

## COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE

### AGENDA

Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> June 2012 at 6.00pm

**VENUE – Bethany Christian Centre, Hetton Road, Houghton-le-Spring, Tyne and Wear, DH5 8PF**

#### Membership

Cllrs Anderson, Blackburn, Ellis, Heron, Lawson, D. Richardson (Chair), Rolph (Vice Chair - People), Scott (Vice Chair – Place), D. Smith, Speding, Tate, Wakefield.

	PAGE
1. (a) Chairman's Welcome; (b) Apologies for Absence; (c) Declarations of Interest; and (d) Minutes of the last meeting held on 25 <sup>th</sup> April, 2012	1
2. Setting the Scene – Strengthening the Area Governance Arrangements	9
3. Determining the Area Committee's Priorities for 2012/13	12
4*. Financial Statement and Proposals for funding	18

\*Denotes an item relating to an executive function

**ELAINE WAUGH**  
Head of Law and Governance

**12<sup>th</sup> June, 2012**

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**At a meeting of the COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE held at HERRINGTON BURN YMCA, on WEDNESDAY, 25<sup>th</sup> APRIL, 2012 at 6.00 p.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor D. Richardson in the Chair

Councillors Blackburn, Ellis, Hall, Heron, Scott, Speding, Tate and Wakefield

**Also in Attendance:-**

Ron Barrass	Member of the Public	
Susan Brown	Area Community Coordinator	Sunderland Council
Mel Caldwell	Head of Operations	Gentoo
John Chapman	Head of neighbourhoods	Gentoo
Jim Daly	Senior Planner	Sunderland Council
Dave Ellison	Area Response Manager	Sunderland Council
Emma Frew		ShARP
Cllr Juliana Heron	Member	Hetton Town Council
Linda King	Youth Team Leader	Sunderland Council
Helen Lancaster	Scrutiny Officer	Sunderland Council
Amelia Laverick	Member of the Public	
Pam Lee	Public Health Consultant	Sunderland TPCT
Linzi Milley	Senior Policy Officer for Economy and Place	Sunderland Council
Ricky Murray		Underground Music Project
Malcolm Page	Director of Commercial and Corporate Services & Area Lead Executive	Sunderland Council
Alan Pitchford	Acting Inspector	Northumbria Police
Karon Purvis	Area Officer	Sunderland Council
Rachel Putz	Coalfields Locality Manager	Sunderland Council
Kay Rowham	Member of the Public	
Gemma Taylor	Member of the Public	

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Rolph and D. Smith along with Pauline Hopper, Liz St. Louis, James Third and Lee Wardle.

## **Chairman's Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## **Declarations of Interest**

### Strategic Initiatives Budget

Councillor Heron declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the application for the Phoenix Project as a member of Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority.

## **Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Committee held on 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2012**

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2012 (copy circulated) be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

## **Community Action in Coalfield: Progress Review**

### Annual Report

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which allowed Members to consider the Committee's Annual Report for 2011/12.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Karon Purvis, Area Officer, presented the report which detailed the successes and achievements of the committee over the last year. There had been a task and result group set up to look at the heritage priority; a lot of work had been carried out in relation to this priority and this work was detailed on pages 13 and 14 of the annual report.

The Local Shopping Centres priority had not had any budget allocated to it this year however there were projects being delivered using the budget which was allocated to the priority last year.

There had been a lot of work done on the Activities for Young People priority. £71,943 was allocated to the priority, 31 percent of the total budget available to the Committee. Representatives of the Underground Music Project were in attendance to provide an update on the work they did for young people in the area.

Ricky Murray from the Underground Music Project delivered a presentation on the work of the project. He advised that the project was run by young people and had been successful in attracting young people from all backgrounds. The project was open to young people aged 11 to 21 and at each session there would be around

40 people attending. Anyone was welcome regardless of musical ability and one to one and group lessons were available.

The project had gained charity status in the last year however they still found it difficult to gain funding and were currently waiting to hear whether three bids had been successful.

They did work to support the community and there had been an exchange programme with Essen, Sunderland's twin town in Germany; this had allowed the people involved to experience different cultures and had been beneficial to everyone involved.

Councillor Heron advised that power company e.On operated a Community Development fund which could be accessed by organisations which were based within a certain distance of the wind turbines operated by them. He suggested that the project look into trying to get funding from this.

Members congratulated the young people from the project for the excellent work they had done.

Ms Purvis then introduced the Allotments and Community Gardens priority and advised that there had been a lot achieved, an audit of 41 sites had taken place and 16 previously derelict sites had been brought back into use. There had also been improvement works carried out at Burnside allotments which had lead to 5 large, unmanageable sites being divided into 14 smaller plots.

The Support for Older People priority had been allocated funding of £32,166 and over £23,000 had been provided to ShARP to enable 2 advice workers to provide 3 additional 2 hour sessions per week.

Emma Frew advised that ShARP had provided assistance to 102 people aged over 50 and their oldest client had been 87. They had seen an increase in the number of older people seeking advice. It was expected that even more people would be seeking advice in the future due to the changes to the benefits system.

Ms Purvis then introduced the Empty and Problematic Properties; Unadopted Roads; and Neglected Land priorities and advised that Councillor Rolph had submitted a statement which she wished to have read to the Committee.

Councillor Rolph's statement advised the Committee that the Neglected Land task and result group had anticipated that the work done to improve Council owned sites would pave the way for private landowners to carry out works. It was excellent to see the amount of work that had been done to improve the sites and the response from private landowners had been astonishing; they had carried out vast amounts of work to improve their property. There had been a huge amount of improvements in the Chilton Moor area. She thanked everyone involved for their hard work.

Ms Purvis then advised Members of the financial allocations for the year. The Committee had allocated funding totalling £280,622 over the year and £112,927 of

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this had been proactively allocated to projects identified and developed by the task and result groups set up by the Committee. Match funding of £317,961 had been attracted into the area. She also advised Members of the performance of the projects against the targets which had been set.

The chairman then advised the Committee of the State of the Area debate which would be held at the start of the new municipal year at the Bethany Christian Centre. It would be based on the State of the City debate and would allow residents to ask questions of senior officers and directors. It was hoped that the event would be well attended by residents and community groups.

