

## WEST SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE

Wednesday 13 March 2024 at 5:30pm

Silksworth Youth and Community Centre, Tunstall Village Road,  
Sunderland SR3 2BB

### Membership

Cllrs Laverick (Chair), Haswell, (Vice Chair), Ayre, Burnicle, Crosby, Dunn, Edgeworth, Haque, Hunter, Mc Donough, Mullen, Nicholson, O'Brien, Peacock, G. Smith, P. Smith, Tye and Watson.

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For further information or assistance

Contact: David Noon, Principal Governance Services Officer  
Email: [david.noon@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:david.noon@sunderland.gov.uk)  
Gilly Stanley, Partnership and Community Resilience Manager  
Email: [gilly.stanley@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:gilly.stanley@sunderland.gov.uk)

4. **West Area Budget Report**

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Communities (copy attached)

**ELAINE WAUGH**  
Assistant Director of Law and Governance

**05 March 2024**

**At a meeting of the WEST SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, on WEDNESDAY 6 DECEMBER 2023 at 5.30 p.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor Laverick in the Chair

Councillors, Ayre, Burnicle, Crosby, Dunn, Edgeworth, Haque, Haswell, Hunter, McDonough, Mullen, Nicholson, G. Smith, P. Smith.

**Also Present:-**

Jeanette Chapman	Area Network Representative
Sophie Clinton	Area Network Representative
Vicky Gamblin	Head of Operations, Gentoo
Patrick Houghton	Governance Law Specialist, Sunderland City Council
David Noon	Principal Democratic Services Officer, Sunderland City Council
Liz St Louis	Director of Smart Cities and Enabling Services
Gilly Stanley	Partnership & and Community Resilience Manager, Sunderland City Council
Scott Wilson	Station Manager, Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors O'Brien, Tye and Watson.

**Declarations of Interest**

Item 4 West Area Budget Report.

Councillor Laverick made a declaration in respect in of the application regarding the West Area Event (Recommendation 4.6), as Youth Almighty Project Manager. Councillor Laverick left the meeting at the appropriate point on the agenda taking no part in any discussion or decision thereon.

**Minutes of the Last Meeting**

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2023 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**Report of Northumbria Police**

A report of Northumbria Police was submitted (copy circulated) which updated members on key performance information in relation to the Sunderland West area.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

The Committee was informed that Inspector Passey had been unable to attend the meeting. The report was therefore submitted for information only and Members having any questions were advised to email Ms Gilly Stanley, Partnership & and Community Resilience Manager who would contact Northumbria Police for a response.

Councillor P. Smith suggested that if the presenting Officer was unable to attend then Northumbria Police should arrange to send a substitute. Councillor McDonough echoed Councillor Smith's comment and also expressed concern at the lack of detail in the report.

2. RESOLVED the report be received and noted.

### **Report of the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service**

Station Manager Scott Wilson, presented a report of the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service (TWFRS), (copy circulated) which provided the Committee with an update on the Service's performance indicators for the period 22<sup>nd</sup> August to 19<sup>th</sup> November 2023

(For copy report – see original minutes)

The Chair thanked Mr Wilson for his report and invited questions and comments from Members.

Councillor Hunter referred to the increased incidents of fires at St George's playing fields and suggested that the Anti-Social Behaviour Team could liaise with the Police and Fire Service to view CCCTV footage of the area to assist in any investigations.

Councillor P. Smith referred to paragraph 3.4 of the report, expressing concern at the rise in secondary fires in Silksworth, and asked if this related to a particular hot spot. Mr Wilson replied that the reporting period coincided with the protracted ASB issues that occurred at the former Farringdon Police Station site.

In response an enquiry from Councillor McDonough regarding the need to educate adults as well as young people regarding the dangers of lighting fires on bonfire night, Mr Wilson advised that a huge amount of work went into planning around the Darker Nights Campaign which commenced in August each year. He would be happy to circulate the Plan, so the Committee was able to appreciate the effort that went into the campaign.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Crosby regarding the high incidence of loose refuse fires, Mr Wilson advised that loose refuse was classified as anything from one bag of side waste to a sofa. The Fire Service carried out regular ASB patrols and would report any accumulations of loose refuse if it constituted a fire hazard.

There being no further questions or comments for Mr Wilson, it was:-

3. RESOLVED the report be received and noted

## **Report of Gentoo**

Vicky Gamblin, Head of Operations, Gentoo Group presented a report, (copy circulated) which provided the Committee with an update on current Gentoo developments, projects and priorities for the period September to December 2023 together with a schedule of the planned investment and renewal programme for 2023/24

(For copy report – see original minutes)

The Chairman thanked Ms Gamblin for her report and invited questions and comments from the Committee.

Councillor P. Smith referred to people parking on the grass verges in certain streets in Silksworth and churning up the grass as a result. The issue was being exacerbated by the onset of the wet winter weather. Ms Gamblin advised that she was not aware of the problem but confirmed that she would investigate.

Councillor Edgeworth referred to issues being caused by pigeons roosting under the solar panels of a particular building and asked if there was a budget available to install netting to prevent the pigeons gaining access. Ms Gamblin confirmed that she would try to find a solution to the problem.

Councillor Mullen stated that he had been openly critical of Home Housing in the past but commended the new fencing scheme they had recently delivered. This in turn emphasised the poor condition of some of the fencing Gentoo were responsible for. With regard to the programme of estates walks, Councillor Mullen advised that Barnes Ward contained very few Gentoo properties and therefore suggested that the schedule of walks could be rationalised as he did not wish to take up the time of Gentoo Officers unnecessarily.

In response to a further enquiry from Councillor Mullen, Ms Stanley advised that she would investigate and report back on who was responsible within the Council for the naming of un-named streets.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor McDonough, Ms Gamblin advised that she would check to see if there were any further major works to be undertaken at Lakeside Towers involving largescale scaffolding that would impact on parking around the area.

There being no further questions or comments, the Chairman thanked Ms Gamblin for her attendance and it was:-

4. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

## **Report of the West Area Voluntary and Community Sector Network**

The Network submitted a progress report (copy circulated) which briefed members on issues pertinent to the Committee and the Voluntary and Community Sector.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Consideration was given to the report presented by Sophie Clinton which highlighted the following VCS Network activity undertaken since its last report to the Committee:-

During this reporting period, the Network had met in person twice with meetings held in September and November 2023. The September meeting had considered agenda items on, ICOS, West VCS Rep Nominations, the Area Plan 2023-2026 and Network and Information Share Opportunities

The November meeting included agenda items on 'Mackem Money', Go Online Sunderland, 'Kooth', Household Support Fund and Network and Information Share Opportunities

With regard to the 2 previously vacant roles of West VCS Network Representatives, these had been filled by Sophie Clinton and Jeanette Chapman. However, since the publication of the report, Kelly Brougham had stepped down from the network and a search for her replacement would be undertaken in the New Year.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Hunter, Ms Stanley advised that Kooth was a service commissioned through TfC comprising an online Counselling Service for young people. She had recently received a presentation detailing the Service which she would share with Members.

There being no further questions, the Chair thanked Ms Clinton for her report and it was:-

5. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

### **West Area Committee Delivery Plan 2023-2026**

Councillor Haswell, Chair of the West Area Neighbourhood and Community Board presented a report (copy circulated) which provided an update of progress against the Area Committee's Area Plan priorities for 2023-2024.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Councillor Crosby referred to the 'Development of Social Prescribing Physical Hubs' (page 37 of the agenda papers) noting that nothing was scheduled for the West Area. Ms Stanley advised that she would invite the Team who were progressing the development of the model to the next Area Board meeting.

Councillor Edgeworth referred to page 23 of the papers regarding the availability of grant funding for local community defibrillators and asked if Members could feed into the process. Ms Stanley advised that it was a national scheme operated by the Department of Health and Social Care and that she would contact Jane Hibbert regarding the process.

The Chairman having thanked Councillor Haswell for his report, it was:-

6. RESOLVED that:-

- i) the progress and performance update with regard to the West Area Committee Area Plan 2023- 2026 be received and noted, and
- ii) the progress update with regard to Sunderland City Council Service Plans - Area Priorities, be received and noted

### **West Area Budget Report**

The Assistant Director of Housing and Communities submitted a report (copy circulated) in respect of the above matter.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Gilly Stanley, Partnership & and Community Resilience Manager, presented the report highlighting the Committee’s financial statement, together with details of projects approved under delegated powers for support from the 2023/24 Community Chest budget.

Consideration having been given to the report, it was:-

7. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the Area Committee’s funding statement as detailed in Tables 1 and 2 of the report be received and noted,
- (ii) the alignment of Neighbourhood Funding of £20,000 for West Grow your own/In Bloom be approved,
- (iii) Neighbourhood Funding of £88,338 be granted to Sunderland City Council in respect of Enforcement/ASB as set out in Annex 1 of the report,
- (iv) Neighbourhood Funding of £20,000 be granted to Sunderland City Council to develop the Safer Spaces project as set out in Annex 1 of the report,
- (v) Neighbourhood Funding of £181,860 be granted to Sunderland All Together Consortium in respect of West Youth Activities as set out in Annex 1 of the report,
- (vi) Neighbourhood Funding of £40,000 be granted to the Youth Almighty Project in respect of the West Area Event as set out in Annex 1 of the report,
- (vii) the approval of the Community Chest applications from the 2023/24 budget as detailed in Annex 2 of the report be noted.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting having thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions.

(Signed) J. LAVERICK,  
Chairman.



## WEST SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE

Item 2a

### REPORT OF NORTHUMBRIA POLICE

#### 1.0 Purpose of Report

The following report provides a community update and key performance information in relation to the West Sunderland Area.

#### 2.0 Key Updates

##### **Anti-Social Behaviour**

Anti-Social Behaviour across Sunderland West has decreased by 47% and is down by 43% when compared to the same period last year. The current hotspot areas for ASB are Pennywell and Eden Vale.

##### **Motorcycle Disorder**

Motorcycle Disorder across Sunderland West has decreased by 50% and is down by 68% when compared to the same period last year. The current hotspot for Motorcycle Disorder is Thorney Close.

##### **Crime**

Overall crime has increased by 3% but is down by 4% when compared to the same period last year. There have been notable reductions in the following crime types; Public Order (-13%), Theft (-16%) and Vehicle Crime (-49%).

##### **Seasonal Planning**

The Sunderland West Winter Seasonal Plan focussed on Anti-Social Behaviour, Shoplifting and Drug Dealing. The Sunderland West Neighbourhood Team have worked in collaboration with a range of partners including Sunderland City Council, Gentoo, Together For Children and BTP to deliver a variety of multi-agency operations.

The Sunderland West Spring Seasonal Plan will focus on Motorcycle Disorder, Anti-Social Behaviour, and Drug Dealing within the community thus maintaining alignment between the Seasonal Plan and our local neighbourhood priorities.

The Sunderland West Neighbourhood Team will adopt a proactive and intelligence-based approach, targeting high harm and/or high-volume offenders which is in line with our Neighbourhood Policing Model.

##### **Northumbria Connected**

Northumbria Connected is our new tool to ensure that we are delivering on the issues that affect all our communities across the North East. We want to understand the issues that most impact you so that we can shape our Neighbourhood Policing to tackle them where you live. On sign up you can decide on the updates you will receive in either text or email. We can then send you a short survey to better understand what



is impacting you and your community. We believe no one knows their community better than the people who live and work there so we want to hear from you. Subscribe at [www.northumbriaconnected.co.uk](http://www.northumbriaconnected.co.uk) and start to help shape policing in your area.

**REPORT AUTHOR Inspector Steven Passey**

13<sup>th</sup> March 2024

## REPORT OF THE TYNE AND WEAR FIRE SERVICE

## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The following report gives Performance Monitoring details in relation to the Local Indicators for Sunderland West Committee area from 19<sup>th</sup> November 2023 – 25<sup>th</sup> February 2024. This report also gives the annual Performance figures from 01<sup>st</sup> April 2023 – 25<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

## 2 Background

2.1 At its November 2011 meeting, Area Committee agreed that regular updates on Crime and Community Safety would be presented to each Committee meeting.

## 3. Tyne and Wear Fire Service Update

## 3.1 LI 02 Number of Deaths from all fires

0 deaths were recorded during the reporting period.

**Annually:** 0 deaths were recorded.

## 3.2 LI 14 All Deliberate Property Fires excluding Primary road vehicles

Ward Name	Incident Count
Barnes	0
Pallion	0
Sandhill	0
Silksworth	1
St Anne's	1
St Chad's	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>

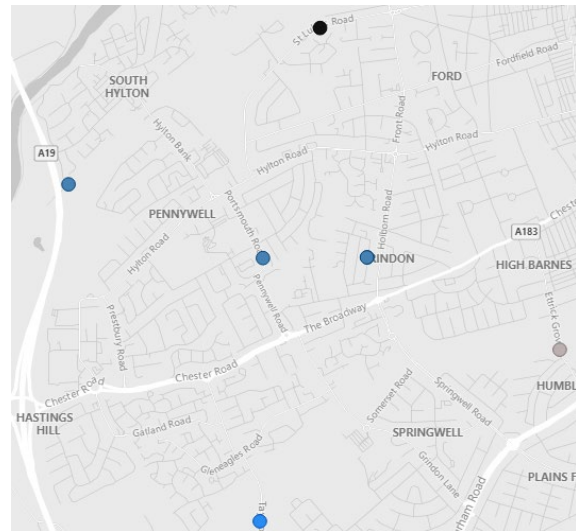
Property Level 4	Incident Count
Food and Drink	1
Retail	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>

2 deliberate property fires, compared to 2 in the same period last year. Hot strikes and targeted Safe and Well are ongoing in the area. Crews are on target to achieve 1200 before April 24. Partnership work with the Police, Gentoo and Sunderland city council continues where appropriate to reduce repeat incidents using a joint approach.

**Annually:** 19 Primary fires, up from 11, which is a 72% increase. Barnes 1 up from 0, Pallion 4 up from 3, Sandhill 3 which is the same as last year, Silksworth 5 up from 2 and St Annes 6 up from 3. St Chads 0 (0).

### 3.3 LI15 Number of primary road vehicle fires started deliberately

Ward Name	Incident Count
St Chad's	0
St Anne's	4
Silksworth	0
Sandhill	1
Pallion	1
Barnes	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>



7 vehicle fires reported during this period compared to 14 last year. A decrease of 50%. No patterns. TWFRS continue to work with Northumbria Police and report all suspected malicious vehicle fires and shall continue to monitor any patterns identified. St Annes seeing a 33% rise having 4 up from 3 vehicle fires. Sandhill 83% seeing a huge decrease from 6 down to 1 vehicle fire.

**Annually:** 33 Vehicle fires, down from 55, which is a 40% decrease. Barnes 4 down from 7, Pallion 6 down from 11, Sandhill 11 down from 18, Silksworth 4 up from 2 and St Annes 8 down from 11. St Chads 0 down from 6.

### 3.4 LI16 Number of secondary fires not involving property or road vehicles started deliberately

Ward Name	Incident Count
Barnes	4
Pallion	9
Sandhill	13
Silksworth	3
St Anne's	2
St Chad's	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>

Property Level 4	Incident Count
Loose refuse (incl in garden)	12
Wheelie Bin	11
Grassland, pasture, grazing etc	5
Small refuse/rubbish/recycle container (excluding wheelie bin)	2
Hedge	1
Public admin, security and safety	1
Tree scrub (includes single trees not in garden)	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>

There have been 33 deliberate secondary fires over this period compared to 95 in the same period last year, a huge decrease of 65%. All wards apart from Sandhill have seen a 52 – 92% improvement against the same reporting period in 2022. Sandhill has seen a 44% rise in secondary fires (13 up from 9). The burn area around Tay Road remains the ASB activity area in this reporting period.

**Annually:** 317 Secondary fires, down from 608, which is a 48% decrease. Barnes 26 down from 85, Pallion 76 down from 85, Sandhill 52 down from 81, Silksworth 68 down from 172 and St Annes 76 down from 126. St Chads 19 down from 59.

