

Neighbourhood Fund Proposals
Project detail taken verbatim from applications

Application No. 1

Funding Source	Neighbourhood Fund
Name of Project	Houghton Feast Community Programme
Lead Organisation	Sunderland City Council

Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total NF Application
£10,000	£5,000 (from 2022/23 NF)	£5,000

Project Description:

Sunderland City Council events team deliver a number of core events across the City, including Houghton Feast. The services arranged by the events team include Infrastructure, marketing, site and event management for all aspects of the Feast, fireworks and civic arrangements.

In addition to the core programme and infrastructure costs, and in line with previous years, a community element for the Friday evening opening event, along with a Carnival parade on the Saturday is proposed. This additional element would include involvement of, and engagement with, local schools and community groups in the lead up to the Feast and performances at the Friday evening event and Saturday parade developed and managed by the Houghton Feast Steering Group. The theme of the 2023 event is Houghton King of Coal, to celebrate the coronation of King Charles 111, and the mining heritage of the area. The community events and displays will be focused around this theme, incorporating key information and activities.

A total of £5,000 is requested to deliver the programme. This will be combined with the remaining balance from 2022/23 and utilised to deliver art and music workshops to local schools and to engage local groups and organisations including to participate in all aspects of the Friday and Saturday events. The budget will also provide on street entertainment such as face painting, balloon modelling and Stilt Walkers. The Steering Group will agree the detail of the project spend, the budget will be managed by the Partnership and Community Resilience Manager on behalf of Houghton Feast Steering Group and Area Committee.

Recommendation: Approve

Application No. 2

Funding Source	Neighbourhood Fund
Name of Project	Celebrations, Events and Heritage 2023/24
Lead Organisation	Sunderland City Council

Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total NF Application
£20,000	£0	£20,000

Project Description:

In line with previous years it is proposed a 'core activities' programme is developed to support events identified by Area Committee members as important to the local area. This will allow a planned approach to events and activities which take place each year.

The project will provide a central resource for those events, celebrations and heritage activities identified by elected members and Area Committee partners as important to the local area and will be developed/delivered in partnership with the VCS Network and community organisations between September 2023 and January 2024. Funding will provide for a range of activities and costs associated with planned and historic events and include:

- Contribution to local groups for Remembrance Parade requirements
- Contribution to local Miners Gala Parades
- Contribution to seasonal events and activities arranged by community groups within the Coalfield
- Contribution to themed Summer Activities for the community
- Themed celebrations to mark various historic and local events
- Celebration and preservation of local heritage

The budget will also fund heritage activities and other events developed by the Neighbourhood and Community Board in partnership with local organisations. The Partnership and Community Resilience Manager will manage and co-ordinate the project under the direction of the Board and Area Committee.

Recommendation: Approve

Application No. 3

Funding Source	Neighbourhood Fund
Name of Project	Coalfield Christmas
Lead Organisation	Sunderland City Council

Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total NF Application
£41,910	£0	£41,910

Project Description:

Further to the development of Coalfield Area Plan and the agreed priority of installing a Christmas tree at Newbottle, the July meeting of the Neighbourhood and Community Board discussed a comprehensive, 3 year, Christmas programme for the Coalfield area.

The project will see trees, lights and switch on events across the Coalfield area (for 2023, 2024 and 2025), as follows:

Newbottle

- Installation of ground socket, connection and associated electrical works
- Purchase of lights
- 30ft Tree, delivered and installed by Elveden (annually)
- Installation and removal of lights (annually)

Fencehouses

- 30ft Tree delivered by Elveden, installed by Env Services (annually)
- Installation and removal of tree lights (annually)

Houghton Broadway

- Wrapped tree lights (annually)

Shiney Row

- Installation and removal of lights (annually)
- Wrapped tree lights (annually)
- Shiney Christmas event (annually)

The above will be delivered in addition to events and activities supported by Sunderland City Council core budget and individual ward-based Community Chest projects.

Recommendation: Approve

Application No. 4

Funding Source	Neighbourhood Fund
Name of Project	Christmas Cheer
Lead Organisation	VCS Network and HSF4 Partners

Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total NF Application
£5,000	£0	£5,000

Project Description:

Working with Community Hub partners and elected members across the whole of the Coalfield area the project will provide Christmas gifts, vouchers and support to those families who may not be able to give their children/family members the Christmas they would have liked to this year. Working with all ward Councillors, Community Opportunities, Active Families, ShARP, ELCAP, Space4, local schools and other members of the VCS Network we will identify families who would most benefit from this project and who would otherwise struggle to provide gifts and treats.

This project is over and above welfare support that is available such as food banks, first tier welfare advice, provision of meals and other financial support projects funded via Sunderland Council. Gifts will be delivered, or collected from central locations, in the week leading up to Christmas. The opportunity will be promoted via Coalfield information sharing, Facebook, via local Councillors, and via all community groups involved. We would expect this project to work in tandem with round 4 of the Household Support Fund to avoid duplication and enable the funds to be directed to the most relevant beneficiaries.

The project will be available to families in all four wards and referrals will be taken from schools and local community organisations, as well as health partners and Councillors.

There will be a network of partners involved in the project and the group will identify one 'lead' organisation to monitor delivery and finance.

Recommendation: Approve with the condition that all members of the Coalfield VCS Network are given the opportunity to be involved.