Councillor Tate queried whether residents would be required to submit questions in advance or whether they would be able to ask them on the day. The Chairman advised that anyone would be able to ask any question however to guarantee a response at the event it was recommended that they be submitted in advance. Forms would be available for submitting questions in advance and residents could fill in a form to have a question asked on their behalf.

2. RESOLVED that the annual report be noted.

#### Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB) and Community Chest – Financial Update and Proposals for Further Allocation of Resources

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which requested the Members to consider proposals for the allocation of SIB and Community Chest funding to support initiatives that would deliver activity against the priorities for 2011/12.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Karon Purvis, Area Officer, presented the report and advised that there was only £105 remaining in the budget which would be carried forward to next year. There was one application for SIB funding from the 2012/13 budget which was detailed in annex 2 of the report. There were 13 applications for support from Community Chest and these were outlined in paragraph 2.2 and annex 4 of the report. Members were also asked to approve improvement works at Collingwood Drive totalling £4,880 which would be funded from the previously approved budget for Neglected Land.

3. RESOLVED that:-
  - a. The financial information set out in sections 2.1 and 2.2 and Annex 2 be noted
  - b. The improvements at Collingwood Drive totalling £4,880 be approved from the Neglected Land budget
  - c. The proposal for SIB funding of £4,000 for the Phoenix Project, as detailed in Annex 2 be approved
  - d. The 14 proposals for support from the 2011/12 Community Chest as set out in Annex 3 be approved.

## **Influencing Practice Policy and Strategy**

### Provision of XL Village Youth Activity

The Executive Director of City Services submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided information on the current position with regard to the XL Youth Village provision and highlighted the proposals for amendments to the delivery model. The Committee were also asked to approve the intended summer sites for delivery as proposed by the Task and Result Group.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Rachel Putz, Coalfields Locality Manager, presented the report and advised that under the new structure there would only be one much larger youth village which would be made up of a number of marquees offering a wide range of activities; there would also be the provision of a second youth bus and there would be detached youth work taking place.

There would be 7 blocks of provision, each one being 6-7 weeks long. The first of the blocks had already started and had seen the XL youth village being located on Rectory Field, the task and result group had discussed the provision and it had been proposed that when the XL Village returned to the Coalfield it be held on a Saturday evening either in Hetton or at Rectory Field.

Councillor Scott expressed concerns that there would only be 2 sites for the village and that Hetton was not central in the area and would be difficult to access for young people from the Shiney Row end of the area. Ms Putz advised that the locations were open to discussion at the task and result group, it was important to consider that the villages would be quite large and as such needed a large site to accommodate them.

Linda King, Youth Team Leader, advised that information from the police with regard to youth antisocial behaviour had been used when the locations had originally been identified. The current XL Village would be operating for 6 weeks at Rectory Field followed by a one week break and would then be moving to Herrington Burn for 1 week.

The Chairman commented that he felt the previous system with provision spread out more seemed more likely to work. Ms Putz advised that the new service would provide more; the villages would be bigger and would have more activities and set up time would be reduced compared with the previous villages. The new model had been tested in the North Area and had been a huge success. There would be more additional provision in addition to the villages. Last year there had been 160 sessions, this year there would be over 400.

Councillor Scott stated that although there were more sessions the provision was not the same and he did not think it would be as accessible for young people from all parts of the area. Ms Putz stated that the youth bus and the detached youth work would reach the young people who were unable to access the youth villages.

Councillor Speding stated that he was reasonably happy with the youth village being located in Houghton; it was central in the area and as such would allow easy access from Hetton and Shiney Row. Herrington Country Park would not be as easy to access for young people from Hetton. He was slightly concerned that the task and result group meetings had all been held at the Hetton Centre as he felt that this had excluded the Shiney Row councillors.

Ms King advised that at the task and result group meeting the general consensus had been that Houghton would be the most appropriate venue.

Councillor Blackburn queried whether postcodes were collected from young people to identify where the young people were coming from. Ms King advised that they were and agreed to provide the information to Members.

Councillor Speding commented that he thought that Rectory Field would be the most appropriate venue however it would be necessary to ensure that the youth village was taking place during Houghton Feast.

4. RESOLVED that:-

- a. The proposed changes to the delivery model be noted
- b. consideration be given to the sites for the XL youth villages as identified by the task and result group
- c. A further report on the progress and outcomes of the project be received.

City of Sunderland Local Development Framework: Core Strategy Revised Preferred Options and Supporting Evidence Papers

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which offered Members the opportunity to be consulted on the Core Strategy which was part of the Local Development Framework which would be the overarching strategic planning framework for the city for the next 20 years.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Linzi Milley, Senior Policy Officer for Economy & Place, presented the report and advised that work had been done on the core strategy since 2004; once completed the core strategy would replace the Unitary Development Plan. There would be an Allocations Development Plan Document produced which would provide more detail of individual sites.

In the Coalfield area there would be a focus on providing new homes and regenerating the area. 15,000 new homes were needed and it was proposed that 3,500 of these would be built on a site in the Burdon Lane area. There were also plans for the development of employment sites at Rainton Bridge and there would be a large mixed use site in Philadelphia which would see the development of new homes and businesses.

There was a need for 40 additional sites for showpeople in the city and it was expected that some of these would be within the Coalfield.

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There would be a new cycle link created which would link Houghton with Doxford Park and there were also proposals for the new Central Route and East Durham Link Road as well as the reopening of the Leamside Line. Currently there was not any funding available for these transport links however it was hoped that funding would become available in the future.

There was a need to preserve and promote the heritage of the area and support the local shopping centres in Hetton and Houghton. Herrington Country Park would continue to be promoted as a regional attraction.

Local resident Kay Rowham queried what form the public consultation would take and was advised by Ms Milley that previously the consultation had been very traditional however the consultation on this matter would be making more use of the media to enable consultation with more residents.

Councillor Hall queried what was meant by green infrastructure corridors. Ms Milley advised that there were currently a series of separate green areas; it was proposed to link them up to provide corridors which would allow the movement of wildlife and people through the area.