### 3.5 LI33 All deliberate Fires (combination of LI14, LI15 and LI16)

Ward Name	Incident Count	Property Level 4	Incident Count
Barnes	5	Loose refuse (incl in garden)	12
Pallion	10	Wheelie Bin	11
Sandhill	14	Grassland, pasture, grazing etc	5
Silksworth	4	Small refuse/rubbish/recycle container (excluding wheelie bin)	2
St Anne's	7	Food and Drink	1
St Chad's	2	Hedge	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>42</b>	Public admin, security and safety	1
		Retail	1
		Tree scrub (includes single trees not in garden)	1
		<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>

There were a total of 42 deliberate fires in this reporting period, down from 111 last year, a decrease of 62%. 12 fires involved loose refuse and 11 were wheelie bin fires.

**Annually:** 369 Deliberate fires, down from 674, which is a 45% decrease. Barnes 31 down from 92, Pallion 86 down from 99, Sandhill 66 down from 102, Silksworth 77 down from 176 and St Annes 90 down from 140. St Chads 19 down from 65.

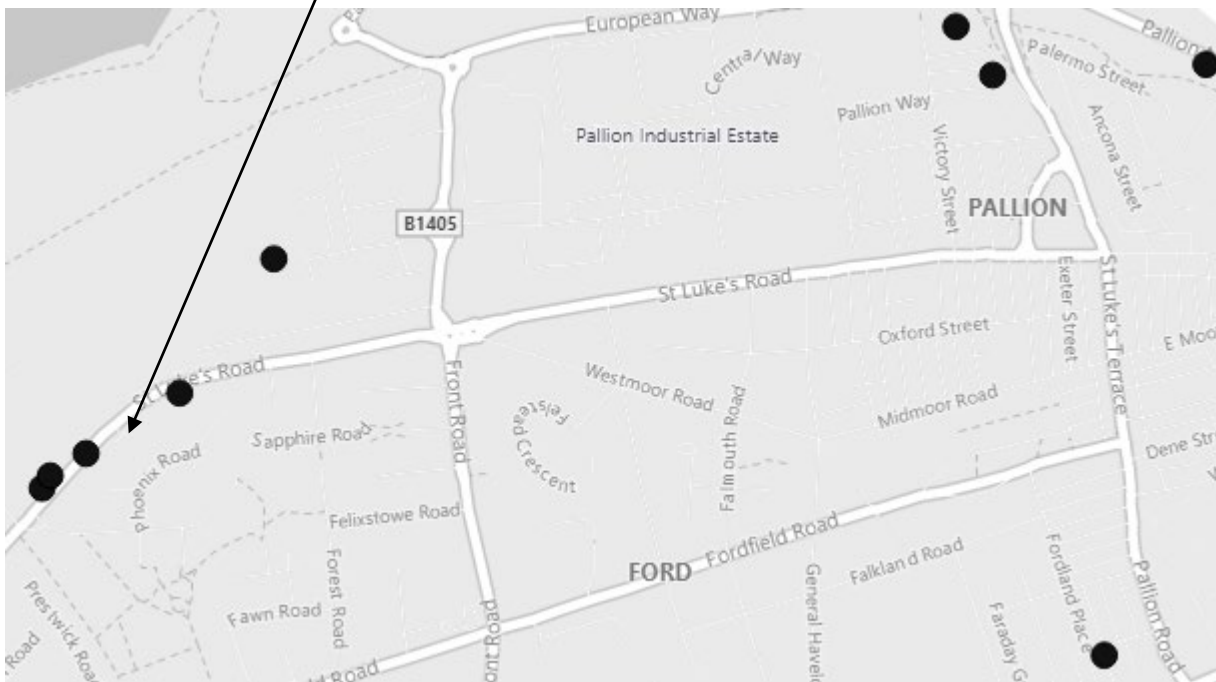
#### Barnes ward 62% decrease (5 down from 13)

The main area of activity in Barnes ward is around Etrick Grove.



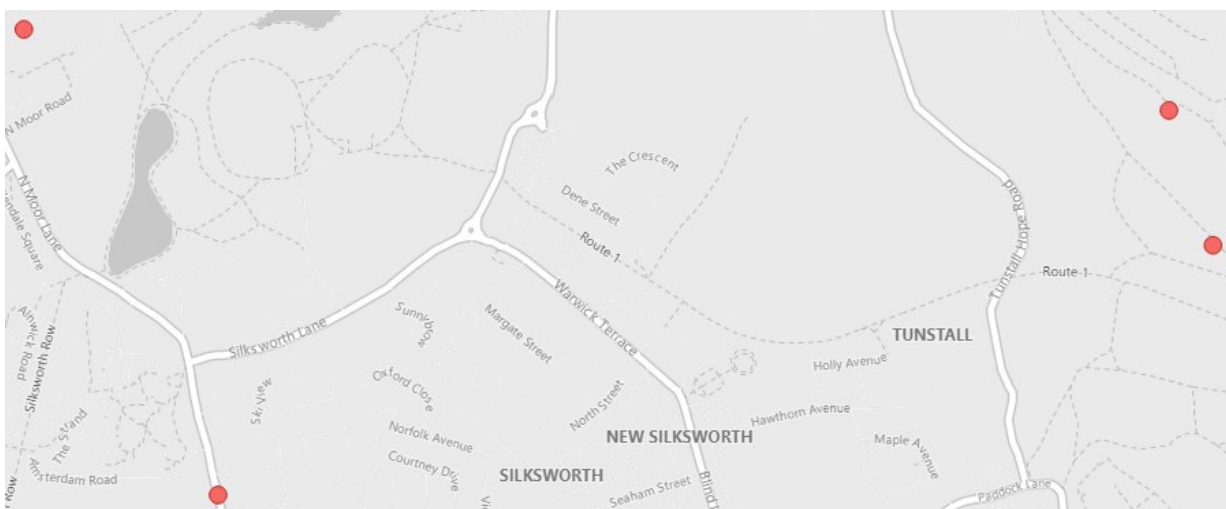
**Pallion ward 55% decrease (10 down from 22)**

ASB fire activity continues on St Lukes Road



St Luke's Rd is an ongoing hotspot area and makes up 5 of the 10 incidents in this period. This was 1 vehicle fire and predominately loose refuse. FRS crews have targeted this area with Fire stoppers leaflets and S&W's. ASB patrols have also been increased in this area.

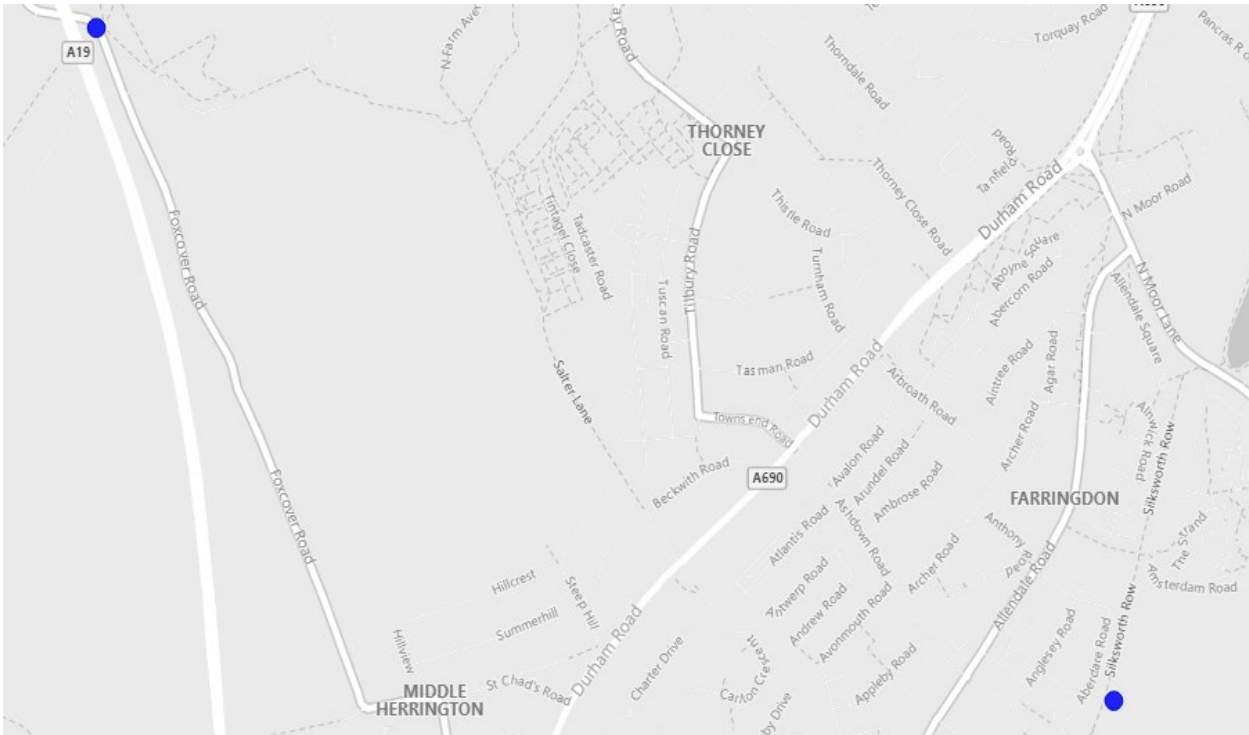
**Silksworth ward 66% decrease (4 down from 12)**



Fires spread across the ward area, with no identified hotspots present. There has been a huge decrease in ASB activity around the Former Farringdon Police station (now under demolition) and surrounding wasteland.



## St Chads ward 90% reduction (2 down from 19)



No identified hotspot areas to report. No concerns. 2 incidents spread across the ward area and a large reduction from the same period last year.

### 3.6 Community Involvement

Operational crews from Farrington have completed 1112 since 01<sup>st</sup> April 2023 and have completed 223 in this reporting period continue and will aim to deliver 1200 Safe and Wells visits across all wards before April 2024. Hot strikes continue following all primary fires to maximize the delivery of domestic Fire Safety information to the community.

Crews have attended Herrington Scouts and Christs College amongst other community engagements in this reporting period. Watches have supported the Wear Here 4 You bus and have a number of further engagements arranged at King Georges Park.

The Prince's Trust based at Farrington Community Fire station currently has a cohort of 6 students, they are currently conducting their work placements and are currently on week 6 of the course. The course concludes on the 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2024 with the certificate presentation.

TWFRS Recruitment is also currently open for those community members who are interested in becoming a Firefighter.

### 3.7 On-going Issues

There have been 0 reports of violence at work in this period and 3 across the wider Sunderland area. Annually there have been 3 attacks in the West and 18 in the wider Sunderland area.

Collaboration with Northumbria police and local authority partner's will continue to target problematic sites as highlighted in the report. It is essential that any fire related issues are reported to myself, (Scott Wilson, Station Manager) or using Fire Stoppers 0800 169 5558, so I can action/address with my crews. My watches continue to work close within their respective Ward areas to create links through community engagements. The watches continue to deliver ASB initiatives – uplifts, premises security, and educational interaction.

Any questions please feel free to contact me or my team using the details below.

## 4. Recommendations

### 4.1 Note the content of this report.

St Chads and Sandhill Ward –WM Ian Davison – [ian.davison@twfire.gov.uk](mailto:ian.davison@twfire.gov.uk)

Silksworth Ward – WM Sarah Bromley [sarah.bromley@twfire.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.bromley@twfire.gov.uk)

St Annes Ward - WM Jon Gradwell [jon.gradwell@twfire.gov.uk](mailto:jon.gradwell@twfire.gov.uk)

Barnes / Pallion Ward - WM Steve Errington [steven.errington@twfire.gov.uk](mailto:steven.errington@twfire.gov.uk)

**Contact Officer:** Scott Wilson, Tyne and Wear Fire Service,  
Tel: 0191 4441188  
Email: [scott.wilson@twfire.gov.uk](mailto:scott.wilson@twfire.gov.uk)



### Information:

Some incident data may be subject to change, some incidents may not appear in this report at the time of production due to incidents that may have been closed down late or still remain open.



# WEST AREA COMMITTEE

13 March 2024

## REPORT OF GENTOO

### 1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The following report provides an update from Gentoo for the West Area Committee for the period December 2023 to March 2024.

### 2 Background

- 2.1 Area Committee agreed that regular updates from Gentoo would be provided to each Committee meeting to enable members to be up to date on current Gentoo developments, projects, and priorities and to ensure members are fully aware of their opportunities to work collaboratively with Gentoo.

### 3 Update on Neighbourhood Services

- 3.1 **Visit from the Police and Crime Commissioner:** In January we welcomed Northumbria Police and Crime Commissioner, Kim McGuinness, to Aberdeen Tower to discuss anti-social behaviour (ASB) and how best to tackle it with involved residents. During the informative session, Kim discussed the force's approach to tackling anti-social behaviour across Wearside whilst giving our customers the opportunity to voice any concerns in their area and share how ASB has had an impact on their lives.

- 3.2 **Corporate Charity:** In December staff were able to vote for who they would like support via Gentoo's corporate charity in 2024. Love Amelia was the chosen children's charity who provide support to families experiencing poverty and hardship right across the Northeast.

They accept donations of great condition, pre-loved baby items and gift them to families who need them most. They support children from birth to 16years old to ensure no child goes without. Many of our families have benefitted from this charity and therefore we will be fundraising throughout the year to support they great work that they do.

- 3.3 **Update on Tenancy Sustainment Fund:** You may recall in Septembers committee, Gentoo updated members that Gentoo Board approved several measures to support tenancy sustainability. These measures included interventions such as, providing carpets for new customers who have been housed with us on a priority basis and below the age of 25. Supporting this group of customers to have their water rates paid if they are really struggling financially (for a limited period). We also identified measures such as the provision of Ring Doorbells for victims of domestic abuse or antisocial behaviour, and a small budget to support these customers with house removals for those who need to move in an emergency and can't afford to pay for it.

At the time of writing this report the current spend is circ £500,000, note this figure also includes an additional member of staff in Money Matters and two Pre-Tenancy Support Coordinators who support the SCC team to pick up those customers who need support to sustain a new tenancy.

- 3.4 **Estate Walks:** next round of estate walks will be being arranged for April 2024, if there were any area's you would like to focus on then please email your Neighbourhood Coordinator and they can ensure that specific area is covered prior to the invites going out to you all. A great example of how these walks can benefit our communities was a suggestion from those who attended the Springwell walk last month, an A frame to limit motorcycle access into the Barnes Park extension via Saltburn Road was discussed at the walk and a purchase order to instal this has been issued.
- 3.5 **Springwell Secret Garden:** consultation continues with the residents surrounding this plot of land who have extended their gardens. Residents still have not appointed a legal representative to act on their collective behalf and one resident is unwilling to go forward with any changes in legal ownership. This means that we are unable to proceed with gifting the land (some of which has already been grabbed) and further consultation will be required. We hope to arrange this during March 2024.
- 3.6 **Site Garages:** we will no longer be proceeding with the Site Garages Demolition project and no provision has been made to complete these works in future years. Whilst this may be disappointing news, the decision was made to help protect investment into our customers' homes. The £700k required to deliver the demolition works to garages (which do not belong to Gentoo) would mean 70 of our customers would not benefit from a new roof or a new kitchen and internal rewire. Just to note, the Silksworth site garage owners have all be contacted with this update, comms to other area's had not began.

#### 4. **Property, Investment and Renewal**

- 4.1 **Damp & Mould:** Update from Steve Lowther (Head of Property) regarding damp and mould, see presentation attached.
- 4.2 **Pennywell Regen:** The scheme is progressing well and is ahead of programme with 802 main dwellings completed and 748 boundary walls. We have some ongoing issues to resolve with party walls and neighbouring private residents preventing work to the Gentoo property, we have asked an independent 3rd party surveyor to support all parties.

#### 5. **Recommendations**

- 5.1 Note the content of this report.

