



# **THE FUTURE OF BARNARDO'S IN THE SOUTH WEST COALFIELD AREA OF SUNDERLAND**

**September 2008**

# Contents

## Executive Summary

1. Introduction
2. Background Information
3. Methodology
4. Findings
  - a New area
  - b Youth/Community Allotment
  - c Information from the revised English Indices of Deprivation 2007
  - d Links with local, regional and national policy
5. Conclusions
6. Recommendations
7. Acknowledgements
8. Bibliography

## Appendices

- A. Excerpt from Barnardo's (The Hive) Annual Report 2007/2008 -Achievements (outcomes and outputs)
- B. Issues to take into consideration when making decisions about future work
- C. Contacts
- D. Forms used in research
  - Da Local groups and faith based organisations, Agencies and Local Elected Members Consultation Questionnaire for new area
  - Db Consultation questionnaire used for Barnardos, The Hive- No 49 Youth & Community Allotment.

**Contact Details: The Hive 27/29 Queensway Houghton-le-Spring  
DH5 8EL**

**Telephone Number: 0191 5845729 (The Hive-Racecourse)**

**Fax: 0191 512**

**Telephone Number: 0191 3858673 (The Hive-Fence Houses)**

**Marian McGuinness - Children's Services Manager**

**E mail: [marian.mcguinness@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:marian.mcguinness@barnardos.org.uk)**

**Audrey Bewick - Deputy Children's Services Manager**

**E mail: [audrey.bewick@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:audrey.bewick@barnardos.org.uk)**

## Executive Summary

This consultation was undertaken to ascertain if Barnardo's should continue to work in the South West Coalfield of Sunderland and if so which area should we be working in and the issues that are most important to locally run groups and faith based organisations, local elected members and agencies; as the aims and objectives of our current work in Fence Houses and No 49 Allotment project will have been achieved by March 2009.

In order to help make this decision we used information contained in external evaluations of our work in Fence Houses Community Development Project and Number 49 Youth/Community Allotment (See Excerpt from Barnardo's -The Hive Annual Report 2007/2008 -Achievements outcomes and outputs at appendix A and Issues to be taken into consideration at Appendix B), Local, Regional and National policy (for example the Sunderland Strategy) and Barnardo's Business Plan 2007/10.

The key questions needing to be answered during this research were;

- Did you agree with Moorsley which was identified in the previous consultation exercise carried out in 2004. If not, which area identified by the revised English Indices of Multi Deprivation 2007, would benefit from Barnardo's intervention, using a Community Development approach we should be working in, within the South West Coalfield.
- What issue/s should be addressed in the area that is of the most concern to locally run groups and faith based organisations, local elected members and agencies offering services in the Coalfield Area?
- To identify a suitable option for the No 49 Allotment Project to continue or not?

Responses from questionnaires received were cross referenced with the information at Appendix A & B and informed by the revised indices of deprivation figures for 2007 and local, regional and national policies.

It was clear from analysis that

- The Moorsley area (which includes Peat Carr) was favoured as the area that would benefit from Barnardo's (The Hive) Community Development approach to working in communities. The issues of most importance are the involvement of residents in decision making about their community, youth issues, alcohol and drugs, the need for a community building, work with children and access to services.
- Options two and three were favoured for the allotment, which are to keep the lease and look for partners to explore other possibilities e.g. further funding, different management.

## Findings:

- Barnardo's through its' work at the Hive will have achieved what the organisation and their partners have set out to achieve in line with current agreements.
- The area that has been identified as benefiting from Barnardo's Community Development approach is Moorsley this includes Peat Carr.
- The following issues were identified: involving residents in decision making, youth issues, alcohol and drugs, the need for a community building, work with children and access to services.
- The chosen option for the allotment is to keep the lease until March 2009 and work with partners to look for other possibilities in relation to funding and management.

## Recommendations

- Barnardo's should begin the process of developing focussed community development work in the Moorsley area
  - Barnardo's (The Hive) should begin the process of implementing the 'Ready, Steady, Go' model which starts with initial action research in the Moorsley area at a more grass roots level to check out the findings in relation to the issues to be worked on identified above and also to ascertain if there are other issues which have not been identified.
  - To develop an action plan including key partners in the Moorsley area.
- The Barnardo's funding allocated to the Youth Allotment project should continue until March 2009
  - Further discussions with interested partners as identified in the research should take place to pursue other options as identified. However, if alternative options or funding are not viable the lease should be returned to the City of Sunderland by March 2009.
- Locally run groups and faith based organisations, local Elected Members and Agencies who have contributed to this research should be informed of the findings and their input should inform any future developments.

**Excerpt from Barnardo's (The Hive) Annual Report 2007/2008 -Achievements (outcomes and outputs)**

**Fence Houses Community Development Project**-The following are the findings from the external evaluation and in using social capital measurement tools developed by the project (questionnaires and Venn diagrams).

