**East Area Committee's Delivery Plan 2020 / 2023**

**Updated December 2021 (Q3)**

The Plan is a working document, which will include addition information from other public sector partners and VCS Area Network, where relevant.

The Plan commits the Area Committee to a significant number of priorities, which will be delivered within the East of Sunderland, to address the key issues raised by residents. The Plan will be monitored by the Area Committee and actions will be addressed throughout the next three years via the East Neighbourhood and Communities Board.

Residents will be able to monitor delivery of the plan via the online activity tracker which will be available to access at www.sunderland.gov.uk as well as through quarterly Area Committee update reports. The East Area Priorities for 2020 – 2023 are:

1. Tackle empty properties
2. Derelict land
3. Private landlords
4. Affordable homes
5. Love Where You Live
6. Enforcement
7. Bloom activities
8. Carbon and plastic pollution
9. Highways, pavements and street lighting
10. Parks, play, cycle and walking routes
11. Digital technology and 5G
12. Use of existing and vacant properties
13. Job clubs and educational centres
14. Community cohesion
15. Social prescribing
16. Enhance local green space
17. Support voluntary and community sector
18. Volunteer platform
19. Local events
20. Youth clubs and spaces
21. Neighbourhood Watch
22. Reduce fear of crime
23. Support local organisations
24. Fuel poverty
25. Credit solutions
26. More than a Foodbank
27. Heritage assets and activities
28. Preserve heritage

It is now the responsibility of East Sunderland Area Committee to deliver Year Two of the Delivery Plan and will form the work programme for the Area Committee and the Neighbourhood and Community Board for the coming months. NB: numbers are for reference only, they do not list them in priority order.

| Neighbourhood Investment priority | | |
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| **1. Tackle Empty Properties** | | |
| **Links to: A Dynamic Smart City *More and better housing*** | | |
| **Action** | **Next Steps** | **Update** |
| Assistant Director Housing to present full update on Housing to East Neighbourhood and Community Board | East Area Committee to consider update and how they can enhance and support the offer within the East area. | The Assistant Director of Housing attended the November 2020 Board meeting and provided an update on the Council becoming a Registered Provider in November 2019, and an Investor Partners with Home England which involved the Council approving the Housing Delivery and Investment Plan of £59m in February 2020 to deliver new social housing across three areas: i) Empty Properties; ii) Bungalows and iii) Support Accommodation.<br><br>A recent restructure has strengthened the focus on dealing with empty properties. Over the last year 106 empty properties have been brought back into use in the East, from the 362 across the City. The majority of the empty properties were privately owned and a blight on local communities. The Housing Team are currently targeting empty property acquisitions and undertaking enforcement in the Hendon ward, working with Back on the Map and Thirteen Group. This work is supported by Environmental Health and Enforcement Officers, dedicated to improving housing standards by addressing concerns, mainly in the privately rented sector by tackling rogue landlords.<br><br>In the East area the majority of empty properties fall within the Hendon, Millfield and St Michael's wards. Concerns were raised at the amount of empty properties, which were formerly used by students that now stand empty, as the City has seen a surge in higher spec student accommodation. 'Older' properties i.e. cottages in the Millfield ward, are left empty having a negative impact on the local community. Currently the Empty Properties Team are working on 18 empty properties in Millfield alone.<br><br>In the short term, to support local Councillors deal with queries, a named Officer has been identified who Members can contact directly with housing related issues.<br><br>In August 2021, Members received an update on Empty Properties (empty for 6m+) and Private Rented Sector (PRS). Between Jan-Jun 21 there were over 3,000 empty properties across the city, with over a third being located within the East area. (Hendon 494; Millfield 247; St Michael's 252; Ryhope 86 and Doxford 56). They are numerous |