#### **Contact Officer**

Vicky Gamblin, Head of Neighbourhoods.  
Tel: 0191 525 5004  
Email: [vicky.gamblin@gentoo.com](mailto:vicky.gamblin@gentoo.com)

# Damp and Mould

Area Committee Update  
March 2024

gentoo



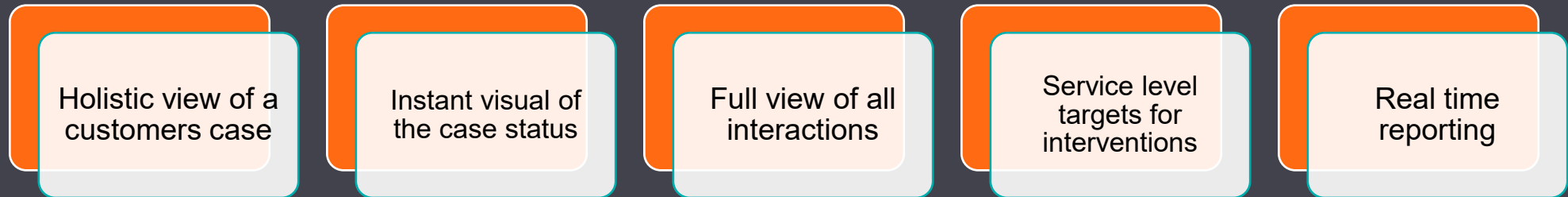
# Reflection on last 12 months

- Following the tragic death of Awab Ishak in Rochdale and the 'Prevention of future deaths report' prepared by the coroner, the Department for Leveling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) sent a letter to all social housing providers 'Ensuring Quality in Social Housing' – 19<sup>th</sup> November 2022
- Regulator for Social Housing (RSH) sent letter to all Social Housing providers asking for details on the prevalence and management of Damp and Mould – 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022
- Gentoo communicated with all tenants via website, social media and text messaging – 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022
- Established a dedicated phone line for customers to report damp and mould and re-enforced empathy first and every visit counts approach with all staff – 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022
- Gentoo provided a detailed and thorough response to RSH letter. No follow up enquires were made by the regular – 19<sup>th</sup> December 2022

# Reflection continued

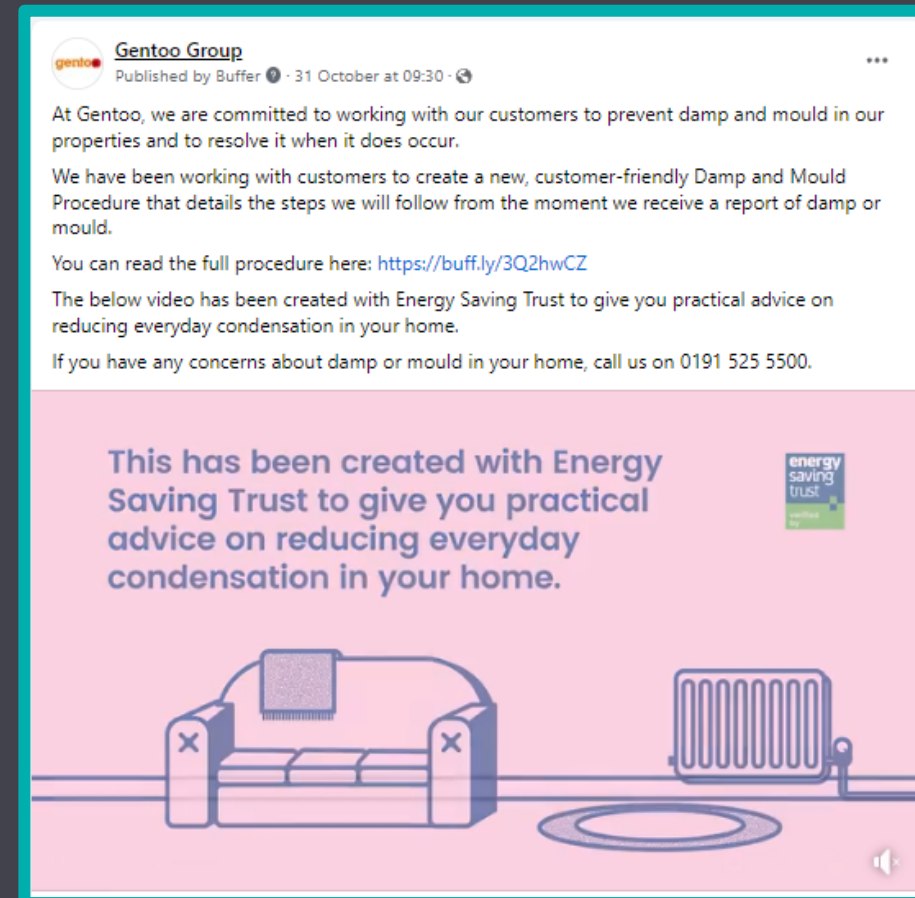
- Communications and media coverage led to increased incoming call demand – circa 1,800 calls related to damp and mould during December 2022 and January 2023
- Increased staff numbers within Property Maintenance to support inbound calls, property inspections and remedial works – December 2022
- Dedicated reporting and monitoring of damp and mould cases established – December 2023
- Additional training provided to property inspectors and surveyors in the diagnosis and treatment of damp and mould – March/July 2023
- Dedicated Damp and Mould Policy approved by Board in May 2023 and procedure finalised in September 2023.
- Increased focused within sector and consultation on Awaab's Law

# Damp and Mould Case Management



# Communication

- New damp, mould and condensation guidance leaflet published for customers
- Website updated to with customer friendly version of damp and mould procedures
- Damp and mould foam guidance leaflet published for customers
- Two sessions held with involved customer scrutiny panel to review our damp and mould approach
- Internal communications to all staff by email and workplace platform to raise awareness of new case management approach
- All communications has emphasised empathy first, zero tolerance and every visit counts



# So, where are we....



**Empathy continues to be our priority for DMC**



**We're aware there is still work to be done**



**Looking to the medium to long term plans**



**We are in a good position**



# Questions



**13<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**REPORT OF WEST AREA VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR NETWORK**

**1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 The report provides an update with regard to the West Area Voluntary and Community Sector Network

**2. Background**

- 2.1 To develop the capacity and influence of the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) across the City, Area Networks have been established and delegates represent each Area Network at Area Committee taking forward issues on behalf of the whole VCS in the area, reporting on area priority delivery by the VCS, and reporting back, providing a two-way flow of communication.
- 2.2 West Area Network delegates will present a report to each Area Committee meeting informing Members of activity, progress, issues and concerns of the sector.
- 2.3 The West VCS Network is made up of over 70 local groups and strategic local/national/regional partners. The network meets on a regular basis to share good practice, support one another and receives regularly updates.

**3. West Voluntary and Community Sector Network (VCSN) Progress Report**

- 3.1 The West VCS Network met in person at South Hylton Tansey Centre February 2024
- 3.2 The February meeting included the following agenda items:
- Culture House – a presentation was presented around the Culture House, this was very informative and showed the new development and also gave members of the network the opportunity to ask questions.
  - Enterprising Sunderland – Back on the Map presented around their new project working with people in Sunderland to set up businesses.
  - West Area Event – An update was given on the West Event from Youth Almighty Project and member organisations were invited to apply through the application process
  - Network and Information Share Opportunities

The meeting was very well attended and provided a really good networking opportunity and information share around activities and events happening in different organisations.

- 3.3 Organisations throughout the West Area are now delivering Links for Life Sunderland. The programme is learning from the warm and welcoming spaces. Links for Life offers services and support to communities - support and activities which bring residents together, enable active engagement and improve health, wellbeing, and financial resilience.
- 3.4 Organisations have been invited to deliver at the West Area Event 2024 which will be taking place on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June and Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June for the West Area Schools and Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June for the Free Family Fun Day.
- 3.5 Organisations have been invited to apply for a call for project through Public Health to expand community based mental health and emotional wellbeing provision that is available for men in Sunderland.
- 3.6 Digital Health Hubs have been set up across the West Area through Sunderland City Council and are working closely with the Digital Inclusion Lead. Training opportunities have been provided. Investment has been made to improve the buildings digital infrastructure. West Area organisations have attended their first Digital Health Hub Catch Up.
- 3.7 Opportunities have been shared through Community Resilience team to the network including training, funding and workshops.
- 3.8 Organisations were invited to apply for the West Grow your own/in Bloom.
- 3.9 West VCS Reps have attended a catch up with all area reps from across the City.
- 3.10 Kelly Brougham has resigned from being a VCS Rep due to other commitments. We would like to Thank Kelly for her work and time as a rep. We will be looking for nominations for a new West Area Network Representative within the network.
- 3.11 The Network representatives regularly consult with the Network to ensure that the agenda items reflect their requirements.

#### **4. Recommendations**

- 4.1 Members are requested
  - To note the contents of the report and consider the opportunities and issues raised by the West VCSN.

#### **5. Contact**

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Jeanette Chapman, Area Network Representative  
Tel No: 0191 534 3928

13<sup>th</sup> March 2024

## REPORT OF SUNDERLAND VOLUNTARY SECTOR ALLIANCE

### 1 Purpose of the report

- 1.1 The following report provides an update from SVSA for the West Area Committee for the period of October 2023 – February 2024

### 2 Background

- 2.1 Area Committee agreed that regular updates from SVSA would be provided to each Committee meeting to enable members to be up to date on current SVSA developments, projects, and priorities and to encourage collaborative working and 2 way communication.

### 3 General Update

- 3.1 Since October 2023 we have had a busy few months recruiting, inducting and training our new team, together with piloting our offer and ensure robust processes and practices are in place moving forward.
- 3.2 We have achieved Real Living Wage status setting a standard in terms of valuing voluntary sector work force in delivering quality services.
- 3.3 We have recruited our first **Community Volunteer** who has over 20 years' experience working for the National Lottery and Awards for All. This additional support is providing bid writing surgeries for VCSE sector organisations across the city.
- 3.4 In February we launched our free membership for VCSE organisations based or delivering in Sunderland. We have registered **53 members** within a two-week period.

### 4 Funding and Investment

- 4.1 SVSA has helped secure **£287,500** for Sunderland Voluntary Sector by supporting the completion of funding applications.

## 5 Sector Support

- 5.1 **33** VCSE organisations have been supported support.  
**3** Social Value opportunities have been delivered.  
**3** Training Events have been hosted with a total of **44 attendees**.  
**2** Networking Events have been hosted with a total of **66 attendees**.

## 6 Communications and Engagement

- 6.1 In February we presented an overview of the Alliance at Health Integrated Care Board (ICP) Central and raised our profile by highlighted funding priorities which were informed by the Sunderland VCSE sector from across the city.
- 6.2 We have launched our Sunderland **Volunteering** Facebook page and re-launched our SVSA LinkedIn Page.

## 7 Trustee update

- 7.1 We have successfully appointed a new Independent Chairperson – Sarah Reid together with 2 new trustees Lesley Spuhler from the Foundation of Light and Trish Cornish from Sunderland Mind. We have **11 trustees** with one remaining role we are currently advertising the Treasurer role.

## 8 Future developments

- 8.1 Following our inaugural Volunteer Network we are developing the format for further networks and a proposal for a Volunteer Passport scheme.
- 8.2 On 20/03/2024 we are facilitating an 'Ageing well' Network Event
- 8.3 March 2024 We will launch quarter 2 Training and Events programme
- 8.4 March/April 2024 Launch Community Transport Grants

### Contact Officer

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13<sup>h</sup> March 2024

## REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF WEST SUNDERLAND NEIGHBOURHOOD AND COMMUNITY BOARD

### West Area Committee Delivery Plan 2023-2026

#### 1. Purpose of Report

1.1 This report is to provide an update of progress against the Area Committee's Area Plan priorities, which will be the focus for the West Area Committee during 2023-2024.

#### 2. Background

2.1 The Area Committees are part of the Council's Executive Function. The purpose of the Area Committees is to:

- Lead on the development, implementation, and effective delivery of an Area Plan, working closely with residents to ensure the plans include all main priorities for the Area, which enables residents to be resilient, The Area Plans are linked to the City Plan and other significant strategies for the city.
- Actively encourage local residents to become involved in shaping the Area Plan, ensuring delivery of activities to support matters which affect them.

2.2 The Article 10 Area Committee Area Plans for 2023 - 2026 were agreed by Area Committees in June 2023 and approved at Cabinet in July 2023.

2.3 It is now the responsibility of each Area Committee to deliver their agreed priorities to support the delivery of the Area Plan.

2.4 The Neighbourhood and Community Board supports the work of the Area Committee and specifically the delivery of the Area Plan. The Boards are chaired by the Vice-Chair of the Area Committee and are practical and action-orientated groups. The role of the Board is to respond to all priorities in the Area Committee Area Plan, as agreed by the Area Committee. They develop and implement plans for the delivery of each priority and make recommendations to the Area Committee based on information and research and working closely with partner agencies, particularly the VCS, to ensure effective delivery of the plan.

2.6 The Board is not a decision-making body, the work of the board is presented to each Area Committee via this Report of the Chair of the Neighbourhood and Community Board. The purpose of the report is to update on progress in relation to the delivery of the Area Plan in addition to making any recommendations of the Board to the Area Committee for final approval. Funding decisions to support delivery of the plan can be found at **Item 4 Area Budget Report**

2.7 Additionally all Sunderland City Council Service leads, when producing Service Plans this year, provided a list of Area Priorities, where relevant, for each of the five geographical Areas of Sunderland and have agreed that regular updates for those priorities will be appended to this report, to the relevant Area Committee, to provide quarterly performance updates (**Annex 2**).

### **3. Area Committee Area Plan 2023-2026- Areas of Key Action and Progress**

- 3.1 The Neighbourhood and Community Board discussed a range of Area Priorities. It was agreed to make recommendations to Area Committee to support a Call for projects for improvements to Community Assets, To invite existing projects leads to extend the West Ranger/Clean and Clean and to recommend approval of all In Bloom/Grow your own projects. The Board has also arranged a Task and Finish group to discuss School Parking
- 3.2 Colleagues from Highways attended the November 2023 Neighbourhood and Community Board meeting to consult with members regarding the development of the West highways maintenance programme for 2024/25. Further updates were received and Members put forward areas for consideration in the 2024/2025 programme. The suggested locations have been assessed and following discussions at the February 2024 Board meeting, recommendations are contained at **Annex 3 to this report**. The Board are also recommending to Area Committee to align £100,000 Neighbourhood Funding to support Highways schemes, details to be presented to a future Board and Area Committee.
- 3.3 Attached as **Annex 1** is the West Area Committee Delivery plan which highlights progress against the Area Committee plan. Good news stories and promotion of projects are shared at every opportunity.
- 3.4 Attached as **Annex 2** is an update on Sunderland City Council Service Plans - Area Priorities, specifically relevant to the area, including a quarterly update on progress for information purposes only.

### **4. Recommendations - Members are requested to:**

- 4.1 Consider the progress and performance update with regard to West Area Committee Area Plan 2023- 2026.
- 4.2 Consider the progress update with regard to Sunderland City Council Service Plans - Area Priorities, for information purposes only.
- 4.3 Approve the locations contained in **Annex 3** to be included in the Highways Maintenance Programme for 2024/25.

