

Coalfield Area Committee: **PEOPLE BOARD** Work Plan 2017/18

Area Priority	Actions	Progress/Updates
Working in partnership to address key issues that affect residents emotional and mental wellbeing	Reduce stress caused by financial concerns by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promoting access to advice services</li> <li>Developing 'advice' volunteers or champions in local community venues</li> <li>Supporting development and promotion of local credit union hubs</li> </ul>	<p>Advice services are promoted regularly via the Area VCS Network and weekly information sharing bulletins. Colleagues from ShARP attend meetings and update members on the First Tier Advice service.</p> <p>The ShARP Advice on Prescription service offered exclusively in the Coalfield area is delivered in GP practices in each ward. This service is promoted via health professionals and community organisations.</p> <p>The People Board discussed this priority at the January 2018 meeting and recommends an allocation of SIB funding to develop a Call for Projects. Officers from Advice Services will attend the April People Board meeting to support the development of a project brief.</p>
	Reduce isolation and improve social participation in older and vulnerable adults by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support social activities and services in all wards for specific target groups</li> <li>Support for carers (young and adult)</li> <li>Taboo breaking – make the issue of mental health acceptable</li> <li>Continue to support and further embed good practice from current SIB funded social activities</li> </ul>	<p>A range of SIB funded Social isolation projects continue to be delivered throughout the Coalfield with many groups running on the good will of volunteers.</p> <p>A further £30,000 SIB funding was allocated to this priority in June 2017 and a Call for Projects was made via the VCS Network in December 2017. Recommendations are presented to the March 2018 Area Committee in Item 5 Area Budget Report.</p> <p>It is recommended by the People Board that a further allocation of SIB funding is made to develop alternative activities to improve mental and physical health. Further information contained in Item 3 People Board Report and Item 5 Area Budget Report.</p>
Encouraging and supporting local residents to eat healthily and take part in wellbeing activity.	Support families with cooking on a budget /menu planning	This priority was discussed by People Board at the January 2018 meeting and will be considered further as part of future developments for children and families
	Support low income families during school holiday periods with alternatives to school lunches	The People Board will discuss the development of a holiday programme at the April 2018 meeting.

	Develop activities and projects incorporating 'performing arts' such as dancing, theatre, singing and music to encourage residents to participate in different types of activity	This priority was considered by the People Board at the December 2017 and January 2018 meetings. It is proposed that the activities are incorporated into the project brief to develop initiatives to improve mental and physical health as outlined above and in Item 5 Area Budget Report
	Continue to promote and support sporting activities previously developed through the Coalfield Olympic programme	This will be incorporated into holiday activities for children and young people and also be considered when developing a project brief to develop activities to improve mental and physical health, as outlined above.
Increase opportunities to access training and learning to enhance life and employability skills	<p>Increase digital inclusion in local communities by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore options to increase the level of public access computers in Coalfields</li> <li>• Explore options to provide Digital Champions and / or tutors in local centres willing to provide public access to their I.T. equipment</li> <li>• Develop a programme to support residents to gain the necessary skills and confidence to use I.T.</li> <li>• Improve awareness by promoting what is available across coalfield in terms of access to training and facilities with access to I.T.</li> </ul>	<p>Following approval of £100,000 at the June Area Committee to address Digital Inclusion, a call for projects was made via the Coalfield VCS Network to support local residents to develop skills, access and engage with on-line services and facilities to improve their social outcomes across a broad range of themes. The following projects were approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coalfield Communities Connected, Springboard</li> <li>• Get Connected, ELCAP</li> <li>• Welcome Café, Hetton New Dawn</li> <li>• Penshaw NET, Penshaw CA</li> <li>• Know IT All, ShARP</li> <li>• Space4 IT, Space 4</li> <li>• IT Access and Training in New Herrington, St Aidans</li> </ul> <p>The above projects commenced in January and February 2018 and a Coalfield Digital Network has been developed by Springboard.</p> <p>The People Board identified that there is an increasing and changing need within the community to support and enable residents to get online and recommend a further sum of SIB funding is allocated to this priority for future development. Further information contained in Item 3 People Board Report and Item 5 Area Budget Report</p>
	Encourage young people to engage with local councillors and develop confidence to present ideas for projects - Continue CAN DO fund. Invite successful applicants to feedback results to People Board	<p>Four CAN DO applications were approved by the Board in December 2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kepier Kickers/ Community Football</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Eppleton Explorer Unit/ Training Weekend</li> <li>• Springboard Horticulture/ Adventure Residential</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Herrington Scouts/ outdoor cookery and leadership skills</li> </ul> <p>All groups presented their ideas to the People Board and have</p>