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| | | challenges faced by the Council, here are a few: no control over properties becoming empty; owner may have gone into the care system, prison, or property may have become repossessed (lengthy legal process); Houses of Multiple Occupation being vacant, results in 'spikes'; Poor engagement from some Landlords; Absent owners living outside the City. Action and activities being delivered to address the problem are: providing advice and guidance; implementing the EH Strategy and Action Plan; providing financial support; effective Partnerships (Thirteen, Gentoo, Back on the Map); Using enforcement powers; the Council buying empty properties to bring them back into use; linking to national programmes i.e. Mears; Matching potential tenants via the Accreditation and leasing models.<br><br>Contact details for the Team are: empty.properties@sunderland.gov.uk or telephone 0800 234 6084 Monday to Friday 8.30am-5pm.<br><br>Was discussed in year one, and has been rolled over into year two. |
| Request an update from the University regarding any future plans for Clanny House and The Precinct. | Area Community Development Lead (ACDL) to provide elected members with the update. In order to keep the community informed of any potential developments. | Representatives attended the November 2020 Board meeting and provided an update on the One Campus Master Plan (downloaded from: https://my.sunderland.ac.uk/display/aboutus/2018/04/01/one+campus+masterplan)<br>Clanny House: the site is earmarked for long term disposal, but due to a long term lease it makes the disposal of the site more difficult.<br>The Precinct: the site is earmarked for long term disposal.<br>The University agreed to discuss their ideas and suggestions with Area Committee at a future meeting.<br><br>The University confirmed that they are consulted on planning applications relating to proposals for larger scale student accommodation and would welcome the opportunity to be consulted on all planning proposals relating to student accommodation, in the city, regardless of the number of units involved.<br><br>Was discussed in year one. Watching Brief, no further action required. |

<table>
<tr><td colspan="3">2. Review all derelict land and properties and develop plan to address each site with partners and residents to further create green and cultural communities</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Links to: A Healthy Smart City Cleaner and more attractive city and neighbourhoods</td></tr>
<tr><td>Action</td><td>Next Steps</td><td>Update</td></tr>
<tr><td>Executive Director Economy and Place to provide an update on derelict land and properties to East Neighbourhood and Communities Board.</td><td>East Area Committee to consider update and how they can support the development of sites within the East area e.g. potential future development of Athol Road / Middle Hendon area.</td><td>The Assistant Director of Housing attended the November 2020 Board meeting and provided an update Middle Hendon area development at Harrogate and Amberley Street.<br><br>In partnership with Thirteen Housing Group, Cabinet approval to enter into agreement to finalise the feasibility of a housing development project which will deliver 100 affordable new homes for rent. Housing will be a mixture of bungalows for older people and two- and three-bedroom family homes. An update on the timescale was received at the January 2021 Board and is outlined below:
<table>
<tr><td>January - February 2021<br>(arrange licences for certain works)</td><td>Feasibility works underway<br>Pre-app meetings</td></tr>
<tr><td>February to March 2021</td><td>Reports and surveys</td></tr>
<tr><td>April 2021</td><td>Planning submission</td></tr>
<tr><td>September/October 2021</td><td>Finalise Tender evaluation</td></tr>
<tr><td>October 2021</td><td>Anticipated Planning Approval</td></tr>
<tr><td>November 2021</td><td>Board approval to: enter into contract, complete land acquisition and allow start on site</td></tr>
<tr><td>December 2021</td><td>Acquire land, enter contract/appointment of contractor, Health and Safety approval</td></tr>
<tr><td>January 2022</td><td>Start on site</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Was discussed in year one. Watch and Brief, no further action required.</td></tr>
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| 3. Work with private landlords by ward and proactively deal with issues using all available enforcement powers | | |
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| **Links to: A Dynamic Smart City *More and better housing*** | | |
| **Council Activity** | **Next Steps** | **Update** |
| Assistant Director Housing to present full update on the Private Rented Sector to East Neighbourhood and Community Board | East Neighbourhood and Community Board to receive an update in August 2021 and consider next steps. | In August 2021, Members received an update on the Council's Accreditation Scheme which is free to access and open to Private Landlords. Benefits of joining include: free marketing, tenant searches and referencing / vetting scheme; advice and support; free waste permit and access to training and links to national webinars, surveys, newsletters, etc. to keep up to date with legislation. The Scheme host's an online Private Landlords Forum. From a tenant's perspective, they receive improved housing standards; improved behaviour, less of a negative impact on the neighbourhood, reduced issues with dumped waste and better trained landlords. The Council deliver an Eviction Prevention Support Services (EPSS), created as a result of Covid-19 Eviction Ban. Since inception 130 cases have been opened, with 97 relating to rent arrears, resulting in repayment plans being developed, revoking eviction notices and developing an educational programme for both landlords and tenant(s) to avoid future disruption through mediation, awareness of rights, benefits and support services.<br><br>Broader PRS inventions relating to: proposed Tenant Passport – matching tenants, providing a deposit guarantee, housing and legal standards achieved; reviewing access to grants and loans; enhanced cross department co-ordination (Environmental Health; Planning Compliance; Council Tax; Housing Options; ASB Team, etc.); Proactively monitoring and targeting the top 10 most problematic empty properties and associated landlords; updating and reviewing the Communication Plan; Carrying out area renewal interventions and engaging with Landlords, and developing a proposed lease scheme.<br><br>Contact details for the Team are: privatesectorhousing@sunderland.gov.uk or telephone 0800 234 6084 Monday to Friday 8.30am-5pm.<br><br>In November 2021, Members discussed and agreed to seek approval from Area Committee for £2,000 to host a series of roadshows and publicity campaigns to raise awareness about the Council's Private Landlord Accreditation Scheme. The fund would enable the Private Rented Sector Team to deliver a mixture of face to face and |