Annex 1 - West Area Delivery Plan

Annex 2 – Sunderland City Council Service Plans – West Area Priorities

Annex 3 – Highways Maintenance Programme 2024/25

Contact Officer: [gilly.stanley@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:gilly.stanley@sunderland.gov.uk)  
Gilly Stanley, Partnership and Community Resilience Manager

## West Area Committee Delivery Plan 2023 - 2026

Updated December 2023

The Area Plan commits the Area Committee to a number of priorities, which will be delivered within the West of Sunderland. 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 West Neighbourhood and Community Board

Priority	Progress Update
<b>Dynamic Smart City</b>	
<b>We will have</b>	
Improved small, neglected shopping and enterprise areas	
Young people with raised aspirations and increased training opportunities.	
More fruit orchards, trees and improved electric vehicles at home infrastructure	Presentation on Low Carbon initiatives received June 2023. Options for fruit and tree planting submitted for consideration with locations suggested across the West. Members have been consulted on the EV residential community hubs proposals.
Updates on employment support projects	Project update circulated to members January 2024 The West REACT CLLD match funded project ended in March 2023 with the Neighbourhood Funded element continuing. Since April the project has supported 84 residents with information, advice and guidance. The support is offered from Thorney Close Action and Enterprise Centre.
Improved access to digital support	Project update circulated to members January 2024 The Media Savvy Digital Project continues to deliver sessions fortnightly across the 6 wards in the main hubs, a further 2 sub hubs are being planned with over 130 individuals attending sessions since April 2023. 8 digital champions have been recruited as well as 63 data sims distributed. This project is expected to end September 2024  9 Operational hubs, Farrington Youth and Community Centre Silksworth Youth and Community Centre





	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• West in bloom Barnes &amp; St Anne's -Community Opportunities £3,990</li> <li>• TCAEC, Gardening project, Community Opportunities £2,940</li> <li>• Blooming Good Times, St Mary's &amp; St Peter's £4,600</li> <li>• Pallion Plants, Flowers and Trees, Springboard £2,086</li> <li>• The Enchanted Garden Project, Hope for All £4,360</li> <li>• Noticeboard, Tunstall Hill Protection Group £700</li> <li>• Coronation Garden Completion, Hope for Kids £2,500</li> <li>• Silksworth &amp; St Chad's in Bloom- Youth Almighty Project £4,994</li> <li>• Silksworth Recreational Park in Bloom, Friends of Silksworth Park £1,340</li> </ul> <p>The Neighbourhood Board are working with Environmental Services to improve the In Bloom in Sunderland West with a variety of bulb planting and in ground improvements, further discussions, and locations to be considered in 2024</p>
A map of defibs across the West	The Department of Health and Social care released a grant (Sept 23) for local community organisations to apply for defibrillators, this opportunity was shared with the Sunderland West VCS network.
Additional Heritage walks	
Initiatives to reduce child poverty and child obesity	
Improved community assets	The Neighbourhood and Community Board have agreed to make a recommendation to Area Committee to align £60,000 towards a call for project for West Community Assets to be improved, internal and external work to be considered. A brief will be produced, and applications considered at the June Area Committee.
Improved cultural and enrichment activities for young people	Task and Finish group met in October 2023. The Group will meet again in 2024 to consider the gaps.
An improved social prescribing offer across the West	<p>Information is included in the Service Plan update December 2023.  A video has been produced all about Links for Life Sunderland – see here <b><u><a href="https://youtu.be/h8EizBukS40">Links for Life Sunderland - https://youtu.be/h8EizBukS40</a></u></b></p> <p>The following groups were successful in securing Links for Life funding and deliver activities to support groups in the West alongside multiple specialist providers.  Pennywell Neighbourhood Centre and Community Opportunities at Thorney Close Action and Enterprise Centre. Two partnership projects are also being delivered with multiple partners.</p>

	<p>Pallion Action Group working with Pennywell Community Centre, Hope4All, Tansy Centre, Parker Trust, St Mary's and St Peters; Bethal Church, St Gabriels Church and Parker Trust Youth Almighty Project working with Kayll Road Library, Broadway Youth and Community Centre, Friends of Silksworth park, Farringdon Youth and Community Centre, Tom Urwin House, Holy Rosary Church, St David's Community Church Project and Plains Farm Youth and Community Centre</p>
A Walk and Talk project	<p>A number of ward-based initiatives have been delivered across the West, including.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St Chad's - improvements to play facilities in Farringdon and school/community events.</li> <li>• Barnes - improved CCTV in Barnes Park as well as improved toilet facilities at Broadway Youth and Community Centre.</li> <li>• Pallion - improved banners at St Luke's Terrace and a replacement cycle stand</li> <li>• Sandhill - highway improvements in Sandhill as well as a defibrillator at Hastings Hill.</li> <li>• Silksworth – Memorial clean and improved festive lights.</li> <li>• St Anne's - Increased CCTV in King George Playing Fields and St Anne's in bloom.</li> <li>• St Anne's Christmas tree and Improved lighting of Wrapped Trees</li> <li>• Pallion Drop kerbs and highway improvements.</li> </ul> <p>Scheme now finished with £24,235 being returned to Neighbourhood Funding</p>
Regular updates on Clean and Green/Rangers projects and consider future options	<p>Project update circulated to members January 2024</p> <p>6 projects delivered in each ward continues to support environmental improvements. Over 300 litter picks/community cleans up have taken place since April 2023 with over 4000 volunteer hours delivered in the Areas. Litter picks and planting continue to be delivered regularly improving the Wards. The February Neighbourhood and Community Board met to discuss the extension of the current projects. Applications will be invited to extend for a further 12months and will be considered at the June Area Committee.</p>
Regular updates on Environmental Enforcement project and Tackle ASB	<p>Project update circulated to members January 2024</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Enforcement Warden continues to carry out proactive patrols across the West with over 1000 enforcement actions delivered since April 2023. Recruitment continues for the Neighbourhood Wardens.</p> <p>At the Neighbourhood and Community Board members received a presentation on performance to date and options to consider for future delivering.</p> <p>At December 2023 Area Committee agreed to amend the existing project underspend and approve an additional £88,338 Neighbourhood Fund for a 24 Month Project including an Enforcement officer and an additional West ASB officer.</p>

	Information was provided on a new Motorcycle disorder task group; members considered this approach via responsive decision in December 2023 and approved £15,000 via responsive decision
Regular updates on the Youth Activities Projects and consider future options	Project update circulated to members January 2024. Youth activity sessions continue to be delivered in all wards, some centre based, some activities delivered in parks and open green spaces. Footfall since April 2023 is over 11000 supported by over 800 volunteer hours. The Sunderland All Together Consortium attended the November Board meeting to update on Youth activities across the West. The Area Committee in December 2023 approved £181,860 Neighbourhood Funding to deliver Youth Activities across all 6 wards for 18 months, the sessions will be for 10–19-year-olds.
Regular updates on The Welfare Rights Project	Project update circulated to members January 2024 Project continues to offer additional support to residents in the West of Sunderland. Nearly 200 residents supported with better off calculations resulting in weekly gains of £16k and £200k back dated money. 33 residents were supported with specialist support with 18 being supported with appeal tribunals. Project expected to end November 2024
An evaluation on Mental Health and Wellbeing in Young People and consider future options	Project continued to deliver in schools across April to August with over 600 young people accessing the support bringing the overall total to just less than 3000 pupils. Final evaluation submitted November 2023 and circulated to Members.
<b>Vibrant Smart City</b>	
<b>We will have</b>	
An increased knowledge of recycling	The Waste and Recycling Centre Visitors Education Centre (WRVEC) continues to engage with local schools and community groups offering an active education program focusing on the 3R's (reduce, reuse, recycle) including free sessions in the Centres rooms and garden as well as tours of the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC).
A young people access fund	
Support in place to help the VCS to grow their capacity including growing more community groups	
An evaluation of the West Area event and consider future delivery	A video of the West Area Event 2023 was shared at the September Area Committee. The group were invited to apply to deliver the 2024 Event in Barnes Park. Area Committee in December 2023 approved £40,000 Neighbourhood Funding to Youth Almighty Project to deliver the West Area Barnes Park Event 2024. The Dates of the event are 27 <sup>th</sup> and 28 <sup>th</sup> June for the closed school event and 29 <sup>th</sup> June for the family fun day.

Regular updates on the Stephenson Trail	Presentation from Steering group shared. The Stephenson Rocket has been refurbished and is now standing upright so more residents can see it. Environmental works have continued with way markers and information panels have been installed.
A project to tackle school parking	School parking was discussed at the October 2023 Board meeting. Further information will be discussed at a future board meeting. A task and finish group has been scheduled for early 2024

**Sunderland City Council Service Plans – West 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
Waverley Terrace	In partnership, with Strategic Housing redevelopment of Supported Living Accommodation for adults with social care, support and accommodation needs	12/22	11/23	1 tenant has moved into the new property with the staff team and the 2 <sup>nd</sup> tenant will move in following transitional work.

**CITY DEVELOPMENT: Economic Regeneration (City Development)**

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	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
Low Carbon Framework and Action Plan	Range of city-wide low carbon programmes and projects across the seven strategic priority areas to			Additional green-infrastructure projects (over and above NE Community Forest activity) include 'Tiny Forests' schemes to be planted at Sandhill View

	include implementation within individual Area Committee areas		<p>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</p>
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**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                      2 x Neighbourhood Wardens                      Enforcement signage                      7 x Streetwatch cameras                      Proactive approach to tackle environmental issues and increase function of prevention and enforcement across all 6 wards.</p> <p>Motor Cycle Task and finish meetings</p>	09/21	09/23	<p>AC update submitted December 2023 via agreed reporting.</p> <p>Project extended for another 2 years for Environmental Officer and funding also secured for a West area funded ASB Officer for 2 years ASB officer interviews being held week commencing 26/2/24</p> <p>February 24 Update – MD taskforce went live Dec 23. snapshot of results so far:</p> <p>Patrols:53                      Leaflet drops:2                      Multi-agency meetings:2                      Nights of action:3                      Drone deployment:1                      Social media posts:2                      Call backs:14                      School visits:1                      Home Visit:4                      CPW:4                      Vehicle Seizures:8                      Arrests/summons:1</p>



**CORPORATE SERVICES: Smart City Team**

<b>Project/Programme</b>	<b>Project Detail</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by</b>	<b>Area Committee quarterly update</b>
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: <a href="http://www.sunderlandoursmartcity.com">www.sunderlandoursmartcity.com</a> In addition, Digital Dashboards have been produced for every ward detailing the existing digital provision, challenges, and potential opportunities for consideration.
Smart Cities	Opportunities for a range of digital and data solutions e.g. interactive play, smart bins etc	4/23	tbc	Significant work ongoing, further information can be found across our website and in the Innovation Challenges section: <a href="http://www.sunderlandoursmartcity.com">www.sunderlandoursmartcity.com</a>

**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES: Bereavement Services**

<b>Project/Programme</b>	<b>Project Detail</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by</b>	<b>Area Committee quarterly update</b>
Cemetery Improvements	Prioritisation of improvement measures within area cemeteries according to an assessment of risk, need and local demand	June 22	Ongoing	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. Signage has been erected in

			<p>relevant cemetery sections providing advanced notice of the removal of unauthorised items, and work to remove relevant items will begin as soon as ground conditions allow.</p> <p>As consultation with Board Members continues on all actions, the CIB continue to receive updates on any developments in this respect.</p> <p>As part of the memorial safety programme in all cemeteries, safety audits have now been conducted and initial findings from our consultants have been received. Further review is required and agreement on the work required work schedule, costs and processes. Further updates will follow.</p> <p>Cemetery Improvement Board (CIB) meetings continue on a bi-monthly basis. As regulatory enforcement becomes part of business as usual, and the memorial safety testing programme is underway, cemetery specific action plans will deliver on improvement works specific to each cemetery dependant on local requirements and need.</p> <p>In addition to the regulatory enforcement and MST programme, the board have also reviewed options to improve cemetery maintenance and increased signage relating to issues around the control of dogs in cemeteries.</p>
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				Memorial product development and management of historic memorial sponsorship terms now also receives focus by the CIB Members, with many new processes agreed and implemented following discussion and agreement within the group.
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### 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 <sup>st</sup> April 2023	September 2023	<p>The 2023 trial which commenced on the 1st of April which is due to conclude on the 30th of September 2023 is enabling Local Services to ensure we capture a full weed season. The process is allowing us to monitor the impact of using alternative methods to Glyphosate, understand how effective other weed control methods can be, the impact these treatments have on the effectiveness of maintenance, resource, costs, equipment/training requirements, environmental and visual impact, and importantly the views of our residents.</p> <p>To date detailed records on all aspects of the trail are being gathered and analysed. Aspects such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Application process</li> </ul>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental Impact</li> <li>• Cost</li> <li>• Effectiveness</li> <li>• Resident Feedback</li> </ul> <p>We are continuing to engage with residents, our wider council colleagues, key city stakeholders and neighbouring authorities.</p> <p>We are also engaging with several other Authorities and organisations such as Cardiff Council, South Lanarkshire Council, Brighton Council the Amenity Forum and APSE.</p> <p>A final report will be produced and published following the conclusion of the trial.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The results of the trial will inform the appropriate next steps.</p> <p>The trial has now concluded, findings are currently being compiled into a detailed report. A market feasibility study via procurement is also now underway to establish costs and availability of alternative weed control equipment</p>
Tree Surveying	A citywide tree inspection and mapping project.	May 2023	2027	Tree inspections and mapping commenced in May 2023. Starting in the East area to date we

				<p>have surveyed and digitally mapped over 5000 trees. The survey will move into the West area over the coming weeks. The survey will enable SCC to fully understand our tree stock, which will in turn increase our ability to manage the risk more effectively. The survey will also facilitate a much more proactive approach to tree planting and replacement, establish how much carbon as a city our trees can sequester, it will also inform us of the overall impact of Ash Dieback disease. The data base as it grows will provide a deeper case by case record of each tree and its inspection record which will improve member and customer journeys as the information held will provide more detailed information when responding to customer requests and complaints. As of 9<sup>th</sup> of November 9,353 trees have been surveyed.</p> <p>East and West area street trees are now complete, with the current focus being on the Green Flag parks situated within these areas. As of the 20<sup>th</sup> of February 12,757 trees have been surveyed.</p> <p>Following completion of the East and West areas, Mowbray, Barnes and Roker Green Flag parks have now been surveyed. The inspection programme is now focussing on the North Area.</p>
Plantation Programme	Plantation Maintenance scheme	March 2023	April 2023	Sunderland City Council are responsible for the management of approximately 185 hectares of plantation across the city. Over several years plantation management has been limited meaning they have become dense and

			<p>unmaintained leading to the overall health and diversity of the plantation being negatively affected. The location of many of the city's plantations mean they grow relatively close to property boundaries and in some cases encroach gardens and fence lines. As a result, the Council receive high volumes of requests and complaints related to plantations. The Council are aware that in order to manage the potential adverse impact upon the health and lifespan of the plantations that a programme of works is required in some locations.</p> <p>The locations in which work is planned have been prioritised by considering condition, the risk posed whilst taking into account member and resident feedback.</p> <p>The work will comprise of thinning operations, which refers to the practice of selectively removing some trees from a woodland or plantation to promote the growth and health of the remaining trees.</p> <p>The plantation programme is progressing well with over 50,000 sqm of woodland maintained.</p> <p>Resident feedback has been very positive and of the initial 37 priority sites 19 are now complete.</p>
E Technology Trials	Trialling alternative Electric equipment to replace petrol fuelled kit to reduce carbon emissions.	May 2023	<p>We continue to trial alternative kit not only to reduce carbon emissions but to reduce the hand arm vibration some kit exposes our workforce to. To date we have tested Electric hedge trimmers, chainsaws, strimmers and grass cutters. We are hoping in the coming weeks to explore hybrid</p>

				<p>chipper technology. We are also working with our fleet team to future proof our kit replacement programme factoring in the feedback we capture as part trials and are confident that over a period of time to further reduce our reliance upon petrol tools and equipment. Trials are continuing with appropriate tools being considered as part of our fleet replacement capital programme.</p> <p>Following E Tech trials, various kit has been introduced into our operational teams. The kit not only reduces the hand arm vibration levels our operatives are exposed to, it also supports the Council's low carbon agenda.</p> <p>The kit includes, E Blowers, E Gum removal packs, E Chainsaws, E Hedge Trimmers and a Hybrid Chipper.</p> <p>We are continuing to explore other E solutions and are currently trialing a E Mechanical Sweeper</p>
Bin Replacement	Barnes Park replacement bins.	April 2023	March 2024	<p>Presently awaiting quote to be returned from contractor.</p> <p>New bins have now been delivered to storage area. Contractor will soon begin installation.</p>

**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES: Winter Maintenance**

<b>Project/Programme</b>	<b>Project Detail</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by</b>	<b>Area Committee quarterly update</b>
Winter Smart Solutions	Trials of several infrared road surface sensors across the highway network.	Continue through the winter of 2023/2024	Testing, development, and evaluation of technology and installation 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
Winter Service Review	Comprehensive review of the Winter Maintenance Service	Spring 2024	Autumn 2024	Following on from the review undertaken 2023, the 2024 review will commence following the completion of this year's winter maintenance period. The review takes in all aspects of the Winter Service. A key focus of the review is the priority network coverage. The review process is be based upon the requirement to deliver an efficient resilient service for the residents of Sunderland and the commuting public, whilst



				also meeting any legal requirements, adhering to best practice and meeting deliverable expectations with a finite resource. Where there are legislative changes, the policy will be reviewed immediately, and further approval sought from the Council. All recommendations produced by The Department for Transport and the UK Road Liaison Group along with identifiable best practice are considered during the annual review.
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### HEALTH HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES: Area Arrangements

<b>Project/Programme</b>	<b>Project Detail</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by</b>	<b>Area Committee quarterly update</b>
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 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

