderlandoursmartcity.com In addition, Digital Dashboards have been produced for every ward detailing the existing digital provision, challenges, and potential opportunities for consideration. Each digital dashboard follows at the end of this document.
Washington 60	Inclusion of some form of interactive event	4/23		The team are happy to support ideas for this event once planning is underway.
Smart Cities	Opportunities for a range of digital and data solutions e.g. interactive play, smart bins etc	4/23		Significant work ongoing, further information can be found across our website and in the Innovation Challenges section: www.sunderlandoursmartcity.com

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES: Bereavement Services

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expend. by	Area Committee quarterly update
<p>Cemetery Improvements</p>	<p>Prioritisation of improvement measures within area cemeteries according to an assessment of risk, need and local demand</p>	<p>June 22</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>As part of the ongoing cemetery improvement works led by the Cemetery Improvement Boards, work is advancing on the enforcement of cemetery regulations relating to unauthorised items and enclosures on lawn section graves. In the coming week, signage will be installed in relevant cemetery sections providing advanced notice of the removal of unauthorised items on lawn section graves, following written notice of the requirements to remove items sent to each grave owner concerned. Following the initial removal works, operations will temporarily cease for the Christmas period and resume in January, continuing until complete.</p> <p>As part of the memorial safety programme in all cemeteries, safety audits have now been conducted and we are awaiting the findings from our consultants. Further updates will follow as the findings are available.</p> <p>Cemetery Improvement Board meetings will continue to convene on a bi-monthly basis and have been instrumental in developing the process for the regulatory implementation. As regulatory enforcement becomes part of business as usual, and the memorial safety testing programme is underway, cemetery specific action plans will be introduced to identify and deliver on improvement works specific to each cemetery dependant on local requirements and need. In addition to the regulatory enforcement and MST programme, the board are currently reviewing options to improve cemetery maintenance including the sowing of low cover and slow growing clover seed in older sections as an alternative to grass, as well as increased signage relating to issues around the control of dogs in cemeteries.</p>

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES: Local Services

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Glyphosate Trial	A trial project to help us understand the impact of alternative weed control options in different environments, with a view to the potential elimination of the use of herbicides in weed killing.	1 st April 2023	September 2023	The further targeted trials which started in April have continued into November 2023. The detailed trial will provide clear evidence to review, enabling consideration of the available options, cost and resource implications for each method tested. The results of the trial will inform the appropriate next steps.
Tree Surveying	A citywide tree inspection and mapping project.	May 2023	2027	As of 9 th of November 9,353 trees have been surveyed. East and West area street trees are now complete, with the current focus being on the Green Flag parks situated within these areas.
E Technology Trials	Trialling alternative Electric equipment to replace petrol fuelled kit to reduce carbon emissions.	May 2023		Trials are continuing with appropriate tools being considered as part of our fleet replacement capital programme

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES: Winter Maintenance

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Winter Smart Solutions	Trials of several infrared road surface sensors across the highway network.	Continue through the winter of 2023/2024	Testing of various options remains ongoing through the winter of 2023/2024	Following the recent trial of 10 smart sensors at a variety of key locations across the city, the detailed findings of the trial have enabled the Environmental Services Winter Maintenance Team, to further improve the planning for the essential replacement of the city's Vaisala weather station network and ensure that the positioning of the new equipment is optimised in response to the current and future development of new key

				routes and any road network changes across the city. With the new installations of modern Vaisala equipment occurring from May 2024, the road users of Sunderland can be assured the city will have some of the most advanced weather monitoring and forecasting equipment available, provided and supported by one of the market leaders in the industry.
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HEALTH HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES: Area Arrangements