Councillor Hall then stated that she was pleased to see that there were still aspirations for the Central Route to be developed. She was however concerned by the amount of housing that was proposed for the area. She welcomed the consultation with Members. Ms Milley stated that there would be consultation events with Members and that these would possibly be taking place prior to the public consultation.

Councillor Wakefield expressed concerns over the site at Philadelphia being changed to mixed use. There had been interest in the site from a housing developer and he was worried that the public might perceive that the council were working with the developer. Ms Milley reassured Members that the site was no longer used for employment and that it was felt that the development of the site would be more successful should it be changed to a mixed use site.

Councillor Ellis raised concerns over the amount of new housing that was proposed for the area; there were already a large number of new housing estates and the traditional villages which made up the area would be damaged by the building of further large housing estates. There was a need for employment in the area and the loss of employment land to build houses was a serious concern.

Councillor Heron stated that there were a lot of brownfield former housing sites in the area which were in need of redevelopment. He appreciated that these sites were more expensive to develop than other sites due to the old services buried on the sites and suggested that the developers of other sites could be required to enter into Section 106 agreements to provide funding to be used to reduce the cost of developing the brownfield sites and ultimately encourage the redevelopment of these sites.

Ms Milley advised that currently Section 106 agreements could not be used in this way; the government was currently revising the Section 106 scheme and was developing a new Community Infrastructure Levy which would see a levy being imposed on developments where feasible. The money from the levy would go into a central pot which could then be used to provide improvements to the infrastructure of the area. It would be possible for the Council to prioritise the development of brownfield sites.

Councillor Heron then stated that there was a need to improve transport links and public transport in the area. Ms Milley stated that currently there was no funding available for the central route although if it was deemed to be a priority to have the route developed then the Community Infrastructure Levy could be used to provide funding for the work.

Councillor Scott commented that he remembered when the site at Philadelphia had been pit houses; he wanted to see the workshops on the site retained and renovated. He queried how many of the 600 proposed houses would be social or affordable houses. Ms Milley advised that the policy for affordable houses was currently that 10 percent needed to be affordable housing; should the economy improve it was possible that the amount would increase to 15 percent.

Councillor Speding stated that there was a need for the Council to develop an allocations plan to identify which uses would be suitable for different sites; this would prevent developers from using sites for inappropriate uses.

5. RESOLVED that consideration be given to the content of the LDF.

(Signed) D. RICHARDSON,  
Chairman.

**21 June 2012****REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE****Setting the Scene - Strengthening the Area Governance Arrangements****1 Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 To outline improved changes to the City Council's area governance arrangements and supporting practices, as part of the wider review of the Executive and Committee arrangements agreed by Annual Council on 16 May 2012.

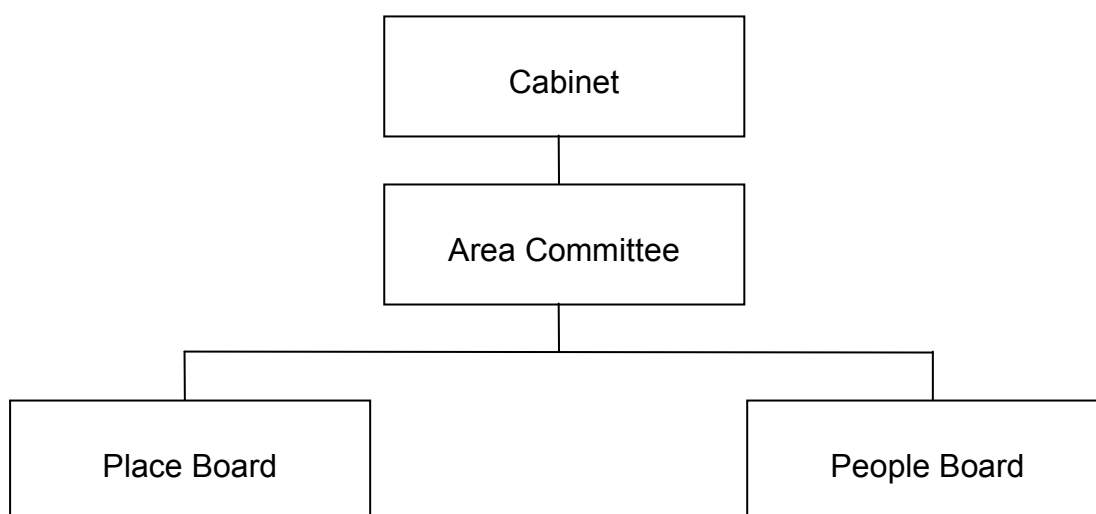
**2 Background**

- 2.1 As Members are aware, the Area Committees were established to ensure improved service delivery at a local level in the context of value for money and more efficient, transparent and accountable decision making.
- 2.2 For a number of years the Area Committees have achieved this through taking the lead on the development and delivery of Local Area Plans. By working closely with council officers, partners and actively encouraging the participation of local residents the Area Committees have identified all main priorities for the improvement of the area and monitored the quality and effectiveness of services delivered by the council and other main providers in the area.
- 2.3 More recently and as part of the restructuring arrangements in the Council the Responsive Local Services Street Scene Service was set up which introduced the delivery of services including graffiti removal, fly tipping, litter, dog fouling, grass cutting and refuse and recycling at a local level and in a way that is responsive to local needs. The Area Committees have worked effectively to date with Street Scene staff to help to influence service delivery in their areas.
- 2.4 It is intended to increase the range of services delivered at a local level and in doing so develop further the role and capacity of Area Committees to support this devolution.
- 2.5 In practice, the Area Committees will have greater influence in the design, delivery and review of services delivered in, and on behalf of, their communities. The Area Committees will be placed at the heart of decision making and improved practical governance arrangements are being introduced, including the introduction of Area Boards for Place and People in each area.
- 2.6 In doing so, the Area Committees will have real, direct influence over local services and clearer, more direct local accountability, with a focus on action to ensure better outcomes for local people.