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
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 delivery of Financial Wellbeing support activities across services is making good progress. In the past 12 months 153 of 182 actions in the delivery plan have been completed or mainstreamed as core service activities.</p> <p>The community engagement officer continues to collect Lived Experience insights from residents – these insights contribute to evaluation of various programmes as well as informing service delivery. A system for recording the qualitative data is in development, to make the data easier to access for services and partner organisations.</p> <p>The project team moved in February 24 to become aligned with the Financial Resilience Team (Strategic Advice Services) which is expected to enhance the work of both programmes</p>

### HEALTH HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES: Housing Development

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
<i>Housing Delivery and Investment Plan 2020-26 – approved to deliver 574 new Council owned homes for letting, broken down into three workstreams: Empty Homes - 210 Bungalows - 193 Supported - 171</i>	<i>Empty Homes - 42 Bungalows - 38 Supported – 40</i>	<i>February 2020</i>	<i>March 2026</i>	<i>Empty Homes - 14 Bungalows - 0 Supported – 4</i>

### HEALTH HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES: Welfare Reform Service and Business Development

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
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			Service continues to collate and analyse monthly foodbank usage and will be providing up to date area-based breakdowns for the support provided by Sunderland Foodbank Distribution Centres and 5 Independent foodbanks . These are the organisations that

				<p>have provided figures to the council since at least the start of the pandemic .</p> <p>Separately the service is collating information from other foodbanks , and food aid providers to better understand gaps in provision and potential issues within communities including wider food insecurity. This links to range of actions in the Good Food Charter Action Plan</p> <p>Information continues to be made available for residents to access via website and also voluntary sector and partners such as housing, health, etc</p>
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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 Barnes 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 Opportunities	Consultation and development of Bid for Playzone in West - location tbc	7/23	10/23	Engagement session in member diary 12 <sup>th</sup> Sept Additional Detail supplied to ward members 3/11/23 Next stage progressing with community organisation and community engagement
Weight Management Service	Establish 1 delivery site for the targeted offer	5/23	6/24	Complete and operational - taking place at Paillon Action Group

**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 physical hubs	To deliver a Social Prescribing 'hub' to allow for localised presence of the offer	4/23	3/25	Progressing model development	
				<b>Area</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
				City Wide	Northern Engagement into Recovery from Addictions Foundation (NERAF)
				City Wide	International Community Organisation of Sunderland (ICOS)
				City Wide	Friends of Drop in (FODI)
				City Wide	Veterans In Crisis
				City Wide	Grace House
				City Wide	Active Families @ Broadway Youth & Community Centre
				City Wide	Sunderland and County Durham Royal Society for the Blind

				<table border="1"> <tr> <td>City Wide</td> <td>Sunderland and County Durham Royal Society for the Blind</td> </tr> <tr> <td>West</td> <td>Community Opportunities</td> </tr> <tr> <td>West</td> <td>Pennywell Neighbourhood Centre</td> </tr> <tr> <td>West</td> <td>Pallion Action Group</td> </tr> <tr> <td>West</td> <td>Youth Almighty Project</td> </tr> </table>	City Wide	Sunderland and County Durham Royal Society for the Blind	West	Community Opportunities	West	Pennywell Neighbourhood Centre	West	Pallion Action Group	West	Youth Almighty Project
City Wide	Sunderland and County Durham Royal Society for the Blind													
West	Community Opportunities													
West	Pennywell Neighbourhood Centre													
West	Pallion Action Group													
West	Youth Almighty Project													
Stop Smoking Clinics	To deliver stop smoking clinics in the wards with the highest smoking rates.	4/23	12/23	<p>SSSS are actively investigating clinic/drop in sites within the high prevalence wards. The following clinics are either established, planned to start or in discussion:</p> <p>Pallion: Lambton Street Youth Centre (established)</p> <p>Sandhill: Grindon Primary Care Centre (established)</p> <p>St Anne's: Grindon Primary Care Centre (established)</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.<sup>1</sup> Also, one in five GP appointments are about issues wider than health, especially for people living in areas of high deprivation.<sup>2</sup>

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.

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.<sup>3</sup>

## **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:**

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<sup>1</sup> [Social determinants of health \(who.int\)](https://www.who.int)

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

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

- 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.
- 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.



**Service Plans – Area Priorities**

**HEALTH HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES: Public Health – Starting Well and Health Protection**

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
<p>Healthy Settings (Schools) Sandhill View Academy , Farringdon Community Academy</p>	<p><i>School and key partners working together on identified priorities of mental health and RSHE</i></p>	<p>4/23</p>	<p>3/24</p>	<p>Sandhill View has a holistic approach to well-being, with a key emphasis on Relationships, Sex, and Health Education (RSHE) as well as Mental Health.</p> <p>Active participation in the Health Related Behaviour Survey 2023 involved Y8 and Y10 pupils. The outcomes have been disseminated to relevant staff to comprehend and prioritise the findings.</p> <p>The school has a significant focus on addressing teenage pregnancy, promoting awareness of healthy relationships and consent. They have established connections with the Integrated Sexual Health Outreach Service, young person's contraception nurse, and school nurses to reduce teenage pregnancy. Additionally, the school is actively working to enhance student access to the condom distribution service (C-Card scheme) and various forms of contraception. Notably, the school has already attained the RSHE Bronze Charter Mark.</p> <p>Efforts extend to the well-being of both staff and students, with a robust mental health</p>

				<p>support system in place. Ongoing staff training, specifically the halfway completion of the Integrated Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (ICAMHS) training, shows the commitment to mental health support. Farringdon started healthy settings in 2022 and identified they are focusing on RSHE and Mental Health as key themes in their action plan.</p> <p>They have established links with key services to move the action plan forward.</p> <p>Aiming to achieve RSHE Bronze charter mark.</p> <p>Unfortunately, Farringdon did not take part in the Health Related Behaviour Survey 2023.</p>
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### Service Plans – Area Priorities

#### 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	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	2022	2025	<p>Early Help Strategy 2024/28 – Final draft is under consultation. To be launched by Easter 2024.</p> <p>My Best Life website was launched in December 2023. The site's main features include advertising and booking of Family Hub events and a library of resources that is</p>

	<p>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><a href="https://www.togetherforchildren.org.uk/article/27857/Start-for-Life">https://www.togetherforchildren.org.uk/article/27857/Start-for-Life</a></p> <p>Sunderland will have 5 Family Hubs across the city offering services from conception up until the age of 18 or</p>			<p>maintained by the Family Hubs. The main benefit from this is families being able to access immediate support and book sessions online.</p> <p>Family Hubs have recruited two peer support workers to work alongside and support fathers.</p> <p>There are now 20 Parent Carer Panel members with a panel attached to each of the Family Hubs.</p>
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	<p>25 for young people with special educational needs. 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 on a new digital platform called My Best Life. 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>Our Family hubs sits in line with the national vision of building an Early Help System offering support to children and families across universal services, community support and targeted services which will all be available in our family hubs.</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 complete a robust assessment and plan, provide interventions and work alongside our partners to address the needs of</p>			
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	children young people and their families.  <a href="#">HAF continues to be available across all localities of the city now over all school holidays.</a>			
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## WEST AREA NEIGHBOURHOOD AND COMMUNITY BOARD

### Members Recommendations for inclusion in the Highway Maintenance Capital Programme 2024-2025

STREET NAME	WARD	Treatment	Estimate Footway £	Estimate Road £
Barnes View - outside no's 16 to 13	Barnes	Road Resurfacing		4,500
Cleveland Road -152	Barnes	Joint Repair		3,225
West Hill	Barnes	Road Resurfacing		11,525
Edwin Street - Minton Square - rear	Pallion	Road Resurfacing		10,700
Margaret Alice Street - Wilfred Street – rear	Pallion	Road Resurfacing		10,700
Londonderry Street - No.12 to Quarry street – rear Junction.	Silksworth	Road Resurfacing		7,200
Quarry Road No.18 to No.5/7	Silksworth	Road Resurfacing		11,300
Church Street - High Street Junction to Vicarage Lane	St. Annes	Road Resurfacing		13,400
Hill View - Foxcover Lane to Summer Hill Junction	St. Chads	Road Surfacing		16,650
Brockenhurst Drive – No's 56 to 76	Sandhill	Road Surfacing		13,350
		<b>SELECTION TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>102,550</b>

**TOTAL = £102,550**

**WEST SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE**  
**13 March 2024**  
**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I**

**Title of Report:**

West Sunderland Area Budget Report

**Author(s):**

Assistant Director of Housing and Communities

**Purpose of Report:**

Area Committee has delegated budgets to allocate to specific strategic priorities identified in the Area Plan, with the overall aim to respond to the needs of residents and ensure the delivery of activities and projects to support matters which affect residents and enable them to be resilient. The report provides a financial statement as an updated position on progress in relation to allocating Area Committee Neighbourhood Funding and Community Chest and presents proposals for further funding requests.

**Description of Decision:**

Committee are requested to:-

- (a) Note the financial statements set out in section 2.1 and 3.1.
- (b) Approve the alignment of Highway Improvement £100,000
- (c) Approve the alignment of Improve Community Assets £60,000
- (d) Approve Grindon Church Community Project, £4,620 in **Item 4 Annex 1**
- (e) Approve Active Families, £3,059 in **Item 4 Annex 1**
- (f) Approve Community Opportunities, £3,990 in **Item 4 Annex 1**
- (g) Approve Community Opportunities, £2,940 in **Item 4 Annex 1**
- (h) Approve St Mary’s & St Peter’s, £4,600 in **Item 4 Annex 1**
- (i) Approve Springboard, £2,086 in **Item 4 Annex 1**
- (j) Approve Hope for All, £4,360 in **Item 4 Annex 1**
- (k) Approve Tunstall Hill Protection Group, £700 in **Item 4 Annex 1**
- (l) Approve Hope for Kids, £2,500 in **Item 4 Annex 1**
- (m) Approve Friends of Silksworth Park, £1,340 in **Item 4 Annex 1**
- (n) Approve Youth Almighty Project, £4,994 in **Item 4 Annex 1**
- (o) Note the Community Chest approvals supported from 2023 – 2024 as set out in **Item 4 Annex 2**

Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework?

Yes

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

The Area Committee has an allocation of £540,905 (inc Youth allocation and c/f) for 2023/2024 from the Neighbourhood Fund to deliver key priorities identified in the relevant Area Plan and to attract other funding into the area.

**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

Relevant Scrutiny Committees:

Is it included in the Forward Plan? No

## WEST SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE

13 March 2024

## REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF HOUSING and COMMUNITIES

## West Sunderland Area Budget Report

## 1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 Area Committee has delegated budgets to allocate to specific strategic priorities identified in the Area Plan, with the overall aim to respond to the needs of residents and ensure the delivery of activities and projects to support matters which affect residents and enable them to be resilient. The report provides a financial statement as an update position on progress in relation to allocating Area Committee Neighbourhood Funds and Community Chest and presents proposals for further funding requests.

## 2. Area Committee Neighbourhood Fund

- 2.1 The table below shows the financial position of Area Committee Neighbourhood Fund for 2023/ 2024:

Project Name	Committee Date	Returned	Aligned	Approved	Remaining
<b>Starting Balance for 2023 / 2024 (£447,428 and £93,477 c/f and any returns)</b>					<b>£540,905</b>
Walk and Talk	6.12.23	£24,235			<b>£565,140</b>
If You Care Share	6.12.23	£1,129			<b>£566,269</b>
Enforcement/Tackle ASB	6.12.23			£88,338	<b>£477,931</b>
Safer spaces- Preparation Stage	6.12.23			£20,000	<b>£457,931</b>
West Youth Activities	6.12.23			£181,860	<b>£276,071</b>
West Area Event 2024	6.12.23			£40,000	<b>£236,071</b>
Grow your own/In Bloom Call for Projects	6.12.23		£20,000		<b>£216,071</b>
Motorcycle Disorder Project	19.12.23 (via delegated decision)			£15,000	<b>£201,071</b>
					<b>£201,071</b>

**Table One: Neighbourhood Fund Statement 2023 / 2024**



2.2 West Sunderland Area Committee has been allocated £540,905 Neighbourhood Funding for capital and revenue projects for 2023/2024.

2.3 There are 11 applications to the Neighbourhood Fund presented to Area Committee for consideration.

• Growing our Community, Grindon Church Community Project	£4,620
• Broadway Bloomers, Active Families	£3,059
• West in bloom Barnes & St Anne’s -Community Opportunities	£3,990
• TCAEC, Gardening project, Community Opportunities	£2,940
• Blooming Good Times, St Mary’s & St Peter’s	£4,600
• Pallion Plants, Flowers and Trees, Springboard	£2,086
• The Enchanted Garden Project, Hope for All	£4,360
• Noticeboard, Tunstall Hill Protection Group	£700
• Coronation Garden Completion, Hope for Kids	£2,500
• Silksworth Recreational Park in Bloom, Friends of Silksworth Park	£1,340
• Silksworth & St Chad’s in Bloom- Youth Almighty Project	£4,994
<b>Total</b>	<b>£35,189</b>

2.4 There are 2 alignment proposals presented to Area Committee for consideration from the 2023 – 2024 Neighbourhood Fund subject to full applications being presented to future Board and Area Committee as set out below:

• Highways improvements, Sunderland City Council	£100,000
• Improving Community Assets	£60,000

2.5 The total Neighbourhood Fund budget requested for approval/alignment is **£195,189 (£20,000 previously aligned)**. If approved, the remaining balance will be **£25,228**

### 3. Community Chest

3.1 Each ward has been allocated a ward budget of £10,000, to support projects which complement the Area Plan. Ward Councillors lead on seeking suitable project proposals and making decisions on applications received. Where it is difficult to make a majority decision and discussions cannot be resolved at a ward level the outcome will be escalated to Area Committee for a final decision

3.2 The Table below details the Community Chest awards starting balance for 2023/2024. **Annex 2** shows the approvals, supported to date 2023/2024

Ward	2023/2024 Allocation	Returned	Approved	Remaining
Barnes	£10,000	-	£9,111	£899
Pallion	£10,000	£1,477.39	£11477.39	£0

Sandhill	£10,000	-	£10,000	£0
Silksworth	£10,000	-	£4,375	£5,625
St Annes	£10,000	-	£8,060	£1,940
St Chads	£10,000	-	£10,000	£0
<b>Total</b>	<b>£60,000</b>	<b>£1477.39</b>	<b>£36,657.85</b>	<b>£24,789.54</b>

**Table Two: Community Chest Funding Statement 2023 / 2024**

#### **4. Recommendations**

- 4.1 Note the financial statements set out in **Tables 1 and 2**
- 4.2 Approve the alignment of Highway Improvement £100,000
- 4.3 Approve the alignment of Improve Community Assets £60,000
- 4.4 Approve Grindon Church Community Project, £4,620 in **Item 4 Annex 1**
- 4.5 Approve Active Families, £3,059 in **Item 4 Annex 1**
- 4.6 Approve Community Opportunities, £3,990 in **Item 4 Annex 1**
- 4.7 Approve Community Opportunities, £2,940 in **Item 4 Annex 1**
- 4.8 Approve St Mary's & St Peter's, £4,600 in **Item 4 Annex 1**
- 4.9 Approve Springboard, £2,086 in **Item 4 Annex 1**
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- 4.11 Approve Tunstall Hill Protection Group, £700 in **Item 4 Annex 1**
- 4.12 Approve Hope for Kids, £2,500 in **Item 4 Annex 1**
- 4.13 Approve Friends of Silksworth Park, £1,340 in **Item 4 Annex 1**
- 4.14 Approve Youth Almighty Project, £4,994 in **Item 4 Annex 1**
- 4.15 Note the Community Chest approvals supported from 2023 – 2024 as set out in **Item 4 Annex 2**

**Contact Officer:** Gilly Stanley, Partnership and Community Resilience Manager,  
Gilly.stanley@sunderland.gov.uk  
Mobile: 07584004827

## Application 1

### ALL PROJECT DETAIL TAKEN VERBATIM FROM APPLICATIONS

Project Details	
<b>Project Title</b>	Blooming Good Times
<b>Project Overview (max. 50 words)</b>	We are currently focusing on projects to grow friendships and social interaction to promote mental and social wellbeing in our community and looking to develop physical wellbeing alongside. This will continue to build on what we are building and offer practical skills and health opportunities and develop community gardens
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	£5,400
<b>Match Funding</b>	£800
<b>Total NF Requested</b>	£4,600
<b>Project Start Date</b>	01-Apr-24
<b>Project End Date</b>	01-Apr-26
<b>Where will the project be based/delivered from?</b>	St Mary and St Peter's Community Project

Project Description
<p>We have a large greenhouse and well established gardens which are not currently being well used. A couple of elderly volunteers help with weeding etc. however since Covid, most groups had ended here. We are in the process of rebuilding our Community Project with partnership working with other community organisations and those who are now renting space from us. This Blooming Good Times Project will form another part of our attempt to combat social isolation and growing concerns for mental and physical health deterioration in our community post Covid which has seen people failing to leave home to return to group and social activities.</p> <p>We are currently developing social, art, digital awareness, friendship and lunch clubs and this project would enable us to continue to meet our goal of reaching the isolated and marginalised and offer more opportunities for interaction as well as further developing our target of healthy activities including outdoor working, learning new skills and sharing those we have, resulting in raised self esteem and creating a more beautiful space in our community garden as well as being able to take baskets/troughs/planters home to enhance home situations. We intend to use the spring to help prepare the ground with existing plants as well as being greenhouse bulb and seed planting. These plants will form the basis of annual plants to enhance the community garden and develop new seating areas, one close to a local bus stop and all areas of the garden facing main roads and local houses which will enhance the area for the many. We will be working with Cultural Spring to create outdoor garden structures to enhance the garden, which is a follow up from another project with did with them around crafts and resulting in our playing a part in the Sunderlight exhibition in Barnes Park last year.</p>

We are also looking to make/decorate planters with them which people can plant up to take home and enhance their gardens/doorsteps and celebrate their own creativity. As we strive for holistic work in wellbeing awareness, we hope to grow vegetables and use the fruits from the trees already in the community garden to cook for our lunch project which we hope people will join and encourage cooking/preserving for them to take home and enjoy, developing further skill sharing and health benefits.