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Developing the community support offer, working closely with the voluntary sector to enable maximise positive outcomes from Social Prescribing	Supporting VCS to develop their capacity to deliver commissioned community support services within communities	April 2023	March 2025	UKSPF funds secured to support VCS in Sunderland to deliver 12 months of community support across the city. VCS providers will support the establishment of the Links for Life social prescribing programme in Sunderland, signing a delivery charter, ensuring a digital platform is developed and delivery is evaluated to inform future community support service delivery
VCS Alliance – growing capacity of voluntary and community sector	Continue to work in partnership with the voluntary sector Alliance to maximise resources into the sector via external funding and grow social value resources	April 2023	March 2025	The Council continue to support the VS Alliance in Sunderland, who are now an independent Charity as a member of their strategy board, alongside other VCS partners, Gentoo and the ICB.
Delivery of Financial Wellbeing Strategy Delivery Plan	Supporting residents within areas to improve their resilience	April 2023	March 2025	<p>Continue to use household data and intelligence to identify issues and inform Support offer available within communities, working closely with partners including the voluntary sector. The UKSPF community support offer is supporting residents to become financially resilient and forms a core part of the wider Links for Life service offer.</p> <p>The team continues to talk to residents in communities about their experience and report on issues and themes from the conversations.</p>

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
				<p>The work is facilitated by excellent relationships already established with local VCS organisations.</p> <p>We are combining quantitative and qualitative data to provide context and a deeper understanding of the Lived experience of residents.</p> <p>We are currently refining a recording and reporting system to manage both statistical and anecdotal information so that if a service or partner organisation requires some contextual information we can find and provide it.</p>

Area Committee Update: LINKS FOR LIFE SUNDERLAND



Links for Life is Sunderland's approach to social prescribing; working with our partners to help people live the best life they can by linking them to community level services and support to make a lasting difference to their health and wellbeing.

Partners recognise that without growth of the service offer in the community we will not reduce health inequalities. Effort has gone into building support for voluntary and community groups who are delivering vital services within our communities.

WHAT IS SOCIAL PRESCRIBING?

Factors such as stress, unemployment, debt and loneliness can affect our health.¹ Also, one in five GP appointments are about issues wider than health, especially for people living in areas of high deprivation.²

Social Prescribing is about connecting people with activities and services that improve their physical and mental health, and wellbeing. It supports people to identify and discuss their own support needs, giving them time to focus on 'what matters to them' and taking a holistic approach to their health and wellbeing.

¹ [Social determinants of health \(who.int\)](https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/social-determinants-of-health)

² NHS England » Social prescribing as a way of tackling health inequalities in all health settings

Supporting residents to improve their health and wellbeing through self-help and connections to community-based support services, often provided by our VCS services, is vital to support our residents with the range of social issues which drive up health inequalities in our city. Key benefits can include improved social connections, improvement in the management of health and health status, improvement in mental health and wellbeing and life enrichment.³

LINKS FOR LIFE SUNDERLAND

To build on all the positive work that already happens in Sunderland, partners are working on developing a model, called Links for Life Sunderland, which will be launched in April 2024.

Links for Life Sunderland will bring together people within communities, supporting everyone to have healthy, happy lives, with no one left behind.

A video has been produced all about Links for Life Sunderland – see here [Links for Life Sunderland - https://youtu.be/h8EizBukS40](https://youtu.be/h8EizBukS40)

What are the aims:

- Residents and partners will be able to easily find information, including community-based services, to make better informed choices to help their health and wellbeing.
- People will recognise Links for Life Sunderland and will associate it with quality, accessibility and connectiveness.
- Residents will be able to get support through more community-based partners, including VCS, through improved promotion, collaboration and demonstration of their impact.
- Links for Life Sunderland will be developed on evidence-based practice and evaluation.
- Investment will be targeted and driven by local data, intelligence and knowledge from the system.

What are we doing:

- Creating the Links for Life Sunderland brand, informed by the views of residents and making sure it is recognised and visible across the city.
- Developing a ‘digital community support platform’, to make sure people can find the information and help they need.
- Mapping our community buildings and services to understand and help address gaps, making sure we focus our efforts on people and places that can’t access services.

³ Bild, E and Pachana, N,A, Social prescribing: A narrative review on how community engagement can improve wellbeing in later life, Oct 2022.

- Supporting the voluntary sector to grow the Links for Life offer within community settings. Including the provision of Community grant schemes to support voluntary sector organisations in developing Links for Life delivery centres within communities and ensure the difference their work makes to the lives of residents, is recognised and supported by all partners.
- Creating a charter that makes sure we have shared behaviours and values and everyone receives a good quality service that meets expectations
- Working alongside the community wealth building strategy / social value initiatives in the city to financially support our voluntary sector as well as support much needed improvements within our community facilities.