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| | | virtual sessions on the benefits of joining the scheme. A key challenge will be identifying and contacting Private Landlords and getting them to sign up to a workshop, then the Accreditation Scheme but the Team are keen to try new ways to increase membership numbers in the East area. If approved in December, the Team will start the Roadshow campaign in January 2022 and report back the results in July 2022. Update pending. |
| **4. Create more affordable homes** | | |
| **Links to: A Dynamic Smart City *More and better housing*** | | |
| **Action** | **Next Steps** | **Update** |
| Assistant Director Housing to present full update on Housing to East Neighbourhood and Community Board | East Area Committee to consider update and how they can enhance and support the offer within the East area. | In October 2020 it was noted that Partners (Gentoo, Thirteen, Home Housing, etc.) deliver affordable homes to residents in the City. The Council will bring added value to the social housing market by specialising in bungalows and supported accommodation. A good example of this, is the Council's first new build development in nearly 40 years at Cork Street, which is estimated at £4m investment. Providing 17 bungalows, 16 fully adapted bungalows and 1 general needs bungalow. Supported by a new Day Centre for those with physical disabilities, which replaces the existing North East Disability Resource Centre based in the old Cork Street Nursery building. The development is currently ongoing with completion due early 2022.<br><br>Was discussed in year one. Watching Brief, no further action required. |
| **5. Launch 'Love where you live' campaign** | | |
| **Links to: A Vibrant Smart City *More residents participating in their community***<br>**A Healthy City Smart City *Cleaner and more attractive city and neighbourhoods***<br>**Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy *Community empowerment, engagement and involvement***<br>**Low Carbon Framework *Consumption and Waste*** | | |
| **Action** | **Next Steps** | **Update** |
| Continue with litter picks and support the Rangers to continue to organise and advertise opportunities for | ACDL to organise a Teams meeting in August with Rangers and extend invitation | Performance management meetings have been held in August and November 2020 with the six partners. Although Covid has impacted on the amount of volunteers being enabled to engage in the projects, and no visits have been able to take place in local primary schools the Rangers projects has continued to deliver daily litter picks across |