**3 Area Governance Arrangements – An Enhanced Governance Structure and Improved Ways of Working**

- 3.1 The Area Committees are part of the Council's Executive Function and have two key roles:-
- (a) Influencing decisions on services delivered at a local level; and
  - (b) Identification of key priorities for their area, in the context of supporting the delivery of the Council's Corporate Outcomes Framework at a local level and ensuring maximum impact where necessary through utilising its own resources.

- 3.2 The establishment of Place and People Boards in each of the five areas has been introduced to support the Area Committees in delivering against agreed priorities, as illustrated below:-



- 3.3 Each Board will be chaired by one of the Area Committee's two Vice Chairs and have elected member representation from each of the Area's wards. Members will work alongside key officers in what will be practical action orientated groups. It should be noted that these boards are not decision making bodies and the work / recommendations of the boards will be presented to the Area Committees for final endorsement. Elected member representation on those boards for this Area Committee is as follows:-

Place Board Membership	People Board Membership
Councillor John Scott (Chair)	Councillor Kath Rolph (Chair)
Councillor Bob Heron	Councillor Derrick Smith
Councillor David Tate	Councillor Colin Wakefield
Councillor Mel Speding	Councillor James Blackburn
Councillor Sheila Ellis	Councillor Anne Lawson
	Councillor Florence Anderson

- 3.4 It is intended, however, that the boards are inclusive and open to any members to attend in a non-voting capacity.

#### **4 Influencing the Delivery of Public Services at an Area level**

- 4.1 Wherever possible the Area Committees will take decisions to shape and influence the delivery of public sector services at a very local level. In utilising elected members unique understanding of the communities in which they serve and putting the needs of residents at the forefront of decisions made, the Area Committees will continue to ensure that services delivered at a local level meet the needs of communities and quality standards are maintained.
- 4.2 There are a number of place based services currently delivered at a local level through 'Responsive Local Services – Street Scene ' as identified earlier in paragraph 2.3 of this report, which include graffiti removal, fly tipping, litter, dog fouling and grass cutting, refuse collection and recycling, with the addition of parks, repairs and play inspection this year, 80% of place services will be delivered at a local level. The Area Committees will now have much more of an influential role in determining how those services are delivered through the work of the Place Board.
- 4.3 This change in approach will ensure that the Area Committees are continuing to engage with communities on their behalf and influence decisions on services to meet their needs

at a local level, achieving better outcomes for local people with a more responsive approach to service delivery.

- 4.4 The role of people boards is currently being determined and will be introduced from September 2012 onwards.

## **5 Meeting Management - Frequency of Area Committees / Boards**

- 5.1 To allow the Area Committees the capacity to meet the challenges of this new way of working it is intended that Area Committees will meet five times a year.
- 5.2 The Area Boards will meet on a monthly basis and as such hold a minimum of two board meetings before each meeting of the Area Committees. The boards will be responding to the priorities referred to them by the Area Committee and in turn updating the Area Committee in relation to progress, requests for decisions / funding and the ability to undertake its influencing role as necessary.

## **6 Support Arrangements**

- 6.1 The Area Committee will continue to be supported by Malcolm Page, Area Lead Executive, and Pauline Hopper, Area Officer, in terms of how it develops and delivers on its area priorities. The Area Committee will also be supported by Christine Tilley, Governance Services Team Leader, in terms of the governance arrangements.
- 6.2 In the short term, Les Clark, Head of Service for Streetscene, will support the Area Committee in the establishment of the Area Boards.

## **7 Impact on the Allocation of Strategic Initiatives Budget and Community Chest Grants**

- 7.1 The Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB) remains unchanged and continues to be a resource made available to the Area Committees to allocate against agreed area priorities only. It should be noted that SIB city-wide applications are not permitted where they impact upon any more than two areas.
- 7.2 The Community Chest is a grant made available to ward members to allocate to community groups in their own wards, up to a maximum of six wards. The three ward members will continue to make the decisions on applications at a ward level.
- 7.3 As the Area Committee will meet five times a year, a responsive decision making process is to be introduced to ensure, where necessary, urgent decisions can be made in relation to SIB, Community Chest and Healthy Cities Fund applications.

## **8 Recommendations**

- 8.1 It is recommended that the Area Committee
- (a) Receives the report outlining the improved changes to its operating framework and asks any questions felt appropriate; and
  - (b) Approves the membership of Place and People boards as outlined in 3.3 of this report

## **9 Background Papers**

- 9.1 There were no background papers used in the preparation of this report.

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21 June 2012

## REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

### Determining the Area Committee's Priorities for 2012/13

#### 1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To determine the Area Committee's key areas of priority for the year ahead, which will form the basis of the Committee's Local Area Plan for 2012/13.

#### 2 Background

- 2.1 In 2011 the City Council agreed to refresh the Sunderland Strategy and identify ways in which to strengthen the strategy, both in its delivery and measurement of performance. One of the agreed improvements is the introduction of the City Council's Corporate Outcomes Framework. The Framework identifies how the City Council intends to support the delivery of the city outcomes and specifically focuses on the City Council's unique contribution to delivering those outcomes.

- 2.2 The review of the Local Area Plans and the Area Committees' priorities for 2012/13 is integral to ensuring the delivery of those outcomes at a local level.

- 2.3 At the workshop held in May 2012, Members of the Area Committee considered data relevant to the area circumstances in the context of those emerging Corporate Outcomes. Members also brought to the discussions their own unique understanding of their communities which focused around:-

(a) Where the Area Committee could influence how services are delivered at a local level;

(b) How the Area Committee could impact upon the delivery of Corporate Outcomes at a local level; and

(c) To review the current activity delivered by the Area Committee and to determine whether it remained an area of priority to continue.

- 2.4 The priorities that began to emerge from the workshop were shared with residents and partners at the State of the Area Debate and with Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) partners through the VCS network, the results of the consultation are outlined later within this report.

#### 3 Emerging Priorities

- 3.1 **Annex 1** identifies the proposed Local Area Plan and Area Priorities for the Area Committee's consideration identifying where the Area Committee proposed it could both influence and have impact on and as such what its priorities for funding might be for the year ahead.