HEALTH, HOUSING & COMMUNITIES: Housing Development

<p>Housing Delivery and Investment Plan 2020-26 – approved to deliver 574 new Council owned homes for letting, broken down into three workstreams:</p> <p>Empty Homes - 210 Bungalows - 193 Supported - 171</p>	<p>Washington Empty Homes - 32 Bungalows - 19 Supported - 25</p>	<p>Feb 2020</p>	<p>March 2026</p>	<p>Due to the current financial and economic position with increased inflationary pressures, increasing borrowing rates, increasing build costs and no growth in Homes England grant, properties linked to Housing Revenue Account (HRA) activities are suspended until the economic climate changes to enable the viability of the HRA in the future. Some non-HRA activity including supported accommodation which does not sit within the HRA will continue.</p> <p>Empty Homes - 8 Bungalows - 4 Supported – 18</p>
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HEALTH HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES: Housing Strategy

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
<p>The following ward shows a high prevalence of empty properties: <i>Washington North</i></p> <p>The service is generally responsive based on requests for service and the severity of empty property conditions. However, the Empty Homes Strategy identified the areas of the City where empty properties were most prevalent. Work to tackle empty properties is targeted in these areas.</p>	This is not a specific project	In progress	<p>Initial presentation complete</p> <p>Future reports presented for Area Committee Information quarterly</p>	<p>A presentation on Empty Properties has been delivered to all Area Committees. This showed the data relating to area, Ward and across the City.</p> <p>An Empty Homes Report is being developed following the views and questions provided as part of the Area Committee discussions.</p> <p>This report will be presented to Area Committees quarterly</p>

HEALTH HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES: Welfare Reform Service and Business Development

Foodbank Support	Council currently supporting range of foodbanks / food aid organisations in all area of the city – majority in East / West via fresh food and FareShare – will be refining offer / support during the year	N/a	N/a	Service is currently collating foodbank usage in each local area to understand gaps in provision and issues within communities. Service also supporting foodbanks to receive donations ahead of the Christmas period. Information continues to be made available for residents to access via website and also voluntary sector and partners such as housing, health, etc.
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HEALTH HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES: Active Sunderland

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Parks tennis court programme	Refurbish tennis courts in Usworth Park	5/23	7/23	Complete and operational
Parks tennis court programme	Develop tennis activation programme	6/23	10/23	Complete – taking place
Regular physical activity opportunity	Consultation and development of bid for Playzone in Washington – location tbc	7/23	10/23	Engagement session in member diary 11/9/23 Additional Detailed supplied to ward members 3/11/23
Weight management service	Establish 1 delivery site for targeted offer	5/23	12/23	Complete and operational - taking place at Washington Millennium Centre

HEALTH HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES: Public Health and Integrated Commissioning – Living Well

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Development of Social Prescribing hubs	To deliver Social Prescribing “hub” to allow for localised presence of the offer	4/23	3/25	Progressing model development
Stop Smoking Clinics	To deliver stop smoking clinics in the wards with the highest smoking rates	4/23	12/12	Galleries Health Centre – established The Millennium Centre – planned to start mid September

TOGETHER FOR CHILDREN: Early Help Systems and Family Hubs

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Family Hub	<p>The Family Hubs and Start for Life programme helps meet commitments in The best start for life: a vision for the 1,001 critical days, published as government policy in March 2021. This programme is jointly led by the Department for Education (DfE) and Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC).</p> <p>The aim of Family Hubs is to join up and enhance services, ensuring all parents and carers can access the support they need when they need it. To bring services together and make them more accessible, improve the connections between families, professionals, services, and providers, and put relationships at the heart of family support.</p> <p>Following a competitive bidding process, 14 trailblazers were selected and awarded additional funding to go further and faster in delivering some or all of the Start for Life services funded by the Family Hubs and Start for Life programme – peri-natal mental health and parent-infant relationships, infant feeding, and parenting support. Sunderland were one of the 14 local authority areas who were awarded trailblazer status.</p> <p>Sunderland will have 5 Family Hubs across the city offering services from conception up until the age of 18 or 25 for young people with special educational needs.</p> <p>Early Help targeted family support teams are co-located within the family hubs. These teams provide targeted support to families with children aged 0 to 19. The Early Help workers</p>	2022	2025	<p>Rainbow Family Hub</p> <p>Rainbow was launched as a Family hub in May 2023 offering a number of groups for early years, a stay and play, play space and sensory room.</p> <p>Co-Delivery with ante-natal services is well underway. Early years CAMH’s worker sits within the hubs. A SALT will be working from the hubs in the new year.</p> <p>The health room for booking in of pregnancies has recently been completed and is now functional for these appointments.</p> <p>Registrar service sits at Rainbow on a weekly basis so parents are able to register their baby’s birth within the hub.</p> <p>The Rainbow hub hosts the weekly Bread and Butter Thing offer.</p>

