Sunderland City Council Service Plans – Washington 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
Washington Old School	In partnership with Strategic Housing, development of Supported Living Accommodation for adults with social care, support and accommodation needs	7/22	11/23	Service is now fully operational, and all tenants have moved in.
Washington Community Resource Centre	Redevelopment of building-based day care services	4/23	TBC	Building surveys have been undertaken by Property Services and improvement works have been identified. Discussions are ongoing in relation to the implementation of the improvement works. Due to the implications around Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) and the immediate need for SCC to prioritise surveys/inspections across the Councils building assets in the short term, Property Services are unable to take forward the required works in the day centres. As a consequence, we are in discussion with SCC on options that can support Commissioning to take development work forward.
Moor Way	Development of extra care accommodation provision for adults with social care, support and accommodation needs, with partnership with the Housing provider	1/24	Completion early 2026	Planning permission has been obtained. Building work will start beginning of Jan 2024 with completion anticipated early 2026. Ongoing meetings TBA with the support provider which will involve Adult Social Care reps.

CITY DEVELOPMENT: Economic Regeneration

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Arts Centre Washington improvement works	Improvement works funded through the capital programme	4/23	3/24	Internal improvements now complete. External work commenced January to include improvements to the Courtyard with replacement paving, and installation of new planting scheme and furniture. Work to be completed late Spring 2024.
Washington library improvements	Improvement works funded through the capital programme	4/23	3/24	Washington Library redevelopment on track with progress being made quickly towards completion. Plans for a soft opening and are pencilled in for the end of May with further details to follow. Temporary library provision remains in place and is being well used.
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	Ten tree planting sites will be delivered by the end of April 2024, by an external contractor. This will deliver around 17 hectares of planting and be funded by c.£300,000 of external funding from the Government's Trees for Climate Fund. The 10 sites are at: A182 Shiney Row; Houghton Kepier Academy; Hetton Primary School (Coalfield); Rickleton Primary School (Washington); Roker Park (North); Silksworth Recreation Centre and Ski Slope (West); Holmeside; Doxford Park (park); Diamond Hall Junior Academy; Ryhope Junior School (East).
Low Carbon Framework and Action Plan	Range of city-wide low carbon programmes and projects across the seven strategic priority areas to include implementation within individual Area Committee areas			In addition to the above 10 NE Community Forest projects, there will be 1 Tiny Forest project planted (at Hudson Road Primary School) in 2023-24. The Sandhill View scheme is under review- funding is in place to deliver the 2nd Tiny Forest in the 2024-25 period. The Link Together Heritage Lottery bid for £915,000 will be determined in March 2024- if successful, the project will commence from April and run until end of March 2026.

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
				Sunderland City Council continue to work 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 23, and is available to residents in all areas of Sunderland (city- wide). As well as engaging with all Sunderland residents, Utilita included a particular focus on engaging with residents in Sunderland North and E.On with residents in Sunderland East until the end of June 2024, to raise awareness of the scheme and its benefits to residents. Eco-4 will run until 2026 across the city.

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)	1 x Enforcement Officer Enforcement Signage Replacement of wheelied bins/equipment in residential multi occupied properties 10 Streetwatch cameras	04/21		AC update submitted December 2023 via agreed reporting Project extended for another 2 years following AC in December 2023

Proactive approach to complement and add value to the current Sunderland City Council and Gentoo provision and allow for the flexibility to respond to Councillors requests and reporting of incidents as well as forging relationships with, working in partnership with and supporting other current initiatives such as Clean and Green and Together Clean and Green.	February 24 Update – MD taskforce went live Dec 23. snapshot of results so far: Patrols:52 Nights of action:3 Social media posts:1 Call backs:28 Home Visit:1 CPW:1 Vehicle Seizures:11 Arrests/summons:5
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CORPORATE SERVICES: Smart City Team

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
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: www.sunderlandoursmartcity.com In addition, Digital Dashboards have been produced for every ward detailing the existing digital provision, challenges, and potential opportunities for consideration. A follow-up meeting has been held with East Area Committee outlining specific opportunities and further meetings can be arranged as appropriate.
Washington 60	Inclusion of some form of interactive event	4/23		The team are happy to support ideas for this event once planning is underway.
Smart Cities	Opportunities for a range of digital and data solutions e.g. interactive play, smart bins etc	4/23		Significant work ongoing, further information can be found across our website and in the Innovation Challenges section: www.sunderlandoursmartcity.com

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES: Bereavement Services

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expend. by	Area Committee quarterly update
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 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. As consultation with Board Members continues on all actions, the CIB continue to receive updates on any developments in this respect.
				As part of the memorial safety programme in all cemeteries, safely 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.
				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.
				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.
				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.