*Child development is powerfully shaped by social capital. Trust, networks, and norms of reciprocity within a child's family, school, peer group, and larger community have far reaching effects on their opportunities and choices, educational achievement, and hence on their behaviour and development*

Robert Putnam 2001

- Reaching individuals and groups other agencies find difficult to reach, a 50 percent increase in all community groups working together and a 16 percent increase in the entire village/ neighbourhood working together.
- Changes in individuals' self confidence, personal development and aspirations. An increase of 22 percent of local people reported that they are involved 'a lot' in decision making post March 2006
- Increased knowledge about drugs issues  
The most striking impact at an individual level is an increased knowledge about drugs issues and a positive transformation in thinking and attitudes.
- Changes in thinking and attitudes
- Investing skills and knowledge in the development of communities. An increase of 13 percent of local people taking part in training. With 16 percent of local people stating they are now very actively involved in training.
- Improving relationships between other agencies and community groups and improved links between community groups. Agencies and groups concerned with children and young people, residents and housing say they are working together better than they were before March 2006
- Confidence that Barnardos can support communities to find solutions to problem. Local people and agencies state that Barnardo's tends to be central to many groups working together better and plays a key role in promoting and facilitating joint working
- Positive changes in the practices of other agencies 'The community safety day involved Gentoo, Police, Social Service and the Environmental Agency etc. There was a fantastic take up, we had 180 people in 12 hours, this is much better than in other areas (where we get 20 – 30) and I think this is down to Barnardo's staff getting people to come along'

'It's personal as well, my kids are teenagers and if they came in with anything I wouldn't have known, I would know about it now... I did not want to know about drugs and I tried to block it out of my life I did not want it to be there.'

**Number 49 youth/community allotment**-The following are the findings using the Likhert scale to measure the difference made by the project with young people and their parents and carers. Young people reported that they are

- More confident and feeling better about self 3.8 in 2007 and 3.9 in 2008

- Feeling safe 3.9 in 2007 and 4.3 in 2008
- Learning in a different way and achieving more 3.9 in 2007 and 3.7 in 2008
- Knowing more about the environment and having new skills 3.9 in 2007 and 3.6 in 2008
- More responsible 3.5 in 2007 and 3.8 in 2008
- Building relationships with new people 3.7 in 2007 and 4.1 in 2008
- Shy people making friends - Agreement to strong agreement 3.9 in 2007 and 4.4. in 2008
- Growing up where people accept difference and diversity 3.9 in 2007 and 4.0 in 2008

'The allotment is great, I do loads of digging and it helps me lose weight'

'We have grown, "tatties", chives, carrots, strawberries and cucumber this year it goes straight from the earth to home, not on a lorry'

Parents and carers reported that

- More confident as a parent/ carer 3.7 in 2007 and 3.9 in 2008
- Knowing more about the environment and horticulture 4.5 in 2007 and the same in 2008
- More involved in decisions about children 3.9 in 2007 and 4.0
- Knowing more about the things that can affect children and young people 4.1 in 2007 and 4.3

(The Hive Annual Report 2007-2008)

**Issues to be taken into consideration when making decisions about future work.**

- External evaluations of both The Hive Fence Houses Community Development and No 49 Allotment projects have identified that aims and objectives for the work has been met.
- Barnardo's currently hold the lease for the allotment project, however, should our involvement cease we have been informed by Sunderland City Council that this would revert to the Council. The lease would then be allocated to the next person on the waiting list.
- Barnardo's cannot fund future work 100%. This means we need to work with others whose aims are the same as ours, which is that the lives of children should be free from poverty, abuse and discrimination.
- The lease for our premises The Hive on the Racecourse estate ceases in November 2008
- Working Neighbourhoods Fund for Fence Houses ceases in September 2008
- Strategic Initiatives Budget funding for Fence Houses ceases in March 2009
- URBAN II funding (No 49 Allotment) sessional work ceases in June 2008 with final completion September 2008
- The Hive's model of work for measuring social capital is based on twelve years of experience, skill and knowledge within the South West Coalfield Area and would be used to begin any future work within the area.

