

Washington Neighbourhood Delivery Plan 2023 / 2026



The Area Plan commits the Area Committee to a number of priorities, which will be delivered within the Washington area. This Delivery Plan provides an update on progress on the Area Committee's Area Plan and will be monitored by the Area Committee and actions will be addressed throughout the next three years via the Washington Neighbourhood and Community Board.

Vibrant Smart City - Priorities and Actions 2023-26	
Action	Update
A plantation and tree management programme	Ongoing discussions with Environmental Services around tree management being included as part of core service delivery and not requiring Neighbourhood Funding.
Washington Clean and Green project	Project extension agreed at Area Committee in June 23 to 2025. Regular Steering Group meetings are held, where locations and workplans are agreed. Q3 update shared with members Jan 24. 17 litter picks completed this quarter, 13 clearances completed and volunteers had a stall at Washington Christmas Fair to promote the project.
Support for VCS organisations and community hubs	During the year the remaining balances for Community Asset funding was allocated across 5 community and youth venues to improve internal and external aspects of the buildings; including heating, lighting, roof repairs to a total value of £27,870
Community events	Programme of delivery continues for 2023/24 with the Summer Carnival, Christmas Fayre, Christmas light switch on/fireworks display at Concord, all being well attended. Events will continue in 2024 with the 1940's weekend celebration and the Miners Picnic event which following discussions will now be incorporated into the Washington 60 celebration event on 20 th July.
A Heritage and Culture strategy/programme	A Heritage networking event took place in February which was very well attended. The small grants funding opportunity continues to be promoted with groups encouraged to submit applications to support the delivery of a programme of events for Washington 60. The Partnership continue to be heavily involved in supporting Washington 60 planning.

The Washington Ward Improvement Programme	Complete - Remaining balances returned to Neighbourhood Fund
A road safety and VAS programme	Project extension agreed at December Area Committee. There are currently 40 locations and 10 signs, which are rotated on a quarterly basis. Q3 update provided to members, the project continues to support the local community by making drivers aware of their vehicle speed and encourage drivers exceeding the advertised speed limit to reduce their speed.
Public artwork & celebrations for Washington 60 / Galleries 50	MOBIE Washington Design Challenge approved at September Area Committee, live launch of the project took place on 30/11/23 in The Galleries, extremely well attended by Members, x4 Secondary school students and George Clarke. A number of school workshops have now been held across Washington with more planned to take place in Washington Arts Centre during March/April, where home schooled young people have been encouraged to get involved.
A Washington volunteer recognition project	A recognition presentation was held for the Clean and Green volunteers, where certificates were presented by Cllr Snowdon at Bowes Railway. Volunteers were also invited by the Mayor to have a tour of City Hall which was held in February.
Signage at Fatfield Riverside to incorporate the heritage and ecology of the area	Discussions with relevant service areas are ongoing.
A feasibility study for the vision of Fatfield Riverside development	Feasibility study agreed at December Area Committee, work is currently underway to provide two costed schemes for consideration.
Healthy Smart City - Priorities and Actions 2023-26	
Action	Update
A programme of outreach youth provision	Complete - Update shared with members 15/8/23, project now complete. Ongoing discussions are being held with youth providers to ensure any new youth project ideas can be considered to meet identified need.
Neighbourhood management and enforcement	Project extension agreed at December Area Committee to continue until March 2026. Outcomes continue to be positive, residents engaged regarding bin presentation and improvements have been noted, dog fouling and high visibility patrols continue and feedback from the public is positive.
Investment in parks and play areas	Harraton Park improvements are continuing with the fixed play strategy funding. Recent update to members on Playzone.

Positive activities for young people during school holidays	Young people aged 8-10 and 11-19 years holiday activity projects funded for 23/24, update for quarter 3 shared with members. Varied activities programme has been ongoing with excellent uptake. We promoted the activities on offer via youth clubs, partner organisations and on Facebook pages. The use of Facebook helped to attract new young people that were not previously known to the project.
Diversions activities for young people	TWFRS Phoenix project presented to members at December Area Committee. Project approved for x4 Secondary and x5 Primary schools to partake, each with 10 identified students – 90 across the year.
Contributed to the development of the Links for Life programme	Organisations delivering Links for Life have been supported with appropriate Community Chest funding and also one to one support from the Partnership & Community Resilience Manager.
Improved access to allotments and community gardens	Relevant service lead attended the November Neighbourhood and Community Board meeting to update on continued work in and around allotments.
A considered approach to park development, including ecological impact	Any discussions held around park development always include consideration for ecological impact.
Dynamic Smart City – Priorities and Actions 2023-26	
Action	Update
Supporting people into work via REACT	Quarter 3 update shared with members. The REACT project has continued to be delivered with two part-time staff, providing access to the service for residents across four days per week. 19 local residents are continuing to actively utilise the REACT employability service, 4 new residents have registered in the last quarter,
Developing skills of young people via CAN DO	Residual remaining balance brought back into Neighbourhood Fund. A new project to develop skills of young people is being supported by the funding of a NEET project proposal, being presented to March Area Committee.
Supporting young people to be more financially resilient via Youth Money Matters	During Q3 ShARP in Partnership with Oxclose & District Young Peoples Project have delivered the remainder of the programme to young people from Sulgrave youth club, the Pitstop and Ayton Community Centre. The groups at the Pitstop and Sulgrave participated in structured sessions focusing on finance, with sessions delivered by staff from Sharp and Oxclose & District Young Peoples Project. Young people actively participated in group discussions and learning activities on a range of subjects including essential and non-essential spending, gambling, the dangers of loan sharks and the cost of living crisis.

<p>Providing individual welfare and financial support via WISP</p>	<p>In Quarter 3 the WISP Advice Worker saw 146 people presenting in immediate crisis. They were all in crisis as follows- 80 people with Mental illness, 58 people with drug or alcohol dependency, 3 people who were homeless with 1 of those living in a tent in Church grounds, 5 people living with or fleeing Domestic Abuse. Sadly, one of the people regularly supported by WISP died following an overdose. A further 99 people were seen some of those were in significant debt and this could impact badly on their mental wellbeing. Most of the debt related issues were rent arrears/council tax arrears/water rates arrears/fuel arrears and one person is repaying money to a loan shark operating within the locality. We are providing support and also hope that we can help them engage with the Money Lending Team.</p>
<p>Develop approach to consultation with communities/resident</p>	<p>Discussion have been held during VCS Network meetings about the opportunities to work with voluntary sector organisations to capture emerging issues and views of residents. Similarly, discussions are ongoing to engage Washington Youth Council with consultation opportunities where appropriate.</p>