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| residents / schools, etc to get involved. | to Area Cllrs to discuss existing programme and potential improvements. | the East, environmental task days and virtual educational campaigns. Recently, the Rangers contributed information into the 'Invest in Park's' report.<br>The project is due to end in December 2020.<br><br>In December 2020, the East Neighbourhood and Community Area Board received an evaluation on the East Rangers project, along with updates from Local Services and Environmental Enforcement Teams. Members unanimously agreed to extend the funding on the Rangers project, but were keen for the Rangers to work closely with council services, and support the characteristics of the ward, for instance, in Doxford and St Michael's wards the Rangers should focus more on Parks and open spaces, whilst the Rangers in Hendon, Millfield and Ryhope should focus more on tidying up back lanes and open spaces.<br><br>In March 2021, Area Committee approved £95,913 to continue the Rangers programme between April 2021 and March 2022.<br><br>In August 2021, a data log of activities was presented to Councillor on the achievements delivered on the Programme, since April, these are:<br>• 257 children and young people, and 191 volunteers have been involved in 46 environment community clean ups and 63 litter picks removing 13.75 tonnes of street waste.<br>• 2,659 hours of voluntary work has been clocked up, equating to £32,298 of in-kind funding.<br>• 14 other organisations have benefited from the Programme.<br>• 25 community cleans have been completed on behalf of Local Services<br>• The top ten streets with the highest number of complaints relating to dog fouling, poor waste management, fly tipping and litter have been targeted, with 100s over warning letters and stickers on wheelie bins, warning tenants to change their behaviour or face a fine. |
| To continue Walk and Talk programme, but with the understanding that requests for improvements / | ACDL to follow up on outstanding works from lockdown period | A review of the Walk and Talk programme was discussed in September. Area Committee approved a further £75,000 to be split evenly across each ward and added onto existing budgets. Based on experiences from year one, requests for projects: i) can be submitted via a street walkabout with residents, or ii) directly from Councillors |

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| community solutions do not need an organised walk but will need three Cllrs to agree to proposal along with service provider. | and provide Cllrs with an update position. | which relates to feedback based on the Let's Talk resident's consultation exercise, or concerns raised by residents to Councillors. iii) all projects must have the majority of ward Councillors approval and support from the relevant Services area, iv) with the main objective being to resolve local issues impacting on the quality of life for residents.<br><br>The financial position of the ward budgets was reviewed in December 2020, with the agreement that the project will continue as is, with a review of budgets being discussed in the new financial year.<br><br>In July 2021, the Neighbourhood and Community Board reviewed the Walk and Talk Programme. In September 2021 Area Committee approved a further £75,000 which was split evenly across each ward and added onto existing budgets.<br><br>Will be discussed across the full three years of the Plan. |

**6. Ensure all available enforcement powers are used to tackle those who continue to fly tip, drop litter and spoil the neighbourhood**

**Links to: A Healthy City Smart City *Cleaner and more attractive city and neighbourhoods***
**Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy *Community empowerment, engagement and involvement***
**Low Carbon Framework *Consumption and Waste***
**Low Carbon Framework *Low Carbon and Active Transport***

| Action | Next Steps | Update |
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| Look into the possibility of establishing a Multi-agency team approach to addressing ongoing fly tipping on church commissioners land across Ryhope ward. Including securing boundary's and entrances to prevent unauthorised access by motor vehicles. | ACDL to organise a Team's meeting with those officers initially to consider the feasibility of this action. | Monthly Task Groups arranged up until October 2021.<br><br>At the March Board a list of key actions was presented, which were delivered from November 2020 onwards.<br>**Environmental Enforcement**<br>• 29 investigations in relation to fly-tipping have been carried out<br>• 3 x Section 46 notice issued to residents mis-presentation of household waste<br>• 510 Advisory notices reminding residents of their reasonability in presenting household waste for refuse collection, targeting Beechbrooke, Lynthorpe, Edgmond Court, Grey terrace, Dinsdale Cottages, St Pauls Terrace ( work undertaken by East Rangers) |

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| | | • 2 Fixed Penalty Notice for failure to have a dog on a lead (Dog Control Order) in Sunderland Cemetery<br>• 3 Fixed Penalty Notice for littering in Ryhope Ward<br>• 1 Fixed Penalty notice for failure to ensure household waste was transferred to an authorised waste carrier which subsequently was fly-tipped<br>• new fly-tipping signage now been erected throughout the Ryhope ward.<br>• CCTV camera to be relocated from Ryhope Road to Thomas & Smith Street within the next couple of weeks.<br>• 1 written warning issued<br>• 4 Community Protection Warnings issued to land owners requiring clearance of waste from private land<br>• 19 Community Clean Ups<br>• 33 Litter Picks<br>• 8 other organisations involved (schools, groups, etc)<br><br>**Reinstating Featherbed Lane Allotments**<br>• Capital bid submitted to Medium Term Financial Plan to carry out works to recover and reuse up to 20 starter plots. Potential to renew 10-year lease with Church Commissioners. Update pending.<br><br>**Set up a Sub Group to focus on Ryhope Dene to address issues relating to trespassing, fly tipping and nuisance vehicles**<br>• Sunderland City Council, Northumbria Police and Sustrans have mapped out problem hotspots in and around the Ryhope Dene area, indicated above.<br>• Invitations letters have gone out to the Landowners asking them to join the Task Group. Two Farmers have replied and expressed an interest in joining the Task Group.<br>• Site visits will be arranged in March to assess each site and consider what the next course of action will be to tackle trespassing, fly tipping and nuisance vehicles. |