Any produce/plants sold on would be put back into the Blooming Good Times Project to fund further work going forward. Because we are committed to partnership working, there are other gardening groups/craft groups we are looking to work with and also Sunderland Parent Carer Forum and Choice Wellbeing which are based with us and whose members and clients may contribute to and benefit from the planned project.

It will give the opportunity for intergenerational working with children and young people and older groups sharing expertise and skills and learning more about the wider community we share. There will also be the opportunity to work alongside those with differing abilities and appreciate the needs and complexities we all can face as we build community together. Although we are based in Sandhill Ward, we are open to those from other Wards joining as partnership working.

We intend to do this for 2 years initially as this will allow a full annual cycle in the garden of preparation, fruition and bedding down for winter before putting those learned skills into practice again. We envisage this project going on beyond that and will seek further funding then if we are not yet self sufficient, something we see as important to strive for in our bid for sustainability. It is hoped if needed we would be able to apply for funding for staffing if needed as the Project grows, however it will be run by volunteers for the purposes of this funding bid.

We will celebrate our work together as a community by regularly eating together for celebration times such as Christmas and Easter Lunches and a Summer festival in our garden with BBQ to celebrate our work and draw others into the gardens and encourage volunteering. There will be a launch celebration for the community and we will hold a fayre/open afternoon to sell any food, cakes or preserves made with produce from the gardens. These will be funded by the St Mary and St Peter's Community Project as part of our Match funding which is a commitment we can make from our reserved money and income.

This will be ringfenced to protect it for this project. In this project, we believe Blooming Good Times delivers and 'in bloom' project both in the homes of people and in the Community space/Garden as it exists and will enhance the groups we are already forming. To this end, we believe we are improving outdoor and open spaces, increasing pride in our neighbourhood and increasing our volunteers as they grow and develop in self worth and self esteem as well as improving their mental and physical health.

<b>Funding Budget</b>		
<b>Budget Heading/Item</b>		<b>Total Profiled NF</b>
Pots/compost/seeds/consumables	£	2,800
Refreshments for volunteers	£	800
Protective clothing needed for volunteers	£	1,000
<b>NF Funding Total</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>4,600</b>

		Overall Target Total
<b>CODE</b>	<b>Healthy Smart City Outputs</b>	
201	number of activities or services delivered that support residents to achieve a healthier lifestyle (mentally, physically, independently)	<b>29</b>
202	number of NEW adults enjoying a healthier lifestyle (mentally, physically, independently)	<b>170</b>
203	number of individual adults enjoying a healthier lifestyle (mentally, physically, independently)- footfall	<b>200</b>
204	number of items purchased	<b>80</b>
205	number of NEW children and young people benefiting from this project	<b>40</b>
206	number of individual children and young people benefiting from this project- footfall	<b>111</b>
207	number of individuals signposted into Public/VCS services e.g. information, advice and guidance	<b>70</b>
208	amount of highway, cycle, pathways, greenspace improved by area (m2)	<b>4000</b>
<b>CODE</b>	<b>Vibrant Smart City Outputs</b>	
305	number of NEW volunteers recruited	<b>58</b>
306	number of volunteers participating	<b>223</b>
307	number of volunteer hours delivered	<b>640</b>
308	number of residents participating in decision making	<b>460</b>
309	number of cultural, heritage and community events supported and delivered	<b>35</b>

**Recommendation – Approve**

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to a **Scheme of environmental improvements**

## Application 2

### ALL PROJECT DETAIL TAKEN VERBATIM FROM APPLICATIONS

Project Details	
Project Title	Silksworth and St Chads in Bloom
Project Overview (max. 50 words)	Develop an in bloom project in the Silksworth and St Chads wards
Total Project Cost	£7,494
Match Funding	£2,500
Total NF Requested	£4,994
Project Start Date	01-Apr-24
Project End Date	01-Mar-25
Where will the project be based/delivered from?	Silksworth and St Chads Wards

Project Description
<p>We would like to address the West Area Committees “Environmental improvements” priority which will complement and work in partnership with existing services and initiatives and carry out environmental improvements in the local area.</p> <p><b>Project Proposal</b> We would like to develop an in-bloom project in the Silksworth and St Chads wards of Sunderland. This project will complement/strengthen our existing clean and green project “Silksworth and St Chads Ranger”.</p> <p><b>Silksworth Proposal</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 3 x Railing Planters around the ward (Vicarage Road, Durham Terrace, Silksworth Terrace)</li><li>• 2 x Tiered planter next to pit wheel</li><li>• Bulbs for existing planters located around the ward</li></ul> <p>The proposed project will improve the overall visual appearance of the Silksworth ward making it more attractive and a better place to live for the local community.</p> <p>The project will delivered and maintained by the Silksworth Ranger and their volunteers.</p>

We will work in partnership with The Friends of Silksworth Park, Silksworth Residents group, and ward councillors.

We will build improved links with the 4 allotments sites to obtain plants and bulbs hopefully donated or at low cost. We will also encourage them to become active volunteers.

We will work with local groups to empower them to take ownership and adopt a barrier trough/planter.

We will ensure that the barrier troughs/planters are maintained on a regular basis.

Our proposal has been based on safety and highest impact from a local services perspective.

### **St Chads Proposal**

- Multi arm hanging basket tree located at the Board Inn Area around the St Chads
- 2 x Tiered planters at Durham Road
- 3 x Railing planters to complement those already in place (West Park Railings)

The proposed project will improve the overall visual appearance of the St Chads ward making it more attractive and a better place to live for the local community.

The project will delivered and maintained by the St Chads Ranger and volunteers.

We will work in partnership with the Friends of Middle Herrington Park, Herrington Village Show, Friends of Herrington, and St Davids Community Church Project, and ward councillors.

We will build improved links with the Herrington Village Show to obtain plants and bulbs hopefully donated or at low cost. We will also encourage them to become active volunteers.

Our proposal has been based on safety and highest impact from a local services perspective.

### **Additional Information**

We will empower children, young people and the local community to take pride in their area and understand the natural environment and the impact of negative behaviours against the environment.

We know that outdoor activities and environmental projects are particularly powerful learning opportunities as they contribute to a range of important collective targets across education, health, anti-social behaviour, and community cohesion.

During delivery of the project we will produce regular social media posts to show the good work being delivered and the opportunities available with reference made to the support provided by Area Committee.

### **Both projects will contribute to the overall outcomes of**

- Improved outdoor and open spaces
- Increased pride in neighbourhood
- Increased volunteers

<b>Funding Budget</b>	
<b>Budget Heading/Item</b>	<b>Total Profiled NF</b>
6 x Railing Planters @ £160 each	£ 960
4 x tiered Planters @ £780 each	£ 3,120

Multi Arm Hanging Basket @£804each	£	804
Bulbs	£	110
<b>NF Funding Total</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>4,994</b>

		Overall Target Total
<b>CODE</b>	<b>Healthy Smart City Outputs</b>	
204	number of items purchased	<b>11</b>
213	number of street furniture and / or equipment funded to repaired/replaced/renewed	<b>11</b>
<b>CODE</b>	<b>Vibrant Smart City Outputs</b>	
306	number of volunteers participating	<b>2</b>
307	number of volunteer hours delivered	<b>45</b>

**Recommendation – Approve**

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to a **Scheme of environmental improvements**

**Application 3**

***ALL PROJECT DETAIL TAKEN VERBATIM FROM APPLICATIONS***

<b>Project Details</b>	
<b>Project Title</b>	Silksworth Recreational Park in Bloom
<b>Project Overview (max. 50 words)</b>	We would like to develop an in-bloom project in the Silksworth ward of Sunderland. Our project will focus on environmental improvements within Silksworth Recreation Park.
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	£2,588
<b>Match Funding</b>	£1,248
<b>Total NF Requested</b>	£1,340
<b>Project Start Date</b>	01-Apr-24
<b>Project End Date</b>	01-Mar-25
<b>Where will the project be based/delivered from?</b>	Silksworth Recreation Park





## Project Description

Friends of Silksworth Park would like to address the West Area Committees “Environmental improvements” priority which will complement and work in partnership with existing services and initiatives and carry out environmental improvements in the local area.

### Project Proposal

We would like to develop an in-bloom project in the Silksworth ward of Sunderland. Our project will focus on environmental improvements within Silksworth Recreation Park.

- 6 x Railing planters on the railings at the entrance of Silksworth Recreational Park
- A planters with bulbs to be located outside the Tea Pavilion.

The proposed project will improve the overall visual appearance of the Silksworth recreational Park making it more attractive and a better place to visit for the local community.

The project will delivered and maintained by the Friends of Silksworth park and their volunteers.

We will work in partnership with the Silksworth Ranger, Silksworth Residents group, and ward councillors.

We will build improved links with the 4 allotments sites to obtain plants and bulbs hopefully donated or at low cost. We will also encourage them to become active volunteers. We will improve links with the schools within the area.

During delivery of the project we will produce regular social media posts to show the good work being delivered and the opportunities available with reference made to the support provided by Area Committee.

We will empower children, young people and the local community to take pride in their area and understand the natural environment and the impact of negative behaviours against the environment.

### Our project will contribute to the overall outcomes of

- Improved outdoor and open spaces
- Increased pride in neighbourhood
- Increased volunteers

Our proposal has been based on safety and highest impact from a local services perspective.

<b>Funding Budget</b>	
<b>Budget Heading/Item</b>	<b>Total Profiled NF</b>
Railing planters x 6 @£160	£ 960
Planter	£ 300
Bulbs	£ 80
<b>NF Funding Total</b>	<b>£ 1,340</b>

		Overall Target Total
<b>CODE</b>	<b>Healthy Smart City Outputs</b>	
204	Number of items purchased	<b>7</b>
213	number of street furniture and / or equipment funded to repaired/replaced/renewed	<b>7</b>
<b>CODE</b>	<b>Vibrant Smart City Outputs</b>	
305	number of NEW volunteers recruited	<b>2</b>
306	number of volunteers participating	<b>86</b>

#### **Recommendation – Approve**

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to a **Scheme of environmental improvements**

#### **Application 4**

#### ***ALL PROJECT DETAIL TAKEN VERBATIM FROM APPLICATIONS***

<b>Project Details</b>	
<b>Project Title</b>	Pallion Plants, Flowers and Trees
<b>Project Overview (max. 50 words)</b>	The project aims to improve the streets and green spaces of Pallion with increased planting in flower beds, plant boxes and borders. With the time of the Pallion Clean and Green ranger and volunteers from local groups as well as Springboard trainee's.
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	£2,086
<b>Match Funding</b>	£
<b>Total NF Requested</b>	£2,086
<b>Project Start Date</b>	04-Mar-24
<b>Project End Date</b>	28-Feb-25
<b>Where will the project be based/delivered from?</b>	Springboard Pallion

## Project Description

The proposed project aims to use the funds to implement changes to rejuvenate green spaces in the Pallion ward by performing regular maintenance and regeneration of plants, trees, shrubs and hedges to provide an attractive community shared space that brings colour and natural beauty to the areas. This will include regular litter picking, vegetation maintenance by removal of undesirable plants like bramble and nettles and replacing the space with visually appealing species that will benefit local residents and boost the health and biodiversity of the immediate area.

The funding provided by this project will be used to introduce new plants to existing planter troughs and baskets around Pallion, including on St Luke's Terrace, Fordfield Road, General Havelock Road and others. This would improve the appearance of the area and make it a more attractive place for people to spend their time and will hopefully also contribute to positive effects in the mental health of residents. The project will also maintain existing and established vegetation in other areas such as Fordfield Road and Hylton Road Playing Fields to both create a well-maintained, healthy, and welcoming space for the public which would be visually appealing and discouraging for any antisocial behaviour. When an area is well kept and with positive planting there are knock on benefits with reduced graffiti, littering and ASB.

Plans for the planters along Fordfield Road are to continue maintenance of the evergreen laurel bushes to keep them tidy and organised, and to also introduce new plants that would contribute to local wildlife in terms of habitat and food sources. Hardy, edible plants or fruit trees such as rosemary, sage, and mint are perennial and require minimal intervention once established, and trees like hazel and apple would be well suited to these areas because they are both visually attractive and would provide fruit that is accessible to the public. Fruit and herbs planted in the area in this manner would also serve as educational tools that can work to promote healthy eating and locally sourced, environmentally friendly and sustainable food. Plants like these would also benefit local wildlife, because hardy perennials, evergreens and herbs are essential for a healthy population of pollinating insects and fruit trees are an excellent source of food for birds like robin, blackbird, jackdaw and bullfinch. The herbs would be an excellent addition to the planters on St. Luke's Terrace because once established, they are resistant to many environmental challenges and remain attractive and functional with minimal maintenance or intervention throughout the year and are generally long-lived plants that will continue to flower and grow for years to come.

The provision of training to local volunteers will be beneficial to individuals, the community and the green spaces because it grants people the opportunity to engage with nature and their local environments for the benefit of the public and the plants they're caring for. Training people on basic horticultural skills will go a long way toward boosting the sense of local pride because they would then feel empowered and able to care for the green spaces with their new skills, which could in turn lead to the formation of new friends groups or the addition of new members to existing ones.

<b>Funding Budget</b>	
<b>Budget Heading/Item</b>	<b>Total Profiled NF</b>
Plants, shrubs, flowers, trees and associated sundries to support.	£ 2,086
<b>NF Funding Total</b>	<b>£ 2,086</b>

		Overall Target Total
<b>CODE</b>	<b>Healthy Smart City Outputs</b>	
201	number of activities or services delivered that support residents to achieve a healthier lifestyle (mentally, physically, independently)	<b>16</b>
202	number of NEW adults enjoying a healthier lifestyle (mentally, physically, independently)	<b>20</b>
203	number of individual adults enjoying a healthier lifestyle (mentally, physically, independently)- footfall	<b>40</b>
209	number of litter picks/community cleans up carried out	<b>16</b>
210	Number of bags of waste cleared from neighbourhoods	<b>8</b>
212	number of existing / derelict assets improved	<b>16</b>
<b>CODE</b>	<b>Vibrant Smart City Outputs</b>	
306	number of volunteers participating	<b>40</b>
307	number of volunteer hours delivered	<b>120</b>
308	number of residents participating in decision making	<b>8</b>
309	number of cultural, heritage and community events supported and delivered	<b>1</b>

**Recommendation – Approve**

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to a **Scheme of environmental improvements**

**Application 5**

**ALL PROJECT DETAIL TAKEN VERBATIM FROM APPLICATIONS**

<b>Project Details</b>	
<b>Project Title</b>	Growing Our Community
<b>Project Overview (max. 50 words)</b>	Sharing our Community garden space with local community members for growing, relaxation and mental health improvement. Introducing children and families to growing food to promote healthy eating and reduce living costs.
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	£19,740
<b>Match Funding</b>	£15,120
<b>Total NF Requested</b>	£4,620
<b>Project Start Date</b>	01-Apr-24
<b>Project End Date</b>	31-Dec-24
<b>Where will the project be based/delivered from?</b>	Grindon Church Community Project, Galway Rd, Sunderland, SR4 8JZ

## Project Description

GCCP has an established Community Garden which before lockdown won a Britain In Bloom Neighbourhood award. Since lockdown we've been working towards restoring and improving the garden and we would like to develop and progress this with a view to entering the competition again this year therefore we want to expand access and use to all areas of the gardens. Since Covid we have added donated Polytunnels constructed by volunteer teams from EDF and EE and have a greenhouse funded ready for a volunteer team and a long enough gap in the stormy weather to put into place. Safe gravel flooring is needed in these growing spaces for drainage and access.