	<p>complete a robust assessment and plan, provide interventions and work alongside our partners to address the needs of children young people and their families.</p> <p>https://www.togetherforchildren.org.uk/article/27857/Start-for-Life</p>			
Digital Family Hub – My Best Life	<p>The face to face offer Sunderland Family Hubs offer is mirrored as a virtual offer to our children, young people and families, with access to activities, services and resources.</p> <p>MBL is not the finished article. The platform is being co-produced with young people, parent/carers and professionals across the city.</p> <p>MBL will also provide families with information around childcare, SEND local offer, support for older children and young people in addition to interactive resources that families can access at home.</p>			<p>Family Hub activities have been added to MBL.</p> <p>Co-production sessions have been carried out in November by the MBL team with;</p> <p>Young people Parent and Carer via Family Hub panels. Parent/Carer Forum Professionals from Family Hubs, Health, Early Help, SEND, council, public health etc.</p> <p>Communications around launch are currently in development with review of launching end of Nov 23.</p> <p>The platform will be updated and added to over the coming months.</p>
Supporting Families	<p>The Supporting Families: early help system guide outlines a national vision and descriptors for a mature early help system that is shared by Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and Department for Education.</p> <p>It has been widely consulted upon across other government departments and local areas and is based on what is working around the country.</p>	Apr 22	Mar 25	<p>Three priorities have been identified as part of our Early Help System Self-Assessment.</p> <p>Our Key Priorities have been identified for varied reasons:</p> <p>7.2 Community - Our relationship with community groups and voluntary organisations * This activity matured from 1 - 2 in the</p>

				<p>past 12 months. We feel concentrating on the actions within this priority will benefit the residents of Sunderland greatly.</p> <p>8.3 Partners have agreed a shared set of measures which collectively represent the effectiveness of the Early Help System *This activity remained at a maturity score of 3 in the past 12 months. Although this activity is more mature than others, we expect to improve the maturity of a number of other activities by delivering the actions relating 8.3 (especially less mature activities such as 8.4 & 8.5)</p> <p>9.3 Our case management system allows us to record all issues affecting the family and outcomes * As our least mature activity (scoring 1) we have devised a robust plan to improve this activity.</p>
Holiday Activity & Food	<p>Together for Children and Health, Housing and Communities have worked together to continue to extend HAF provision to the additional two holiday periods on 2023/2024 (Oct 23 and Feb 24) and extend the current HAF offer (Winter 23) to children in households on universal credit and struggling with the cost of living but not eligible for means tested free school meals.</p> <p>To ensure no duplication of funding the following formula has been agreed;</p>	Easter 2021	March 2025	HAF has been delivered over October half term funded fully by Public Health and will also fund Feb 2024.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DfE pay for full session including food for Means tested FSM and 15% vulnerable (of our total number of sessions offered).• Public Health would pay for the session without food for vulnerable children over the DFE 15% allowance and those struggling with the cost of living of our total number of sessions offered, plus food for sessions where it is offered but they don't show (HSF can only pay for an actual meal taken).• HSF would pay for the meals taken at £5 per head for the total number that has attended a session for vulnerable children over the DFE 15% allowance and those struggling with the cost of living of our total number of sessions offered. This would be a reconciliation process. <p>In addition, HSF would offer vouchers for means tested families over Winter 2023</p>			
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