Elected members contacted

Appendix C

1. Cllr A Hall
2. Cllr A Maddison
3. Cllr AR Wilkinson
4. Cllr J Blackburn
5. Cllr Mrs Blackburn
6. Cllr S Blackburn
7. Cllr CR Nairns
8. Cllr Dennis Richardson
9. Cllr Derek Smith
10. Cllr Ethel Richardson
11. Cllr EA Rankin
12. Cllr EM Metcalfe
13. Cllr Flornence Anderson
14. Cllr GW Hepple
15. Cllr Glover
16. Cllr J Heron
17. Cllr R Heron
18. Cllr J Blackburn
19. Cllr Jack Steel
20. Cllr John Scott
21. Cllr Julianna Heron
22. Cllr Kath Rolph
23. Cllr R Meadows
24. Cllr MA Adamson
25. Cllr MA Summerill
26. Cllr S Blackburn
27. Cllr Shelia Ellis
28. Cllr Spedding
29. Cllr Storey
30. Cllr Tate
31. Cllr Wakefield
32. Cllr WS Robinson
33. Fraser Kemp Mp also received a copy of the information

## Local groups and Faith based organisations(Churches)

1. Area Dean Eddie Wilkinson/MalcolmNewbottle Church
2. Boundary Residents Ass
3. Burnside Community Dev Group
4. Clasp Community Listening and Support Project
5. Coalfield Forum Joan Carthy
6. Face/Easington Churches Together
7. Fence Houses Focus Group
8. Fence Houses Focus Group
9. Hetton Community Association
10. Houghton Churches together
11. Joe Lawson
12. Moorsley Residents
13. Newbottle Community Assoc
14. Newbottle Community Assoc
15. Peshaw Community Assoc
16. Showmen's Guild
17. Square Route Group
18. St Andrew Church –M.Summerhill

## Agencies contacted

1. A. Martin Sunderland Carers
2. Age Concern
3. Alison Clark URBAN
4. Ania Caink Children Services
5. Bernard Gilpen Primary
6. Bill Robinson Social Enterprise Sunderland
7. Sunderland CVS
8. Burnside Primary
9. Children Services Linda Mason
10. Connexions Paul Wilson/Pat Garrigan
11. Connexions Ray Reay
12. Dubmire Primary
13. Easington lane Primary
14. Environmental Services-Ian Cockburn
15. Fed of City Farms and Gardens
16. Gentoo J Craggs
17. Gentoo M Caldwell
18. Gill Bell Hetton Centre
19. Gillas Lane Primary
20. Hetton Comprehensive
21. Hetton Primary
22. Houghton Kepier
23. Houghton Sports Paula Smith
24. Jane Hibberd CCS
25. June Forster CCS
26. K. Hunter Wearable
27. Ken Richardson/ Mark Roberts STPCT
28. Leslie Roy Job linkage
29. Nicol Trueman -Regeneration
30. North East Refugee Service
31. Police Lisa Theaker Act Inspector
32. R Blair Credit Union
33. Roger Morris
34. Ruth Barker CS
35. SCVS
36. ShARP
37. Shiney Row Childcare - Lisa Wake
38. Springboard Denise Wilkinson
39. ST Michaels Drop in
40. ST Michaels RC School
41. Stuart Thompson Safer Communities
42. Susan Brown ELCAP
43. Y Housing
44. Youth Dev Group Andy Neal/Michael Elsey
45. YMCA - Marc Husband
46. New Beginnings
47. Community Network
48. BME Network

Forms used to gather information from groups and faith based organisations, local elected members and agencies.

## The Future of Barnardo's in the South West Coalfield area.

### Groups and Faith Based organisations, Agencies and Local Elected Members Consultation Questionnaire

Name
Name of organisation and your position
Date

Question	Answer
<p><b>1. Do you still agree with Barnardos initial research which highlighted Moorsley as an area that would benefit from Barnardos Community Development approach?</b></p> <p><b>If not why?</b></p> <p><b>(please see attached executive summary of The future of Barnardos in the South West Coalfield Area November 2004)</b></p>	
<p><b>2. If you disagree please state which area in the South West Coalfield area you think would benefit and why?</b></p>	

<b>3. What issues would you like to see addressed?</b>	
<b>4. Given the opportunity, would you be willing to enter into a partnership with Barnardo's The Hive?</b>  <b>If yes, how? (for example)</b> <b>Funding?</b> <b>Premises?</b>	

**Forms used to gather information for Barnardos, The Hive- No 49 Youth & Community Allotment.**

**Barnardos, The Hive- No 49 Youth & Community Allotment.**

<b>Name</b>
<b>Name of organisation and your position</b>
<b>Date</b>

**Current situation;**

**Barnardos currently hold the lease for the allotment project, however, should our involvement cease we have been informed by Sunderland City Council that this would revert to the Council. The lease would then be allocated to the next person on the waiting list. This leaves us with the following options-please choose which option you think is the most appropriate.**

<b>Option</b>	<b>Please indicate your choice</b>
<b>1. Barnardos-The Hive return the lease to the City of Sunderland in March 2009 and exit from the allotment.</b>	
<b>2. We keep the lease post March 2009 and look for further funding opportunities based upon the needs of the community. This will also give volunteers the opportunity to learn how to maintain the allotment which would retain it as a community resource. If further funding isn't available then we revert to option 1.</b>	
<b>3. Can you think of any other options? (for example) Do you know of any other funding? Is your organisation open to working with Barnardos on option 2?</b>	
<b>4. Any other comments?</b>	