

### Summary of SIB Funding Application - Houghton Feast

Total cost of Project	Total SIB	Total match funding
£41,000	£5,000 Coalfield area £17,000 Total all areas	£24,000
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
5 months	July 2011	November 2011

#### The Project

The Houghton Feast opening weekend will commence with an opening ceremony on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2011. Taking inspiration from the Saxon stone carvings of Wyverns which can be found in St Michael's Church, the ceremony will be based on the theme of myths and legends with particular focus on the Lambton Worm. Community workshops will take place across the city in the run up to the event. These workshops will be led by a key writer in residence who will use the legend of the Lambton Worm as a foundation to create a new story with community members. This story will then be brought to life by professional artists and community participants during workshops in schools and community venues. These workshops will result in a short, high quality performance using sound and light during the Friday night ceremony. Friday's performance will link directly to the Saturday parade and will feature children from the Coalfields area who have taken part in the preparation workshops. Saturday's parade will also carry the theme of Myths and Legends and will include community members from throughout all five areas

The whole Coalfields community will be encouraged to participate including local retailers who will be invited to display window dressings and children's artwork in support of the event.

In addition, workshops will take place in each of the other 4 Areas across Sunderland in an effort to build audiences for and raise the profile of Houghton Feast. Participants will have the opportunity of being involved in the Saturday Parade.

#### Need for the Project

The theme of Myths and Legends was selected through consultation with local school and community groups. The Houghton Feast Steering Group have also been involved in the development of this concept. In previous years several schools have expressed an interest to be involved with the Houghton Feast Workshops, this new approach will allow more schools to participate in the process.

#### Outputs of the Project

S5	Young people benefiting from youth inclusion projects	50
A3	Community and voluntary groups supported	3
A6	Community or educational events held	20

#### Key Milestones for the Project

Procurement of Writer in residence	August 2011
Workshops with schools and community groups	September 2011
Promotion of events	September 2011
Successful delivery of events	October 2011
Evaluation/Debrief	November 2011

#### Recommendation: Approve

The project contributes to the Heritage priority of the Work Plan and supports Coalfield Area Committee's ethos of community involvement. Houghton Feast is an important part of the history of the Coalfield area and the wider Sunderland and North East diary of events. Raising the profile of the event through schools and community groups across the City will increase interest and engagement from a wider section of the community.