- 3.2 In summary, proposed priorities for direct local action for 2012/13 are:-

(1) Healthy life choices for children and young people (*focusing on sexual and mental health, and supporting children and young people to maintain a healthy weight*)

- (2) Positive activities for young people focusing on holiday and under 13 provision
- (3) Support for older people, vulnerable adults and their carers
- (4) Improvement of areas of neglected land
- (5) Improvement of allotments and community gardens
- (6) Support for local shopping centres

#### **4 Consultation Outcomes**

- 4.1 At the State of the Area Debate on 30 May 2012 residents were asked to identify their main priorities for action in the forthcoming year, considering the emerging priorities or whether there were more important issues mattered to them at a local level. Additionally the VCS networks were asked for their views in helping the Area Committee to set their priorities for the coming year. The outcome of this consultation is provided below.
- 4.2 The State of the Area event was an opportunity for residents to engage in discussion with officers, Members and partners about the issues facing them and their area, it was attended by over 100 people and was well received. Evaluation of the event showed that a number of people welcomed the opportunity to speak with Councillors and Officers directly and had long waited the chance to take part in such an event. The question and answer session was the most popular feature of the event with all those filling out the evaluation finding it informative. Residents raised a number of key issues as below:
  - Concerns were raised with regards to the main shopping centre in Houghton. The individual issues such as the number of fast food outlets, lack of toilet facilities, vacant properties and traffic problems were addressed individually and are also subject to further discussion by the Task and Result group for Shopping Centres.
  - The old colliery site at Houghton le Spring and the Houghton landfill site were areas of concern. Again, the issues were responded to by relevant elected members and officers and are ongoing issues which are being dealt with by the Council.
  - Services for older people (and carers) and the reliance on local voluntary and community organisations was discussed. There is a Task and Result group for Support for Older people. The issues raised will be taken to this group.
  - Activities for young people, XL youth villages and investment in places for young people to meet were discussed. There are a number of initiatives being delivered and these were outlined at the meeting.
  - Improvements to allotments and general outdoor space, including protection of wildlife and habitat, was discussed. It was acknowledged that lots of good work has been carried out and individual issues raised were responded to by relevant officers.
  - Various questions regarding health of local people were asked, including childhood obesity and what could be done to stop the increase. It was acknowledged that this is an issue and in addition to identifying the problem we need to develop solutions including encouraging families and children to access exercise and sporting opportunities.
- 4.3 In addition to the question and answer session at the State of the Area Event, residents and stakeholders were asked to identify their priorities for 2012/13, based on the information presented. The top two priorities proposed by delegates attending the event were 'support for older people and carers' and 'activities for young people'. Other issues raised were traffic and road safety and empty properties, both were raised as a priority in last year's work

plan and are subject to ongoing actions which will be fed back to Area Committee via the Place Board.

4.4 The Coalfield Area Network was asked to consider and comment on the emerging priorities. The main issues and comments raised were;

- Better use of local intelligence in order to make best use of the VCS and partners to inform, influence and impact on local service delivery
- Support for organisations providing local services for older people is required. For most older people their first contact for help is through the voluntary and community sector
- Need to recognise the need for early interventions at a local level particularly for health services and with a focus on children and young people
- More services and activities for young people, especially the younger age group
- Young people requested more information and support on sexual and mental health

4.5 The Area Committee is asked to note the information outlined in paragraph 4.2, 4,3 and 4,4 above, and consider those issues raised, when determining the priorities for the year ahead and the Local Area Plan

## **5 Next steps**

5.1 Following agreement of the priorities at tonight's meeting, Area Committee will then be requested to determine the detail of the Local Area Plan, the work plan for 2012/13. It is anticipated a further workshop will be held with all Members of the Committee to confirm activity and actions to be referred to the relevant Place and People Boards as part of the strengthened area governance arrangements. Area Committee will also consider whether the Committee wishes to ring fence funding to support agreed priorities, actions and activity.

## **6 Recommendations**

6.1 The Committee is requested to:-

- (a) Consider the issues raised by residents at the State of the Area Debate and the VCS Network and agree the priorities for 2012/13 year ahead, which will form the basis of their Local Area Plan; and
- (b) Agree to hold a further workshop to determine the detailed Coalfield Area Committee LAP work plan for 2012/13, as referred to in paragraph 5.1.

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**PEOPLE**  
**Coalfield Local Plan 2012/13**

Item 3 Annex 1

What will Area Committee do?			
Outcomes	Influencing role	Local Action	Role for Area Committee
<p>Corporate: A City where everyone is as healthy as they can be and enjoys a good standard of well being</p> <p>Area: A Healthy Coalfield: Contribute to ensuring Coalfield has healthy outcomes and lifestyles.</p>	<p>Influence GP Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) at an area level.</p> <p>Receive reports and information to influence plans, policy and strategy via the People Board</p>	<p>Area representation at Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and potential links to People Board</p> <p>Commission projects through the Healthy City Investment Fund (HCIF)</p> <p>Focus on young people and health, particularly around sexual and mental health in teenagers and childhood obesity</p> <p>Work with partners to increase awareness of, and response to, welfare reform</p>	<p><b>Healthy life choices for young people/ Childhood Obesity IDENTIFIED AS A PRIORITY FOR LOCAL ACTION</b></p> <p>Strategic Influencing role</p>
<p>Corporate: A City with high levels of skills, educational attainment and participation</p> <p>Area: Education and attainment in Coalfield: Support initiatives working to help local young people</p>	<p>Greater links with local schools and cross boundary working with Washington schools.</p> <p>Through the People Board, ensure engagement of partners to improve residents' job and career prospects.</p> <p>Influence skills development, to include support for NEETs and apprenticeships for young people</p> <p>Influence provision of activities for young people</p> <p>Receive reports to influence plans, policy and strategy from the People Board</p>	<p>Monitor current initiatives, funded by Area Committee, which work with young people</p> <p>Receive and monitor information of any new issue being raised from influencing role</p> <p>Work with partners to deliver adult and community learning in appropriate subjects and venues</p> <p>Continue with youth provision through Activities for Young people priority</p>	<p><b>Activities for young people IDENTIFIED AS A PRIORITY FOR LOCAL ACTION</b></p> <p>Strategic Influencing role</p>
<p>Corporate: A City which is and feels even safer and more secure</p> <p>Area: A Safer Coalfield: Continue to ensure key partnerships and collaboration maintains the good results achieved.</p>	<p>Influence mainstream resources &amp; partnerships ensuring continued collaboration</p> <p>Receive reports to influence plans, policy and strategy from the Place Board and the People Board</p>	<p>Through LMAPS, work to ensure local issues and problems are addressed.</p> <p>Work with local partners to provide information and reassurance to reduce the fear of crime</p> <p>Influence XL youth provision</p>	<p>Strategic Influencing role</p>
<p>Corporate: A City that ensures people are able to look after themselves</p> <p>Area: Cared for in Coalfield: Contribute to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of Coalfield's most vulnerable.</p>	<p>Influencing via the Health and Well Being Board</p> <p><b>From last year's work plan:</b> Influence the development of the Child Poverty Strategy</p> <p>Understand the impact of Welfare Reform</p> <p>Receive reports to influence plans, policy and strategy from the People Board</p>	<p>Continue Support for Older people priority to include 'vulnerable adults' and 'carers'</p> <p>Continue to work with local and VCS organisations who provide support for local people</p> <p>Work with partners to increase awareness of, and response to, welfare reform</p>	<p><b>Support for older people, vulnerable adults and carers IDENTIFIED AS A PRIORITY FOR LOCAL ACTION</b></p> <p>Strategic Influencing role</p>