We understand there are increasing waiting lists for allotments within the city and would like to take the opportunity to offer newly refurbished raised beds for growing to local community members in return for some help in the gardens. We already have some people interested and envisage working with Gentoo, Social Prescribing and the Allotments Association to further offer these opportunities. Interested people would also be able to use Polytunnel space and share knowledge and resources.

Last year there was new interest and excitement in gardening when OASES introduced the toddler group and their families to growing. We would like to build on this with further OASES sessions to introduce families new to the groups to growing and encourage healthy eating and further development of the Toddler Garden. The young ones were enthusiastic and carried their growing skills to their own homes where we understand the grown ups have tried it too! We are having trees that have outgrown their surroundings removed very soon and will be reusing these throughout the garden space as we do with much of our garden 'waste'. Chipping and composting for reuse. All activities encourage participants to recycle and re-use and our gardens have a lot of examples throughout.

Working with Cultural Spring we are looking at introducing a Sculpture trail to the gardens so each view and aspect has something of interest to explore and enjoy. Work on these has already begun.

Our aim is to open the gardens to the community for a few hours on a regular basis to allow access to find a view to enjoy, explore the planting and growing, walk find a peaceful spot to sit or enjoy the wildlife including insects, hedgehogs, birdlife and bog-life. The open gardens would tie in with our Repair Café mornings which are about to be relaunched.

With this in mind we would like to install CCTV within the gardens to protect and enhance the use and enjoyment of the spaces.

Many of us at GCCP have experienced the value of garden spaces and gardening in improving mental health whether ongoing or at times of acute illness or crisis. Our in-house counsellor is introducing this to his clients whenever it is appropriate. We have also found the gardens to benefit during physical illness or for those with disability. As far as is possible most areas are fully accessible and we will be reviewing this as part of the work this summer.

Cook and Count – this course is currently running at GCCP (improving maths by exploring cooking, recipes and costing) and is scheduled for further courses later in the year. We will take the opportunity to extend this course towards "growing to eat" to continue interest in reducing cost of living difficulties and promoting healthier eating by using the garden spaces.

We expect to increase the number of volunteers and garden users of all ages by offering the various growing areas and leisure areas out to the local community to utilise and enjoy.

<b>Funding Budget</b>	<b>Lifetime</b>
<b>Budget Heading/Item</b>	<b>Total Profiled NF</b>
Materials for raised beds and walkways	£ 1,320
CCTV	£ 600
OASES - toddlers growing workshops x 6	£ 1,200
Celebration events	£ 1,000
Additional planting for screening of areas	£ 400
Additional planting - bulbs and bog plants	£ 100
<b>NF Funding Total</b>	<b>£ 4,620</b>

		Overall Target Total
<b>CODE</b>	<b>Healthy Smart City Outputs</b>	
202	number of NEW adults enjoying a healthier lifestyle (mentally, physically, independently)	<b>20</b>
203	number of individual adults enjoying a healthier lifestyle (mentally, physically, independently)- footfall	<b>40</b>
204	number of items purchased	<b>0</b>
205	number of NEW children and young people benefiting from this project	<b>20</b>
206	number of individual children and young people benefiting from this project- footfall	<b>60</b>
208	amount of highway, cycle, pathways, greenspace improved by area (m2)	<b>4000</b>
<b>CODE</b>	<b>Vibrant Smart City Outputs</b>	
301	Number of activities or services delivered that support residents to become more resilient (financially)	<b>3</b>
302	number of individual people more resilient (financially)	<b>40</b>
303	number of safety measures installed/delivered to improve neighbourhoods	<b>1</b>
304	number of Enforcement actions	<b>0</b>
305	number of NEW volunteers recruited	<b>30</b>
306	number of volunteers participating	<b>129</b>
307	number of volunteer hours delivered	<b>4930</b>
308	number of residents participating in decision making	<b>57</b>

**Recommendation – Approve**

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to a **Scheme of environmental improvements**

Application 6

**ALL PROJECT DETAIL TAKEN VERBATIM FROM APPLICATIONS**

<b>Project Details</b>	
<b>Project Title</b>	Thorney Close Action & Enterprise Centre gardening project
<b>Project Overview (max. 50 words)</b>	The project proposes improving the grounds and walkways of TCAEC by installing flower beds and planters at the entrance and building vegetable plots for children and young people accessing services in the centre to grow their own vegetables and flowers
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	£2,940
<b>Match Funding</b>	£ -
<b>Total NF Requested</b>	£2,940
<b>Project Start Date</b>	01-Apr-24
<b>Project End Date</b>	31-Mar-25
<b>Where will the project be based/delivered from?</b>	Thorney Close Action and Enterprise Centre

<b>Project Description</b>
<p>The project proposes to deliver an in bloom project and improving a community green space on the grounds of Thorney Close Action and Enterprise Centre and developing a growing project with local young people.</p> <p>We would like to install narrow trough planters at either side of the front door entrance which will be filled with flowering bedding plants. There is a seated area either side of the space where we propose to place the troughs where local residents and visitors to the centre can sit and enjoy the outdoor space. It is hoped that by placing plants and flowers in this area the overall appearance of the building will be improved and will provide an area which will be both visually and emotionally pleasant to everyone to uses the space. The troughs and plants will be maintained by Clean &amp; Green volunteers.</p> <p>We would also like to plant up a baron area of soil and weeds to the entrance area to improve the first impressions of entering the site. Thirdly we propose to purchase two bespoke planters from Bowes Railway and install these as raised planter vegetable garden beds within the centre grounds in an area identified to the side of the front car park. This will create a community garden / green space which local children and young people accessing the centre services will use to grow their own vegetables and plants. Community Opportunities currently runs a youth project two evenings a week in the centre where up to 50 local young people aged 11 - 16 regularly attend and an after-school club with 20 8-10 year olds attending. Several of the young people currently attending our groups have expressed an interest in growing their own food and learning how to care for plants.</p>



This project would give all the young people the opportunity to do this while learning about where food comes from, nutrition and how to take care of the environment. West Clean & Green is based at the centre and will be there daily to erect, install and maintain of the beds. The Clean & Green coordinator will provide information to young people and support and guide them while planting and growing their plants and vegetables. The proposed sessions would be staffed by existing resource in the Clean and Green team and West Youth activities team.

<b>Funding Budget</b>	
<b>Budget Heading/Item</b>	<b>Total Profiled NF</b>
2 x oblong planters	£ 400
Raised bed planters - 2 - from Bowes	£ 1,300
bedding plants	£ 600
bags of compost	£ 180
vegetable seeds	£ 160
garden tool sets - young people	£ 300
<b>NF Funding Total</b>	<b>£ 2,940</b>

		Overall Target Total
<b>CODE</b>	<b>Healthy Smart City Outputs</b>	
201	number of activities or services delivered that support residents to achieve a healthier lifestyle (mentally, physically, independently)	<b>2</b>
204	number of items purchased	<b>10</b>
205	number of NEW children and young people benefiting from this project	<b>30</b>
206	number of individual children and young people benefiting from this project- footfall	<b>100</b>
207	number of individuals signposted into Public/VCS services e.g. information, advice and guidance	<b>30</b>
208	amount of highway, cycle, pathways, greenspace improved by area (m2)	<b>50</b>
209	number of litter picks/community cleans up carried out	<b>8</b>
210	Number of bags of waste cleared from neighbourhoods	<b>40</b>
213	number of street furniture and / or equipment funded to repaired/replaced/renewed	<b>4</b>
<b>CODE</b>	<b>Vibrant Smart City Outputs</b>	
301	Number of activities or services delivered that support residents to become more resilient (financially)	<b>3</b>
306	number of volunteers participating	<b>8</b>
307	number of volunteer hours delivered	<b>60</b>

**Recommendation – Approve**

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to a **Scheme of environmental improvements**

## Application 7

### ALL PROJECT DETAIL TAKEN VERBATIM FROM APPLICATIONS

<b>Project Details</b>	
<b>Project Title</b>	West In Bloom -
<b>Project Overview (max. 50 words)</b>	Deliver In Bloom project by planting bedding plants and flowers in the large kerbside wooden planters at Hipsburn Drive and Wearhead Drive, replanting hanging baskets and planters in St Annes ward and addressing dog fouling issues in Barnes Park.
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	£3,990
<b>Match Funding</b>	£ -
<b>Total NF Requested</b>	£3,990
<b>Project Start Date</b>	01-Mar-24
<b>Project End Date</b>	01-Mar-25
<b>Where will the project be based/delivered from?</b>	sites around the Barnes and St Annes wards

<b>Project Description</b>
<p>The project will fund bedding plants and the installation of dog waste bag dispensers and bags. The planting will be in the four large kerbside planters at Hipsburn Drive and the planter at Wearhead Drive, which were previously installed by the Clean and Green project in response to issues raised by residents regarding anti-social parking. This application will contribute to visually improving the area, with replanting across three seasons of the year. The second element of the application responds to feedback from Barnes Park users about the amount of dog waste left in the park, the Friends of Barnes Park would like to purchase two dog poo bag dispensers which would be mounted at the entrance to each of the two car parks (Ettrick Grove and Barnes Park Road) where the majority of park users access the facilities.</p> <p>The dispensers would be filled with poo bags which dog walkers could take free of charge and use to clean up after their animals. Members of the friends group would attend the park each week to re-fill the dispensers, ensuring there is always an adequate supply of bags. The bags chosen are bio-degradable, ensuring the impact of bags in the park to plants and wildlife will be minimal. This project will improve the Park (a community green space), cleaning up the area for park users and make it more accessible for all. The friends group would also like to purchase a pop up gazebo to help with the publicity and promotional work they do in the park.</p>

The group regularly host public events such as a dog show and seasonal themed celebrations (Christmas, Easter, Halloween).

A gazebo is a needed resource which would provide a portable space where friends members could be stationed, give out information and provide covered area for members to encourage others to come along and consider joining the friends group. The dog waste bag dispensers will be purchased and installed at locations across Barnes Park with bags being replenished through friends group volunteers and the clean and green project. The third element of the project will be to restock the planters and hanging baskets in the St Annes ward with relevant bedding plants, the planters across the seasons and the hanging baskets for the summer. Access to the baskets is by a cherry picker and the council environmental team will support with taking down the baskets and rehangng them.

<b>Funding Budget</b>	
<b>Budget Heading/Item</b>	<b>Total Profiled NF</b>
bedding plants, compost, nutrients	£ 1,000
dog waste bags dispensers - 10	£ 240
brackets, tools for install	£ 75
waste bags	£ 300
Pop up gazebo	£ 200
St Annes planter bedding plants, compost, nutrients	£ 1,000
St Annes hanging baskets	£ 500
Cherry Picker hire/access	£ 675
<b>NF Funding Total</b>	<b>£ 3,990</b>

		Overall Target Total
<b>CODE</b>	<b>Healthy Smart City Outputs</b>	
201	number of activities or services delivered that support residents to achieve a healthier lifestyle (mentally, physically, independently)	<b>14</b>
202	number of NEW adults enjoying a healthier lifestyle (mentally, physically, independently)	<b>16</b>
203	number of individual adults enjoying a healthier lifestyle (mentally, physically, independently)- footfall	<b>32</b>
207	number of individuals signposted into Public/VCS services e.g. information, advice and guidance	<b>60</b>
208	amount of highway, cycle, pathways, greenspace improved by area (m2)	<b>30</b>
<b>CODE</b>	<b>Vibrant Smart City Outputs</b>	
306	number of volunteers participating	<b>18</b>
307	number of volunteer hours delivered	<b>45</b>

**Recommendation – Approve**

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to a **Scheme of environmental improvements**

## Application 8

### ALL PROJECT DETAIL TAKEN VERBATIM FROM APPLICATIONS

<b>Project Details</b>	
<b>Project Title</b>	Purchase of an outdoor lockable-windowed noticeboard
<b>Project Overview (max. 50 words)</b>	The noticeboard would be positioned at the Leechmere Road entrance to the Tunstall Hills Local Nature Reserve and used to publicise the activities of the Tunstall Hills Protection Group as well as display information about the Local Nature Reserve.
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	£4,156
<b>Match Funding</b>	£3,456
<b>Total NF Requested</b>	£700
<b>Project Start Date</b>	01-Apr-24
<b>Project End Date</b>	01-Mar-25
<b>Where will the project be based/delivered from?</b>	The Tunstall Hills Protection Group would be responsible for maintaining the noticeboard and for keeping the information on it up to date. It would be situated at the Leechmere Road entrance to the Tunstall Hills Local Nature Reserve.

<b>Project Description</b>
<p>Last June three representatives of the Tunstall Hills Protection Group committee met Councillors Laverick and Tye at the Tunstall Hills Changing Rooms car park to discuss the problem of the old Changing Rooms. The discussion widened out and at that stage we raised the idea of an outdoor noticeboard to give people information about the Local Nature Reserve and about the activities of the Tunstall Hills Protection Group. Such a noticeboard would be best situated in the public eye at the Leechmere Road entrance to the Local Nature Reserve rather than in the car park itself, where there could be considerable risk of damage.</p> <p>The noticeboard might contain a map of the Local Nature Reserve and information about its geology and wildlife as well as the guided walks and litter-picks arranged by the Tunstall Hills Protection Group. In this position the noticeboard would also act as a signpost inviting people to explore the Local Nature Reserve, guiding visitors and potentially bringing the Reserve to the attention of many more people. The notice board would also help to attract new volunteers to take part in the organised litter picks.</p>

<b>Funding Budget</b>	
<b>Budget Heading/Item</b>	<b>Total Profiled NF</b>
Purchase of lockable outdoor noticeboard	£ 700
<b>NF Funding Total</b>	<b>£ 700</b>

		Overall Target Total
<b>CODE</b>	<b>Healthy Smart City Outputs</b>	
209	number of litter picks/community cleans up carried out	<b>12</b>
210	Number of bags of waste cleared from neighbourhoods	<b>48</b>
211	Issues reported via <a href="http://www.sunderland.gov.uk/report-it">www.sunderland.gov.uk/report-it</a>	<b>12</b>
<b>CODE</b>	<b>Vibrant Smart City Outputs</b>	
306	number of volunteers participating	<b>24</b>
307	number of volunteer hours delivered	<b>144</b>
308	number of residents participating in decision making	<b>16</b>
309	number of cultural, heritage and community events supported and delivered	<b>52</b>

### Recommendation – Approve

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to a **Scheme of environmental improvements**

### Application 9

#### ***ALL PROJECT DETAIL TAKEN VERBATIM FROM APPLICATIONS***

Project Details	
<b>Project Title</b>	Coronation Garden Completion
<b>Project Overview (max. 50 words)</b>	To complete the potato and vegetable with 4 raised beds, membrane and bark walk ways between the beds and raised beds down the side of the building for root vegetables to prevent mud slippage onto the paved pathways.
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	£ 10,995
<b>Match Funding</b>	£ 8,495
<b>Total NF Requested</b>	£ 2,500
<b>Project Start Date</b>	25-Mar-24
<b>Project End Date</b>	25-Jun-24
<b>Where will the project be based/delivered from?</b>	Pennywell Community Centre, Portsmouth Road, Pennywell, SR4 9AX

## Project Description

We plan to create with the help of residents of all ages a beautiful Hope Coronation garden at Community Centre. New beds and planting areas have created ready to plant shrubs, flowers and growing vegetables • We shall have a celebration day to launch the project with food and soft drinks and family entertainment. Elder members of the community along with expert gardeners will come together to plant the new garden area. The seniors and experts will work with children from local schools and special needs units and pass on their skills in lots of intergenerational engagement. The older people will benefit from participating in this activity on a regular basis therefore reducing feelings of isolation and loneliness. The event will bring people together; many have not been to a communal event in this neighbourhood since Covid. We shall have a special opening ceremony for the new Hope Coronation Garden with a local dignitary opening it with the local media in attendance.