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| | | • Church Commissioners have funded a large operational which resulted in over 25 burnt out cars being removed from the Dene and a deep clean being carried out.<br>• A meeting was held in November to see if there was public appetite to set up a Friends Group of the Dene. Five residents confirmed that they are interested in joining a Friends Group. Discussions are ongoing between the land owners to understand the best way to progress the matter. Update pending.<br>Additional Outcomes<br>• Ryhope Cemetery: removal of 20 tree stumps , all trees whiskered and full tidy up of graveyard, with Winter bedding planted.<br>• Introduction of approximately 12 new bins, both post mounted and free standing.<br>• Southern Relief Road: increased maintenance - weekly litter pick carried out.<br>• Ryhope Street: back lane removal of fly tipping / litter from Church land.<br>• Ryhope Recreation: supply and installation of kickabout goals.<br>• Ryhope Park: improvements to grounds, reduction of hedges, maintenance and opening up of shrub beds, once house is demolished then area around old bowling green to be revamped.<br>• Over Winter bird and visitor surveys have been carried out along the coast.<br><br>Ryhope Recreation Park: Confirmation has been secured that the disused caretakers house, which has stood empty for over a decade will be demolished in October 2021. The deadline for this has been pushed back until May 2022.<br><br>Set up in year one and rolled over into year two. Review due October 2021.<br><br>In October 2021, a review of the Task Group was held. It was agreed to continue with the Task Group but refresh the Membership and the Scope of the meeting. A refreshed Terms of Reference and Membership List was discussed and agreed, the Task Group will focus on the following, up until June 2022.<br><br>• Motorcycle / vehicle nuisance impacting on known hot spots across the ward |

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| | | • Co-ordinating resources across the ward to tackle youth disorder and ASB<br>• Promote and raise awareness on the National Cycle Route<br>• Set up a Friend's Group of Ryhope Dene<br>• Demolishing the old Caretakers property in Ryhope Recreation Park and aim to make good the access road leading into the Park<br>• Reinstating Featherbed Lane Allotments |
| Look into the possibility of a Multi-agency approach to address motorcycle disorder across Ryhope. Action Plan has already been developed in partnership with Local Neighbourhood officer, Local Councillor and Tim Ducker. Meeting to be established with Partners including landowners and stakeholders to establish way forward | As above | In October 2020 Ryhope Task Group identified sites across the ward, which are targeted by motor bikes, quad bikes and vehicles and have carried out the following actions to prevent and / or deter nuisance vehicles, these are:<br>○ 18 x boulders installed at Paddock Lane, Venerable Bede and Tunstall Hope Road to prevent access onto Tunstall Hills<br>○ 6 x Drop down bollards installed at Blyton Avenue, entrance onto the Store Fields at Tecaz and Wraith Terrace. Since February no reports have been received, whilst during December and January it was happening daily.<br>○ 1 x Beechbrooke barrier has been installed and well received by local residents. This has stopped quad access to the area which was a major safety issue.<br>○ 22 x 'No motor bike / vehicles signs' installed on lamp posts around the Store Fields, Beechbrooke and Ryhope Recreation Field<br>○ Street Wardens and Neighbourhood Police patrolling areas on a weekend with bodycam's to obtain IDs, registrations, pics for social media, etc.<br>○ Promotional material posted to households in and around the locations<br>○ Sustrans secured £1m+ to develop and enhance the National Cycle Network Route 1<br>○ Force wide Local Multi Agency Problem Solving Group established to look at developing a designated site for off road vehicles.<br><br>• Concrete barriers have restricted access to cliff tops and reduced areas where 4 wheel drives can get onto coastal path. From a police perspective this has reduced significantly although, the problem has moved down towards the junction box, towards Hendon. |