**PLACE**  
**Coalfield Local Plan 2012/13**

**What will Area Committee do?**

Outcomes	Influencing role	Local Action	Role for Area Committee
<p>Corporate: An attractive modern city where people choose to invest, live, work and spend leisure time</p> <p>Area: High quality built and natural environments in Coalfield: Influence investment across Coalfield.</p>	<p><b>From last year's work plan:</b> Influencing empty properties action plan/ enforcement powers to reduce negative impact on the area</p> <p>Influence RLS provision via the Place Board</p> <p><b>From last year's work plan:</b> Influence continuation of heritage work via City Services</p> <p><b>From last year's work plan:</b> Influence traffic and road safety issues and priorities via the Place Board</p>	<p>Receive and monitor information relating to development of major projects in the area</p> <p>Continue the work of the Neglected Land Task and Result group</p> <p>Continue the Allotments priority via the Place Board</p> <p>Continue with Local Shopping Centres as a priority – could fall under Place and People Boards</p> <p>Community based heritage projects via VCS Network</p>	<p><b>Neglected land, allotments and shopping centres IDENTIFIED AS PRIORITIES FOR LOCAL ACTION</b></p> <p>Strategic Influencing role</p>
<p>Corporate: A responsible, well looked after city that is adaptable to change</p> <p>Area: A Coalfield adaptable to change and with a strong sense of community: Continue to support the significant partnership working, influencing the redesign of services and development of facilities, and support community resilience and inclusion and involvement.</p>	<p>Through the Place Board influence service redesign and delivery and look to expanding a more responsive and locality based approach to delivering services</p> <p>Receive reports to influence plans, policy and strategy from the Place Board</p> <p>Influence the provision of public and local transport networks</p>	<p>Refer local issues to Area Response Team and Place Board</p> <p>Engage residents, organisations and businesses in the upkeep and improvement of their local area and strengthen the successful community work and volunteering</p> <p>Work with VCS partners to help increase awareness of services and support available in the community.</p> <p>Work with partners to increase awareness of, and response to, welfare reform</p>	<p>Strategic Influencing role</p>
<p>Corporate: A well connected City</p> <p>Area: A well connected Coalfield: Continue to promote accessibility across Coalfield and ensure transport networks meet local needs.</p>	<p>Receive reports to influence plans, policy and strategy from the Place Board</p> <p>Influence development of sustainable transport options through consultation of the Core Strategy</p> <p>Input regarding the Metro extension, and consultation with Nexus re Quality Contracts</p>	<p>Receive and monitor information in recognition of any new issue being raised from influencing role/reporting</p> <p>Support implementation of Community Resilience Strategy</p>	<p>Strategic Influencing role</p>
<p>Corporate: A city where cultural identity and vibrancy act as an attraction</p> <p>Area: Coalfield's Cultural Identity: Continue to support activities and events which celebrate Coalfield's heritage, culture and identity.</p>	<p>Influencing role with City Services to determine future strategy for managing local events and celebrations.</p> <p><b>From last year's work plan:</b> Influence continuation of heritage work via City Services Build on the successful heritage projects delivered in the area</p>	<p>Continue to monitor and receive information relating to celebrations, events and activities taking place throughout 2012.</p> <p>Community heritage projects</p>	<p>Strategic Influencing role</p>

**ECONOMY**  
**Coalfield Local Plan 2012/13**

<b>What will Area Committee do?</b>			
<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Influencing role</b>	<b>Local Action</b>	<b>Role for Area Committee</b>
<p>Corporate: An inclusive economy for all</p> <p>Area: Coalfield's inclusive economy: Contribute to getting local people of all ages into work, providing them with the skills to help them access opportunities, and supporting young people to work, live and stay in the area.</p>	<p>Receive reports to influence plans, policy and strategy from the People Board.</p> <p>Through the People Board, ensure engagement of partners to improve residents' job and career prospects.</p> <p>Influencing role through partnership working to ensure adequate accessibility and transport networks to employment sites</p> <p>Influencing Core Strategy outcomes for Coalfield re employment sites</p>	<p>Receive and monitor information relating to current initiatives and activities supporting residents into employment, training or further education.</p> <p>Receive and monitor information in recognition of any new issue being raised from influencing role/reporting</p> <p>Continue the Local Shopping Centres priority</p>	<p><b>Local shopping centres IDENTIFIED AS A PRIORITY FOR LOCAL ACTION</b> (also in Place above)</p> <p>Strategic Influencing role</p>
<p>Corporate: A new kind of university City</p> <p>Area: Coalfield as part of the University City: Promote Coalfield and ensure links established.</p>	<p>Influencing role with regard to joint working with the University</p> <p>Ensure access for local people to emerging education and employment opportunities</p> <p>Influencing role to ensure accessibility and transport networks in place to higher education sites</p>	<p>Receive and monitor information in recognition of any new issue being raised from influencing role/reporting</p>	<p>Strategic Influencing role</p>
<p>Corporate: A National Hub of the Low Carbon Economy</p> <p>Area: Coalfield as a hub of the low carbon economy: Continue to engage with relevant partners and business</p>	<p>Influencing role with the sector continuing to engage and stimulate opportunities for local residents.</p> <p>Through the People Board continue to engage with the sector to provide relevant support re the impacts of government led change.</p>	<p>Receive and monitor information in recognition of any new issue being raised from influencing role/reporting</p>	<p>Strategic Influencing role</p>
<p>Corporate: A Prosperous and Well Connected Waterfront City Centre</p>	<p>Receive appropriate reports of progress, plans, policy or strategy from the Place Board, which are relevant to Coalfield</p>	<p>Receive and monitor information in recognition of any new issue being raised from influencing role/reporting</p>	<p>Strategic Influencing role</p>

**COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE**  
**21 JUNE 2012**  
**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I**

**Title of Report:**

Strategic Initiative Budget (SIB) and Community Chest - Financial update and Proposals for Further Allocation of Resources

**Author(s):**

Chief Executive

**Purpose of Report:**

This report requests Area Committee to consider proposals for the allocation of the Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB) and Community Chest to support initiatives that will deliver activity against priorities for 2012/13.

**Description of Decision:**

The Committee is requested to approve the following from the 2012/13 budgets:

Approve four SIB proposal from the 2012/13 budget as outlined in Item 4 at

**Annex 2**

Street lighting, the Cove, Shiney Row	£6,600
Lighting of Burnside skate park	£2,920
Houghton War Memorial	£10,000
Allotments watering project	£3,458

Approve 15 Community Chest requests from the 2012/13 budget as outlined in Item 4 at **Annex 3**

Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework?

Yes

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

SIB is a budget delegated to Area Committee in order to commission activity that delivers actions against the key strategic priorities identified in the Coalfield Work Plan. Its main purpose is to benefit the local community and to attract other funding into the area.

The Area Committee has a total SIB budget of £236,798 for 2012/13.

The Community Chest forms part of SIB, of which £250,000 is available for the scheme in 2012/2013 across all wards. £10,000 is available for each ward (Copt Hill, Hetton, Houghton and Shiney Row)

**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  
 Is it included in the Forward Plan?  
 No

Relevant Scrutiny Committees:

21 June 2012

## REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

## Community Chest and Strategic Initiative Budget (SIB) – Financial Statement and Proposals for further allocation of Resources

## 1. Why has it come to Committee

Area Committee has delegated budgets to allocate to specific strategic priorities identified in the Local Area Plan, with the overall aim to benefit the wider community and to attract other funding into the area. The report provides a financial statement as an update position on progress in relation to allocating SIB and Community Chest.

2 Financial statement Coalfield Area Committee  
Funding streams 2012/2013 as at 21 June 2012

## 2.1 SIB – Financial Statement (projects approved to date)

	Committee Date	SIB Approvals	Balance
	-	-	£236,798
<b>Project Name</b>	-	-	-
Phoenix Project	23.04.12	£4,000	£232,798
<b>Total allocated</b>		<b>£4,000</b>	
<b>Balance</b>	-	-	<b>£232,798</b>
The new allocation for 2012/13 is £236,693, with the under spend of £105 from 2011/12 this totals £236,798.			

2.1.1 The following projects detailed in **Annex 1** are presented for approval:

1	Street lighting, the Cove, Shiney Row	£6,600
2	Lighting of Burnside skate park	£2,920
3	Houghton War Memorial	£10,000
4	Allotments watering project	£3,458

## 2.1.2 The total of all projects listed above is £22,978. Should all projects be approved the balance of SIB funding remaining following allocation would be £209,820.

## 2.2 Community Chest

2.2.1 The table below details the balances remaining following the last meeting in April and project proposals as detailed in **Annex 3**. An exercise to reclaim underspends and unused grants has been undertaken and the table below includes the reclaim of £50 from Copt Hill ward and £450 from Houghton ward.

2.2.2 Delegated decisions and approvals of the following projects were made on 21st May 2012, following April Committee:

1. Homelands Estate Jubilee Party £1,500
2. Friends of West Herrington £500

Ward	Budget Remaining	Project Proposals	Balance
Copt Hill	£10,889	£650	£10,239
Hetton	£13,265	£3,128	£10,137
Houghton	£11,956	£400	£11,556
Shiney Row	£9,074	£4,250	£4,824
<b>Total</b>	<b>£45,184</b>	<b>£8,428</b>	<b>£36,756</b>

**Recommendations:**

Committee is requested to:

- Note the financial information set out in sections 2.1 and 2.2 and Annex 2
- Approve the four proposals for support from SIB detailed in Annex 1
- Approve the 15 proposals for support from 2011/2012 Community Chest set out in Annex 3

**Contact Officer:** Pauline Hopper, Coalfield Area Officer  
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**Annex 1** SIB Applications  
**Annex 2** SIB budget and balance for each priority  
**Annex 3** Community Chest proposals

### Summary of SIB Funding Applications

#### **Project 1 - Street lighting, the Cove, Shiney Row**

<b>Total cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total SIB requested</b>
£6,600	£0	£6,600

##### **The Project**

The proposal is to install street lighting to two currently unlit footpaths. Each footpath will have one raise & lower column installed and this will lift lighting levels on the paths to conform to national recommendations. The units will be incorporated into the Street Lighting and Highway Signs PFI to ensure future maintenance. The project will improve the area for residents and visitors and will enable use after dark to access amenities and reduce fear of crime.

City Council PFI Contractor, Aurora, have designed the proposal to meet national standards. The installation will take place during July 2012.

#### **Project 2 – Lighting of Burnside skate park, Houghton le Spring**

<b>Total cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total SIB requested</b>
£2,920	£0	£2,920

##### **The Project**

Proposal is to install floodlighting to the skate park adjacent to the new Primary Care Centre at Houghton le Spring. The park is regularly used by young people, and the lighting of the park from dusk until 10 p.m. between October and March (a timer will control the switch on/off) will enable improved and extended safe play for young people. LMAPS and the Youth Task and Result group have identified the skate park as a key facility to engage young people in positive activity.