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 st April 2023	September 2023	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 alterative weed control equipment
Tree Surveying	A citywide tree inspection and mapping project.	May 2023	2027	As of the 20th of February 12,757 trees have been surveyed. Following completion of the East and West areas, Mowbray, Barnes and Roker Green Flag parks have now all been surveyed. The Inspection programme is now focusing on the North Area.
Plantation Programme	Plantation Maintenance scheme	March 2023	April 2026	The plantation programme is progressing well with over 50,000 sqm of woodland maintained. Resident feedback has been very positive and of the initial 37 priority sites 19 are now complete
E Technology Trials	Trialling alternative Electric equipment to replace petrol fuelled kit to reduce carbon emissions.	May 2023		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. The kit includes, E Blowers, E Gum removal packs, E Chainsaws, E Hedge Trimmers and a Hybrid Chipper. We are continuing to explore other E solutions and are currently trailing a E Mechanical Sweeper.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES: Winter Maintenance

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Winter Smart Solutions	network.	Continue through the winter of 2023/2024	Testing of various options remains	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.

HEALTH HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES: Area Arrangements

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
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 community support 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.
Delivery of Financial Wellbeing Strategy Delivery Plan	Supporting residents within areas to improve their resilience	April 2023	March 2025	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. 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. 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.

HEALTH, HOUSING & COMMUNITIES: Housing Development

Housing Delivery and Investment Plan 2020-26 – approved to deliver 574 new Council owned homes for letting, broken down into three workstreams:		Feb 2020	March 2026	Empty Homes - 8 Bungalows - 4 Supported – 17
Empty Homes - 210 Bungalows - 193 Supported - 171	Washington Empty Homes - 32 Bungalows - 19 Supported - 25			

HEALTH HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES: Housing Strategy

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Washington North shows a high prevalence of empty properties: The service is generally responsive based on requests for service and the severity of empty property conditions. However, the Empty Homes Strategy identified the areas of the City where empty properties were most prevalent. Work to tackle empty properties is targeted in these areas.	This is not a specific project	In progress	presentation complete Future reports presented for Area Committee Information quarterly	A presentation on Empty Properties has been delivered to all Area Committees. This showed the data relating to area, Ward and across the City. An Empty Homes Report is being developed following the views and questions provided as part of the Area Committee discussions. This report will be presented to Area Committees quarterly

HEALTH HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES: Welfare Reform Service and Business Development

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	N/a	N/a	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 have provided figures to the council since at least the start of the pandemic . 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
				Information continues to be made available for residents to access via website and also voluntary sector and partners such as housing, health, etc.

HEALTH HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES: Active Sunderland

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
	Refurbish tennis courts in Usworth Park	5/23	7/23	Complete and operational
Parks tennis court programme	Develop tennis activation programme	6/23	10/23	Complete – taking place
	Consultation and development of bid for Playzone in Washington – location tbc	7/23	10/23	Next stage progressing with community organisation and community engagement
0	Establish 1 delivery site for targeted offer	5/23	12/23	Complete and operational - taking place at Washington Millennium Centre

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update		
Development of Social Prescribing	To deliver Social Prescribing "hub" to allow for localised presence of	4/23	3/25	Washington	Crafting Connection	
hubs	the offer			Washington	The Little Onion Club	
				Washington	Active Families	
				Washington	Building Blocks Day Centre CIC	
				Washington	Community Opportunities	
Stop Smoking Clinics	To deliver stop smoking clinics in the wards with the highest smoking rates	4/23	12/12	Galleries Health Centre – established The Millennium Centre – established		

HEALTH HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES: Public Health and Integrated Commissioning – Living Well

TOGETHER FOR CHILDREN: Early Help Systems and Family Hubs

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Comple tion/ Full expend iture 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 Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC).	2022	2025	Early Help Strategy 2024/28 – Final draft is under consultation. To be launched by Easter 2024.

	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. 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.	Family Hubs have recruited two peer support workers to work alongside and support fathers. There are now 20 Parent Carer Panel members with a panel attached to each of the family hubs.
	Sunderland will have 5 Family Hubs across the city offering services from conception up until the age of 18 or 25 for young people with special educational needs. 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 children young people and their families. <u>https://www.togetherforchildren.org.uk/article/27857/Start-for- Life</u>	
Digital Family Hub – My Best Life	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. MBL is not the finished article. The platform is being co- produced with young people, parent/carers and professionals across the city. 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.	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 maintained by the Family Hubs. The main benefit from this is families being able to access immediate support and book sessions online.