		been requested to return to feed back on their projects once complete. The next round of CAN DO will take place in April 2018.
	Explore mechanisms to develop skills and sustainable progression routes into employment or business start up for local residents.	The SIB Craft Academy project is now complete. The project provided job training to 44 local residents. All have moved on to either volunteering, employment or further training.
Support capacity building in local VCS organisations to promote volunteering and collaborative working	Expand the membership and attendance at VCS Network meetings	The Coalfield VCS Network meetings continue to be well attended by regular and new members. The Network is recognised by the Community as the forum to communicate with the Council and with each other on area issues.
	Encourage collaborative working amongst local organisations	SIB project proposals identify the importance of partnership working, which forms part of the scoring/assessment of applications for funding. All SIB funded projects are encouraged to work in collaboration with other providers of similar services and attend the VCS Network meetings.
	Continue to work with volunteers as part of the SIB 'Step up' project	<p>In the quarter October - December 2017 the project has worked with 27 local organisations and supported volunteers within the projects. New volunteers continue to be recruited and offered training to enhance their skills.</p> <p><b><u>Case Study</u></b>  <u>Houghton and District Centre for the Blind</u>  The Houghton and District Centre for the Blind is a small charitable organisation operating from a community centre off Thornhill Street in Houghton le Spring. Set up in the late 50's the centre has been run by the same management committee from the outset. With an aging committee and a diminishing user group they requested support from the project. The group were supported to apply for funding from Empower Sunderland for replacement radiators. This involved organising an energy survey on their behalf and supporting the group to implement some of the changes it recommended. Funding was secured which means going in to 2018 the centre will have been significantly upgraded. A new volunteer is working with the group to help them to rebrand, at which point they will be supported to promote their centre and activities around the Coalfields with other groups and local health providers. In 2018 the project will undertake committee skills training, and</p>

		work to recruit additional volunteers to help out at their sessions will take place. Promotion of the centre as a venue for events and activities will help the group to generate an additional income to put back in to activities and promotion.
	Deliver a 'Volunteer Celebration' event	The first Coalfield Volunteer Celebration was held on Saturday 21 October at the Hetton Centre. Around 120 people attended the event which was hosted by SNCBC's SIB funded Step Up Project. An event for 2018 will be arranged to take place in June to link with Volunteer Week.
Support provision of activities for young people that increase their involvement in community and area events and projects	Continue to develop Youth Social Action project to engage young people in positive activity.	9 young volunteers are actively volunteering as part of the project.
	Understand the role / contribution of young people in projects as their brief is developed by the People Board throughout the year	The SIB Youth Social Action project is working to address this priority. The recent Call for Projects to provide activities for children and young people will inform understanding of the role of young people in area activity. The CAN DO fund provides a platform for young people to demonstrate their contribution to local projects.
	Support positive engagement for children and young people to address local issues and provide activities during holiday periods	<p>A Call for Projects to provide activities and initiatives for 0-5 year olds and their families, Young people aged 11-19 and Young people not in employment, education or training (NEET) was made by the People Board in January 2018. Projects were assessed and consulted upon. The recommendations are presented to March 2018 Area Committee.</p> <p>Following a period of disorder in Houghton Town Centre and parts of Hetton ward, People Board discussed the need for some initial engagement with young people to gain their input and promote clubs and activities available for them. Senior youth workers will provide an outreach service at weekends for a period of 12 weeks with a view to diverting young people into positive activity. Recommendations from the youth workers will be presented to People Board. The People Board recommend that a further sum of SIB be allocated to this priority to develop activities or support pending the outcome of the consultation by outreach youth workers and to develop a programme of activities for holiday periods which provides a snack or food. Further information is contained in Item 5 Area Budget Report.</p>