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| | | • Operation Eagle, delivered by Northumbria Police has resulted in:<br>  ○ 24 Section 59 notices being served<br>  ○ 1 x CPW Issued<br>  ○ 10 x Bikes seized<br>  ○ 1 x Quad bike seized<br>  ○ 4 x 4x4 seized<br>  ○ 10 x cars seized for disorderly driving<br><br>NEW: In July 2021, the Environmental Enforcement Manager provided Members with an update on the city wide / force approach on tackling nuisance vehicles (off road bikes, quad bikes, 4x4 vehicles, etc). One meeting has been held between Sunderland and South Tyneside local authorities and policing teams. Visitors from Scotland will attend a future meeting to share best practice and explain how they have tackled the issue. Discussions are on going about establishing a Petrol Watch scheme in the City, which is a partnership between the Police, the council and Petrol Stations to work together to prevent nuisance drivers accessing fuel. Update pending. A further discussion was held in August, on how best Area funding can be used to bolster the Enforcement Team covering the East and City Centre areas, with a future reported due in October 2021.<br><br>In November, Members discussed investing in the Environmental Enforcement Team by providing a grant which would enable three full time members of staff to be employed to focus on environmental crime, such as, fly tipping and issuing fines for dog fouling. Further information is outlined in the Budget Report.<br><br>Set up in year one and rolled over into year two. |
| Look into the restriction of access to motorcycles onto King George the 5th playing field and the feasibility of reinstating the football pitches. | | Following the December 2020 Area Committee, a proposal was submitted to carry out a community asset transfer. Feedback indicated that the field has been aligned to the Playing Pitch Plan with a view to, explore the feasibility of bringing the site back into use. If the site is not a sustainable location and in which case no amount of money will make it desirable the site could become public open space to meet a need identified in the Green Space Audit; or redeveloped as an alternative use, using the capital receipt to invest in existing sites in the locality or potentially transferred to a local organisation as a community asset. Further information is expected in the Summer 2021. |

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| | | During October and November 2020 informal discussions have been held Local Services and Property Services to understand the process involved in reinstating the football pitches. During this time frame local Councillors identified a local group who are interested in supporting the council with bringing this under used area of land back into use. The group is Ryhope Community Association Junior Football Club. Discussions have been held with representatives from the Management Committee who are interested in maintaining the land and using the playing fields as a sporting community hub to expand their Club to attract female coaches and players, as well as, working with other Sport Clubs in the area (cricket, boxing, rugby, fishing, etc) to encourage people outdoors, improving their health and wellbeing.<br><br>The Scheme could be the first in the East area to deliver action against the Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy since being approved in March 2020 by Cabinet. Demonstrating the Council's commitment to link asset management to neighbourhood plans by identifying how to support local people to take over council assets for the benefit of their communities.<br><br>In June 2021 the football club submitted a Grass Pitch application to secure their first season on the pitch from September 2021. This has been successful. Therefore the fields are getting reinstated as a football pitch.<br><br>In August 2021, a 12m knee high barrier has been installed at the West side of the field, to prevent motor bike access.<br><br>In November 2021, the Council received the results of a public consultation that the Football Club carried out in relation to carrying out improvements to the site, including fencing off an area of land surrounding the playing fields. The results are currently being considered. Update pending.<br><br>Set up in year one and rolled over into year two. Review due October 2021 |
| Thing BIG, Act Local Millfield. Following on from the Reclaim the Lanes project resident's | ACLD to arrange a site visit with representatives from | In October 2020 a site visit was held to discuss the deep clean project between Area Arrangements, Local Services and Environmental Enforcements in the back lanes around the Lime Street area. However, a change in the project was |