#### **Project 3 – Houghton War Memorial**

<b>Total cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total SIB requested</b>
£10,000	£0	£10,000

##### **The Project**

The project will refurbish the war memorial in St Michaels and All Angels Church Yard. The refurbishment will entail cleaning of the memorial, raking out and repointing the stonework, sanding down the faces of the structure and recarving by hand the names on the two faces. The project will be managed by Property Services who procured the sample work carried out in April 2012. The sample work has been approved by the Durham Diocese as an acceptable standard but an application to carry out the major works will need to be submitted once funding is in place.

#### **Project 4 – Allotments Watering Project**

<b>Total cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total SIB requested</b>
£3,458	£0	£3,458

##### **The Project**

As part of an ongoing project to improve allotments by providing water to those sites without it, the proposal is to provide mains water to the Herrington Welfare allotment site, Shiney Row and to provide water butts to the tenants on Burnside allotments, Houghton le Spring. The Allotments Task and Result group recommend approval of this spend and the cost of this project will be taken from the previously approved budget for allotments and therefore has already been deducted from the SIB balance.

Budget approved 5 Jan 2011:

**£40,000**

Priority	Project	Date	Expenditure	Balance
<b>Heritage Priority</b>	Coalfield Community Challenge	30.03.2011	£5,000	£35,000
	Delivering Heritage Action Plan	21.09.2011	£35,000	£0
Remaining balance			£40,000	£0

Budget approved 5 Jan 2011:

**£80,000**

Priority	Project	Date	Expenditure	Balance
<b>Shopping Centres</b>	Marketing Project	21.09.2011	£15,000	£65,000
	Business Support Project	23.11.2011	£35,000	£30,000
	Shop Scene Improvements	23.11.2011	£15,000	£15,000
Remaining balance			£65,000	£15,000

Budget approved 5 Jan 2011:

£5,665

Budget approved 13 July 2011:

£30,000

**Total****£35,665**

Priority	Project	Date	Expenditure	Balance
<b>Allotment Improvements</b>	Name of project			£35,665
	Environmental Improvements to Burnside	21.09.2011	£3,382	£32,283
	Coalfield Community Challenge	23.11.11	£5,000	£27,283
Remaining balance			£8,382	£27,283

Budget approved 13 July 2011:

**£30,000**

Priority	Project	Date	Expenditure	Balance
<b>Activities for Young People</b>	Activities for Young People	21.09.2011	£30,000	£0
Remaining balance			£30,000	£0

Budget approved 1 Feb 2012:

**£30,000**

Priority	Project	Date	Expenditure	Balance
<b>Improvement of Neglected Land</b>				£30,000
	Improvements to Collingwod Drive	25.04.12	£4,880	£25,120
Remaining balance			£0	£25,120



## COMMUNITY CHEST 2012/2013 COALFIELD AREA - PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR APPROVAL

Ward	Project	Amount	Allocation 2012/2013	Project Proposals	Previous Approvals	Grants Returned	Balance Remaining
<b>Copt Hill</b>	Sunderland City Council – Miners Banner Parade - Cost of traffic management services for the Miners Banner Parade on 14th July 2012 in Eppleton.	£650		£650			
	<b>Totals</b>		<b>£12,531</b>	<b>£650</b>	<b>£1,692</b>	<b>£50</b>	<b>£10,239</b>
<b>Hetton</b>	Easington Lane & Hetton Club for the Disabled - A day trip on 31st July 2012, to The George Hotel, Piercebridge for lunch, afternoon tea and entertainment. Community Chest will pay for lunch and afternoon tea.	£480		£480			
	Easington Lane Senior Citizens Club - Cost of Christmas lunch and entertainment on 5th December 2012, for 45 members of the group.	£833.75		£834			
	Thursday Bingo Club - Cost of a Christmas lunch and hire of hall on 6th December 2012 for 32 members of the group.	£224		£224			
	Hetton Lyons Mothers Union Contribution towards a Christmas lunch on 3rd December 2012 for 70 people (24 members and their friends).	£700		£700			
	Hetton & Eppleton Community Hall - Contribution towards a fish & chip supper on 21st November 2012 for 80 people.	£240		£240			
	Sunderland City Council – Miners Banner Parade – Cost of traffic management services for the Miners Banner Parade on 14th July 2012 in Easington Lane.	£650		£650			
	<b>Totals</b>		<b>£13,790</b>	<b>£3,128</b>	<b>£525</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£10,137</b>
<b>Houghton</b>	Lambton & Houghton Banner Group - Contribution towards hiring a brass band to escort the Miners Banner to the Miners Gala and to hire a coach to take its members to the Miners Gala on 14th July.	£400		£400			
	<b>Totals</b>		<b>£15,977</b>	<b>£400</b>	<b>£4,471</b>	<b>£450</b>	<b>£11,556</b>

<b>Shiney Row</b>	Shiney Advice & Resource Project - Contribution towards the costs of a Family Fun Day on 15th August 2012. Community Chest will pay for the cost of the street closure.	£1,200		£1,200			
	Herrington Miners Banner Partnership - Contribution towards the hire of The Marsden Silver Prize Band to perform at Durham Miners Gala on 14th July 2012.	£500		£500			
	St Aiden's Community Group - Contribution towards the delivery of a 10 day Fishing Course and Insurance Fees for local young people in the summer school holidays.	£500		£500			
	Sunderland City Council – Miners Banner Parade – Cost of traffic management services for the Miners Banner Parade on 14th July 2012 in New Herrington.	£650		£650			
	Penshaw Catholic Women's Guild - Cost of Christmas lunch on 13th December, for 40 members of the group.	£420		£420			
	Shiney Row Childcare - Cost of purchasing craft material for crèche at the project.	£480		£480			
	Herrington CW – Purchase of football kits	£500		£500			
	<b>Total</b>		<b>£10,499</b>	<b>£4,250</b>	<b>£1,425</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£4,824</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>£52,797</b>	<b>£8,428</b>	<b>£8,113</b>	<b>£500</b>	<b>£36,756</b>