The intergenerational engagement is something we are really looking forward to seeing. Retired older members of our community have said that the garden project appeals to them and they have time to dedicate to the upkeep of the area. They are very happy to show the local children what gardening is all about! The children will learn a lot of practical skills in terms of planting; growing vegetables and generally maintaining the garden and then seeing the results. People also put forward the idea of having Kings and Queens rose bushes planted in their honour as a centre piece to the garden. Both activities in the project will bring people together and the garden will have local residents owning and taking pride in the community space.

Our engagement with that people who attend the Community Centre wanted a project garden that would leave a lasting legacy of the Coronation of the King. Creating a community garden is a fantastic way of having meaningful activity on a regular basis. Local people like Pennywell the thought of having a space they can come and relax or work; it will help with well being and mental health. We already have a fantastic network of over 400 families on our database. We will have no problem in mobilising people to help maintain the garden once its created. We envisage different groups working on the garden almost on a rota to keep it in great order. Children will learn about the food chain of planting vegetables and taking them to cook them to the dinner table and it will encourage healthier eating and even help low income families cook on a budget.

The garden was put on hold due to a health scare of Viv Watts. The garden has been dug where the flowers, shrubs and raised beds for a sensory garden. The concrete base for the bench has been completed. What was not taken into account was the raised beds for the potato and vegetable plot as well as additional raised beds for root vegetables to prevent mud slippage onto the paved pathways. The plot is prepared for the raised beds to be created. The sensory beds and flower plots are ready to plant.

(the planting of the shrubs, flowers and sensory garden can be planted Feb/March as no funding is needed)

The garden will be completed hopefully by the end of April with a celebration family event

Funding Budget	
Budget Heading/Item	Total Profiled NF
4 Vegetable planters made by The Box	£ 2,500
<b>NF Funding Total</b>	<b>£ 2,500</b>

		Overall Target Total
<b>CODE</b>	<b>Healthy Smart City Outputs</b>	
202	number of NEW adults enjoying a healthier lifestyle (mentally, physically, independently)	<b>50</b>
204	number of items purchased	<b>4</b>
212	number of existing / derelict assets improved	<b>1</b>

### Recommendation – Approve

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to a **Scheme of environmental improvements**

### Application 10

#### **ALL PROJECT DETAIL TAKEN VERBATIM FROM APPLICATIONS**

<b>Project Details</b>	
<b>Project Title</b>	The Enchanted Garden Project
<b>Project Overview (max. 50 words)</b>	We would like to create garden spaces within our allotment areas for the local residents and children's groups to grow fruit and vegetables, as well as delivering cookery classes from seed to plate. We plan on growing flowers to create hanging baskets to improve the look and feel of the local area.
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	£4,360
<b>Match Funding</b>	£ -
<b>Total NF Requested</b>	£4,360
<b>Project Start Date</b>	01-Apr-24
<b>Project End Date</b>	01-Apr-25
<b>Where will the project be based/delivered from?</b>	St Thomas Church Petersfield Road, Pennywell garden and allotment spaces.

<b>Project Description</b>
<p>The Enchanted Garden will be a garden for all of the community, we already have partnerships in place with Gentoo and Regen to help redevelop the garden spaces as well as a number of volunteers and members of the community with a wealth of knowledge who would like to establish plots of the land to grow fruit and vegetables, herbs, pollinators and flowers. We would like to create a beautiful peaceful garden in the heart of the Pennywell community for both adults and children to enjoy.</p> <p>We plan on sectioning the garden spaces for planters for the young children to plant there own seeds and develop cookery classes from seed to plate, as well as teenagers, adults and the elderly generation to form mentoring relationships between all generations. we have four Beehives in which we produce our very own local Honey and will be delivering Beekeeping</p>



classes in the spring we hope to educate people on the importance of local nature. We hope that by providing much needed garden and allotment spaces for the community this will create an improved sense of mental health and wellbeing, as well as up skilling opportunity's, by giving people the confidence to grow their own produce within the Enchanted garden we hope this will filter down to their own personal garden spaces and local area improving the look and feel of the community.

In the spring we will deliver hanging basket and planter workshops for people to take home and also distribute to other parts of the community, taking a sense of ownership and responsibility for the improvement of their own area. We have also built relationships with the local schools Christ College, Academy 360 and the Pennywell Early years we hope to deliver educational workshops around the Bee's and planting, our hope is to encourage children who are more practically minded to develop their own ability's and skills in an area that may not be offered within a school setting. We will also work with cultural spring in order to deliver sculpting sessions to use in the garden areas, and to work alongside our men's shed in which we will be launching in the spring. The Enchanted gardens will be used and enjoyed all year round, we will use the garden for our summer events such as Penny Fest and plan on turning the garden spaces into a winter wonderland for Christmas. The Enchanted garden will become a truly wonderful place within the heart of Pennywell a place that can change peoples perceptions on nature and the area of Pennywell we hope that this project will become a stepping stone for Pennywell to become once again a thriving place to live.

<b>Funding Budget</b>	
<b>Budget Heading/Item</b>	<b>Total Profiled NF</b>
Pots, compost, seeds, planters	£ 1,900
Refreshments for volunteers	£ 500
Protective clothing	£ 800
hanging basket materials	£ 200
promotional materials	£ 160
Child friendly equipment	£ 800
<b>NF Funding Total</b>	<b>£ 4,360</b>

		Overall Target Total
<b>CODE</b>	<b>Healthy Smart City Outputs</b>	
201	number of activities or services delivered that support residents to achieve a healthier lifestyle (mentally, physically, independently)	<b>28</b>
202	number of NEW adults enjoying a healthier lifestyle (mentally, physically, independently)	<b>145</b>
203	number of individual adults enjoying a healthier lifestyle (mentally, physically, independently)- footfall	<b>180</b>
204	number of items purchased	<b>50</b>
205	number of NEW children and young people benefiting from this project	<b>140</b>
206	number of individual children and young people benefiting from this project- footfall	<b>560</b>

207	number of individuals signposted into Public/VCS services e.g. information, advice and guidance	<b>80</b>
208	amount of highway, cycle, pathways, greenspace improved by area (m2)	<b>2500</b>
<b>CODE</b>	<b>Vibrant Smart City Outputs</b>	
305	number of NEW volunteers recruited	<b>85</b>
306	number of volunteers participating	<b>85</b>
307	number of volunteer hours delivered	<b>34</b>
308	number of residents participating in decision making	<b>115</b>
309	number of cultural, heritage and community events supported and delivered	<b>44</b>
310	number of visitors footfall at neighbourhood events	<b>850</b>

### Recommendation – Approve

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to a **Scheme of environmental improvements**

### Application 11

#### **ALL PROJECT DETAIL TAKEN VERBATIM FROM APPLICATIONS**

<b>Project Details</b>	
<b>Project Title</b>	Broadway Bloomers
<b>Project Overview (max. 50 words)</b>	Broadway Bloomers will improve the outdoor space at Broadway Community Centre. The project will see the instillation of troughs and planters which will contain colourful and sensory plants and flowers (including herbs) to improve the front and rear garden space. The project will also see the erection of a small potting house and bench for children to work from in the garden and a potting bench for volunteers.
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	£ 3,059
<b>Match Funding</b>	£ -
<b>Total NF Requested</b>	£3,059
<b>Project Start Date</b>	01-Apr-24
<b>Project End Date</b>	31-Oct-24
<b>Where will the project be based/delivered from?</b>	Broadway Community Centre, Cortina Avenue, Sunderland SR4

<b>Project Description</b>
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Active Families North East will work in partnership with Broadway Community Centre, Broadway Primary School and West Area Clean and Green project (Community Opportunities) to deliver the 'Broadway Bloomers' project. The project will see hanging baskets, planters and troughs installed in the front and rear gardens of Broadway Community Centre which will bring colour, texture and fragrance through the planting of bedding/sensory plants and herbs to improve the outside areas. We would also like to increase our communication with residents through the instillation of a noticeboard on the front of the building to keep local people updated about activities available to them in their community, and opportunities for them to get involved in activities and volunteering opportunities.

We understand the importance of learning about plants for children from a young age. It helps with sensory development because they feel textures like soil, seeds, flowers, wood and petals and they also have the opportunity to smell the amazing flower scents and all of the colourful petals and leaves. It also helps them to experience in 'real life' topics they may be learning in school such as seasons, life cycles, plant varieties, weather etc. It also allows children to connect with nature and learn how to take care of their environment and develops responsibility and patience.

To encourage children and young people to develop a love of the great outdoors, we will purchase a small potting house where children will work with Gail from West Area Clean & Green to plant herbs and sensory plants from seeds which will then be planted in pots in the gardens once they are established. We will encourage our Broadway Toddler group, to be engaged in the project as planting encourages babies and toddlers to make simple movements like crawling, lifting and digging which can improve their agility, balance and co-ordination and it will also support well-being for parents. The children will be encouraged to tend to their plants in the garden and will look after these.

We also propose to link with the local school, Broadway Primary and invite children into the community centre to undertake planting of bedding plants into troughs, hanging baskets and planters, we will invite local Barnes Councillors, to support with this project. Gardening helps keep children learning and involved all while keeping fit. Whilst planting staff will discuss plant growth cycles and children will feel a sense of accomplishment as they see their planters installed in the local area. Small wooden plant labels will be inserted into soil to enable children to look for their contribution as the plants are displayed in the gardens giving them a sense of pride and ownership.

Volunteering opportunities will be made available to local residents to support this project (advertised through our social media pages and through posters and leaflets) and to encourage them to look after their local area. We have recently started a group for residents living with dementia and we will encourage and support the attendees of the group to spend time in the garden and to help take care of general maintenance of the plants. We will host an open day for the local community to visit to attend the completed garden.

<b>Funding Budget</b>	
<b>Budget Heading/Item</b>	<b>Total Profiled NF</b>
Notice Board	£ 307
Children's potting shed & instillation	£ 1,603
Wooden Planters x 6	£ 360
Hanging Baskets x 4	£ 76
Hanging basket brackets x 8	£ 72
Water saving gel x 12	£ 47
Watering Cans x 2	£ 20

Children's gardening gloves x 4	£	25
Adults gardening gloves x 2	£	30
Hand Tools x 4	£	100
Compost x 8, Sensory plants & bedding plants	£	420
<b>NF Funding Total</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>3,059</b>

		Overall Target Total
<b>CODE</b>	<b>Healthy Smart City Outputs</b>	
201	number of activities or services delivered that support residents to achieve a healthier lifestyle (mentally, physically, independently)	<b>16</b>
203	number of individual adults enjoying a healthier lifestyle (mentally, physically, independently)- footfall	<b>100</b>
204	number of items purchased	<b>124</b>
205	number of NEW children and young people benefiting from this project	<b>60</b>
209	number of litter picks/community cleans up carried out	<b>3</b>
<b>CODE</b>	<b>Vibrant Smart City Outputs</b>	
305	number of NEW volunteers recruited	<b>5</b>
306	number of volunteers participating	<b>26</b>
307	number of volunteer hours delivered	<b>72</b>
308	number of residents participating in decision making	<b>6</b>

**Recommendation – Approve**

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to a **Scheme of environmental improvements**

**West Area Committee**  
**13<sup>th</sup> March 2024**
**Community Chest Awards April to March 2024**

<b>Barnes Ward Budget</b>	<b>£10,000</b>		<b>Approvals</b>
<b>Project</b>	<b>Approval Date</b>	<b>Returned</b>	<b>Approvals</b>
Plains Farm Academy	15/05/2023	-	£1,010
Red Machine Allotment	18/07/2023	-	£1,013
Red Sky Foundation	14/08/2023	-	£4,680
Broadway Youth & CC	14/08/2023	-	£295
10 <sup>th</sup> Sunderland Scout Group	19/10/2023	-	£279
Plains Farm Youth & Community Centre	18/01/2024	-	£489
Barnes Residents Association	18/01/2024	-	£345
Richard Avenue Primary School	18/01/2024	-	£1000
<b>Remaining balance - £899</b>		<b>£0</b>	<b>£9111</b>
<b>Pallion Ward Budget</b>	<b>£10,000</b>		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Approval Date</b>	<b>Returned</b>	<b>Approvals</b>
16 <sup>th</sup> Gabriel's Brownies	10/10/2023	-	£600
Sunderland West End	10/10/2023	-	£500
10 <sup>th</sup> Sunderland Scout Group	10/10/2023	-	£279
Balfour Beatty	10/10/2023	-	£1,897.32
Balfour Beatty	10/10/2023	-	£148
Balfour Beatty	10/10/2023	-	£1,587.53
Sunderland City Council	01/11/2023	£1,447.39	£0
Lambton Street Youth and Community Hub	22/01/2024	-	£4000
Springboard	22/01/2024	-	£500
Pallion Action Group	26/02/2024	-	£1000
SCC Rutland Street Furniture	26/02/2024	-	£935.54
<b>Remaining balance - £0</b>		<b>£1,447.39</b>	<b>£11,447.39</b>
<b>Sandhill Ward Budget</b>	<b>£10,000</b>		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Approval Date</b>	<b>Returned</b>	<b>Approvals</b>
Choice Wellbeing CIC	18/07/2023	-	£545
Greenside And Thorntree Social Group	31/08/2023	-	£1,680
Northern Karate Association	31/08/2023	-	£776
Northern Youth Choir & Sunderland Jubilate	31/08/2023	-	£1,282
Grindon Church Community Project	18/01/2024	-	£485

Grindon Young People's Project	18/01/2024	-	£3438
<b>Remaining balance - £0</b>		<b>£0</b>	<b>£10,000</b>

<b>Silksworth Ward Budget</b>	<b>£10,000</b>		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Approval Date</b>	<b>Returned</b>	<b>Approvals</b>
Silksworth Banner Group	03/06/2023	-	£1,000
Silksworth & Hall Farm FC	15/05/2023	-	£500
Golden Fleece FC	15/09/2023	-	£500
Silksworth Colliery Welfare FC	15/09/2023	-	£500
New Silksworth Legion Club LTD	15/09/2023	-	£1,125
Silksworth Bowls Club	18/01/2024	-	£750
<b>Remaining balance - £5625</b>		<b>£0</b>	<b>£4375</b>
<b>St Annes Ward Budget</b>	<b>£10,000</b>		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Approval Date</b>	<b>Returned</b>	<b>Approvals</b>
Pennywell Comrades FC	24/05/2023	-	£1,785
NE Dementia Care CIO	24/05/2023	-	£906
2 <sup>ND</sup> South Hylton Guides	18/07/2023	-	£1,200
Pennywell Neighbourhood Centre	18/07/2023	-	£1,000
Bellingham House tenants Cub	14/08/2023	-	£995
Royal British Legion	10/10/2023	-	£575
Pennywell Community Centre	18/01/2024	-	£500
Tansy Centre	26/02/2024	-	£1099
<b>Remaining balance - £1940</b>		<b>£0</b>	<b>£8060</b>
<b>St Chads Ward Budget</b>	<b>£10,000</b>		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Approval Date</b>	<b>Returned</b>	<b>Approvals</b>
East Herrington Primary	08/05/2023	-	£2,000
FYCC Supporting Friends of Herrington Village	08/05/2023	-	£2,620
Farrington & Detached Youth & Community	23/06/2023	-	£980
Herrington Flower Club	07/07/2023	-	£1,165
Farrington Academy	07/07/2023	-	£565
Farrington Badminton	01/08/2023	-	£426
St Chads Parent & toddler group	01/08/2023	-	£1,090
Herrington Women's Institute	14/08/2023	-	£642
Holy Rosary Parish Centre	10/10/2023	-	£200
2 <sup>nd</sup> Herrington Scout Group	10/10/2023	-	£312
<b>Remaining balance - £0</b>		<b>£0</b>	<b>£10,000</b>