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| pledged to keep their back lanes tidy, manage their bins correctly and report fly tipping. In return, the Council would carry out a deep clean of the back lanes to bring them up to standard. Once the works have been carried out Environmental Enforcement Officers will monitor the lanes, taking relevant action against residents if standards fall. | Local Services and Environmental Enforcement to agree works and timescales. | discussed and presented to the Millfield Councillors for consideration, who agreed to the following:<br>• tidying up the raised beds and the gable ends of the terraced houses, near Lime Street Pocket Park.<br>• removing the shrubs and bushes and planting a tree, as a focal point.<br>• repointing the brickwork and cleaning the moss off the paths.<br>• painting the metal perimeter railings surrounding the Park, and the goal posts.<br>• install a bench and new bin.<br><br>If the budget allows, a few small play features could be added to the site i.e. exercise trail. This will create a bigger impact and last longer that a deep clean of the back lanes.<br><br>Discussed in year one, rolled over into year two. |
| **7. Take part in In Bloom activities and support residents and volunteers to grow their own to bring plants and flowers into communities** | | |
| **Links to: A Dynamic Smart City *Lower Carbon and Stronger City Centre***<br>**A Vibrant Smart City *More residents participating in their community***<br>**A Healthy City Smart City *Cleaner and more attractive city and neighbourhoods***<br>**Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy *Community empowerment, engagement and involvement*** | | |
| **Action** | **Next Steps** | **Update** |
| Work with Local Services to encourage residents to 'adopt a planter'. | Invite a representative from Local Services Team to the August meeting to discuss options. | In August, Members received a report on 'In Bloom Activities'.<br><br>The East Area has funded three planter schemes recently which have involved installing a street planter. Planters have been funded from either Walk and Talk or Community Chest and installed with the understanding that Local Services would supply and fit a planter, fully planted up and ready to be cared for by local volunteers, with the Council requiring no further involvement. The role of the community volunteer(s) would then involve general weeding, watering and replacing seasonal plants, as and when required.<br><br>Initially planters are tendered to and brighten up a sparse area resulting in positive feedback from the public, but inevitably lifestyles change over time and the planters go uncared for. Unkept planters look tired and displeasing, leading to the |

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| | | public complaints which are referred to Local Services. However, this is an unfair demand placed on the Service, as it falls outside their remit and control. An uncared for planter then becomes a 'grey' area. As volunteers cannot be held to account, but neither can the Council, but the public's expectations point towards the Council being responsible.<br><br>Based on lesson's learned from previous projects, Members are keen to progress with the Scheme, and establish an 'In Bloom Task Group' which will carry out further work, check legal requirements and agree a process to enable the Scheme to programme.<br><br>The inaugural Task Group meeting was held and it was agreed to pull together a draft policy on adopting plantings, with an option to widen the scope to include flower beds and highway barriers. As well as considering members of the public adopting certain areas of land / planters, information will also be shared on expanding the existing sponsorship scheme for roundabouts to include flower beds, etc. The outcome of the discussion would have city wide implications, and not just benefit the East area. The information will be considered at the December Task Group, with a view of updating Members in the New Year. |
| Look into the possibility of establishing an East in Bloom competition to acknowledge our beautiful gardens and landscapes. | Invite a representative from Local Services Team to the August meeting to discuss options. | In August, Members received a report on 'In Bloom Activities'.<br><br>Based on the original Northumbria in Bloom campaign which runs every year to recognise, encourage and reward community groups who work together to transform their village, town or city through gardening, environmental awareness and community support. Members are proposing that the 'In Bloom' Task Group consider how best to launch a 'mini' East in Bloom completion in the July and August 2022.<br><br>Further details will be announced in Autumn 2021 to allow time for people to plan, plot and plant their entries between Autumn and Spring, ready to apply and be judged in the Summer. |

