

**Houghton Feast 2016 Community Programme****£10,000**

Sunderland Live has been commissioned by Sunderland City Council to deliver a number of core events across the City during 2016, Houghton Feast being one of the core events. The services provided by Sunderland Live include Infrastructure, marketing, site and event management for all aspects of the Feast, fireworks and civic arrangements.

In addition to the core programme, 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 2016 Houghton Feast is 'Hollywood and Moving Pictures' and the community events and displays will be focused around the theme of Film, incorporating Hollywood features wherever possible.

A total of £10,000 is requested to deliver the programme. This will be utilised to engage local groups and organisations including schools to participate in all aspects of the Friday and Saturday events and provide on street entertainment such as face painting, balloon modelling, story-telling, circus skills and relevant film characters. The Steering Group will agree the detail of the project spend, the budget will be managed by the Area Community Officer on behalf of Houghton Feast Steering Group and Area Committee.

**Recommendation: Approve****The Craft Academy  
Fencehouses YMCA****£19,000**

**The Craft Academy** (TCA) is a new and exciting project that will operate as a fully functional working shop and work with individuals who struggle to find employment in the formal labour sector. The Craft Academy will be based in Harvester House, Front Street, Fencehouses. The Harvester House will be in addition to current services and the top two floors will operate as an accommodation project for young people leaving care. The Craft Academy will operate on the ground floor level and will teach individuals how to make handmade, eco-friendly products, whilst providing opportunities to gain experience in operating a business and other skills necessary for employment.

Products from The Craft Academy will be from locally sourced, up-cycled fabric using simple techniques. This service will result in increased employment opportunities for participants of the programme. The Craft Academy mission would be to impart the necessary skills for the long-term unemployed to gain future employment or set up their own businesses, through developing confidence, creativity and capital. The Craft Academy is dedicated to supporting social change with an affinity for handmade and locally sourced products.

**Tackling unemployment issues** will be an integral part of this project. Whilst gaining invaluable work experience the participants will also undertake an employability course that will support them in looking for future employment. The project will be working with local employers with the aim of supporting the participants into work interviews with prospective employers. There will be the opportunity for local people to gain employment skills that they may not access elsewhere. It will bring about a positive change to people and the local community. The project will promote an increased sense of wellbeing, confidence and belonging in the community and will allow new skills such as communication and self-worth to be taught.

**Sustainability**

Due to Fencehouses YMCA's experience and extensive knowledge they aim to make this project last for many years after the initial funding has finished. Creating a sustainable project is a major goal for the YMCA. They will make sure that there is continuation of the project's goals, principles, and efforts to achieve desired outcomes. Ensuring sustainability means making sure that the goals of the project

continue to be met through activities that are consistent with the current conditions and workforce development needs of the area, including the needs of workers and industry.

To help support this project going forward a sustainability plan to assist in the overall development of the project will be developed. Measurable outcomes will be identified and performance will be tracked. The data collected during and after the life of the grant will be used to improve the project and services over time, as well as to communicate the project's successes.

To support the progress of the project it will seek local "Champions" to identify and develop and assist the organisation in gaining the recognition and resources needed to achieve short- and long-term goals.

### **Funding (April 2016 – March 2017)**

Funding for refurbishment and remodelling of the building is being sought from other sources. A contribution of £19,000 SIB would allow the project to employ a worker (25 hours per week) who will develop and co-ordinate the TCA and its objectives and most importantly to make sure the project is sustainable. Equipment including craft materials, paint and tools will also be purchased from the budget.

### **Recommendation: Approve**

#### **Wellbeing Challenge Days**

**£14,406**

#### **Youth Focus North East (April 2016 – October 2017)**

The project is a series of Wellbeing Challenge Projects (WCP) promoting awareness of emotional wellbeing and mental health with young people and local communities using the 5-A-Day for Wellbeing self-help tool to build resilience.

Wellbeing Challenge Days offer local people the opportunity to plan and develop an initiative, event activity or campaign in their local area to raise awareness of mental health and wellbeing inspired by one of the 5-A-Day for Wellbeing themes (stay connected, physical activity, giving something back, keep learning and take notice).

Young volunteers from Change Ur Mind (North East Mental Health Youth Board) will lead the project, and will recruit, train and develop local intergenerational groups to lead and run community initiatives raising awareness and support locally for emotional wellbeing and mental health.

Each local intergenerational group will undertake a programme of team building and problem solving activities, building cohesion within the group. They will undertake an introduction to mental health and emotional wellbeing workshop and a series of planning meetings to develop a project idea. They will then "pitch" their idea to Change Ur Mind young volunteers and put their project idea into practice.

The project will work with local groups to engage younger and older clients they work with to form intergenerational steering groups, which could then exist beyond the project's duration and address needs within the local community.

The project will take place across the Coalfields areas, with one challenge taking place in each of the four wards. Each challenge will engage 12 volunteers and 50 participants.

For the last four years, Youth Focus: North East has been supporting young people to address issues around mental health and have discovered that having a mental health issues at a young age can be a very isolating experience. They have worked with young people who are going through these issues currently who tell them the things that make a difference to them are doing something positive, meeting new people, and knowing that although they have issues they can still be young people. Youth Focus: North East also has extensive experience of delivering intergenerational activities including tea dances, intergenerational challenge days, intergenerational residentials, intergenerational history projects, intergenerational films, and intergenerational sports days.

### **Recommendation: Approve**

**Coalfield Summer Celebration (Activity Programme)  
VCS Network**

**£7,000**

Coalfield Summer Celebration will enable the local community to support delivery of the Coalfield Area Committee priorities via the VCS Network.

The programme will be delivered in two ways:

- 1 Organisations will be invited to submit proposals for funding to delivery activities or events which celebrate either 'The Queen's Birthday' or '2016 Olympics and Paralympics'. Activities must support one or both of the following:
  - Encourage children, young people and families to take part in exercise and encourage healthy lifestyles
  - Provide social opportunities to encourage social interaction, especially for older people and vulnerable adults.
- 2 Events and activities for children and families will be arranged throughout the school summer holidays in each ward across the Coalfield area. VCS Network Representatives will set up a working group to identify locations and organise activities in each of the four wards which would provide the best results in terms of attendance and outcomes.

**Recommendation: Approve**

**Social Isolation priority**

**£20,000**

Members of the People Board discussed the importance of this priority and wish to allocate £20,000 SIB to develop projects to reduce social isolation. The detail of projects and how they will be developed will be discussed at the April meeting of the Board. Discussions are being held with the CCG to explore opportunities for joint funding.

**Recommendation: Approve**