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| | | To contribute towards the running of the competition, it was agreed that the underspend relating to the OSCAR's Volunteer's Award scheme totalling £5,682 is used.<br><br>The item was added into the scope of the remit for the In Bloom Task Group. Currently the ACDL is designing a webpage, with support from the Communication Team, which will include all relevant information. A protype will be shared with the Task Group in December, which a view of launching the competition in the New Year. Update pending. |
| Receive an update on Local Services Improvement Plans for East and City Centre. | Invite a representative from Local Services Team to the October meeting to discuss options. | In October 2021, Members received an update from the newly appointed Environmental Service Manager for the City Centre on the Team's existing maintenance routines for ground maintenance and cleansing standards which was very informative and well received. Future updates will be presented as and when required.<br><br>In addition to discussing Local Services, the topic of Bleed Bags was discussed. Following on from a number of stabbing incidents, such as the tragic loss of Connor Brown. It was noted that Pub Watch in the City Centre considered installing a Bleed Control Kit, which is a similar concept to installing defibrillators, whilst these help people who have suffered a cardiac arrest, the bleed control kit are designed to treat wounds which cause traumatic bleeding in the short term, allowing time for blue light services to gain access to the patient which can make the difference between life and death. Further information can be found from the Daniel Baird Foundation: Bleed Control Kits \| By The Daniel Baird Foundation \| Campaign by Lynne Baird - Control The Bleed \|<br>It was proposed that the ACDL works with Sunderland BID and Pub Watch to pull together a project description which may receive funding from Community Chest. Work is ongoing. |
| Look into the possibility of improving the gateway into the city by maintaining the grass verge from St Benedict's Hospice roundabout all the way | Invite a representative from Local Services Team to the August meeting to discuss options. | In August, Local Services confirmed that the route has the road closed twice a year to enable a Summer and Winter pruning, along with litter picks being carried out. The verge has a hedge row, which contributes to the 'green' corridor allowing birds and insects to move around the area. Options are limited, no further action required. |

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| along to Ryhope Village, then onto Toll Bar | | |
| Look into the possibility of developing Wildflower roundabouts to enhance the visual appearance and enhance biodiversity. | Invite a representative from Local Services Team to the October meeting to discuss options. | In October 2021, a specialist in Wildlife Planting from Rigby Taylor Limited was invited along to provide Members with an overview on wildflower and urban meadows. It was agreed that a wildflower meadow is being established in Backhouse Park, and Members will be invited along to a site meeting to see the results of the Scheme in the Spring/Summer 2022. After which further consideration will be given as to whether or not to roll out a Wildflower Planting Scheme across the East area.<br><br>On hold until Spring/Summer 2022. |
| **8. Reduce the carbon footprint and create green solutions within neighbourhoods to reduce plastic pollution** | | |
| **Links to: A Dynamic City *Low Carbon***<br>**Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy *Community Empowerment, Engagement and Involvement***<br>**Low Carbon Framework *Green Economy and Consumption and Waste*** | | |
| **Action** | **Next Steps** | **Update** |
| Encourage VCS Groups and Residents to plant a tree for the Queen's Jubilee in June 2022. (Links to Local Events) | Invite a representative from Local Services Team to the August meeting to discuss options. | In August, Members received a report on 'In Bloom Activities', which referenced Plant a Tree for the Queen's Jubilee 2022.<br><br>The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) is a tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. Everyone across the UK is being invited to plant trees from October 2021, when the tree planting season begins, through to the end of the Jubilee year in 2022. The QGC will create a network of individual trees, avenues, copses and whole woodlands in honour of The Queen. Creating a green legacy, with every tree planted.<br><br>The Woodland Trust have launched a Plant a Tree for the Jubilee - Woodland Trust which encourages neighbours, community groups, schools and organisations to apply for a Tree Pack. To be eligible trees should be planted on land that is regularly accessed by the public i.e., School grounds, or public land. The landowner must provide permission for the tree to be planted, as they will become responsible for its future care and maintenance. |

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| | | Members are proposing to Area Committee that the opportunity to partake in the initiative is promoted, and work is carried out by the 'In Bloom' Task Group, with interested organisations to apply to the Woodland Trust to plant a tree in suitable and agreeable locations across the five wards by working with Local Services, Land and Property and Planning and Regeneration, where appropriate.<br><br>In November 2021, all East Councillors received a request from the Chair of the Committee, asking Members who act as School Governors to discuss the Woodland Trust plant a tree scheme at a future Governor's meetings with a view of encouraging schools to submit an application and plant trees on their grounds, reporting back any good news stories. Update pending. |
| Investigate the feasibility of developing a Uniform Recycling Scheme across Schools in the East area. | Work with Partners across the East area to present an update to the October meeting. | Originally the Area Committee were considering the feasibility of establishing a Uniform Recycling Scheme, but research provided information which showed there are three existing processes in existence across the East area, these are: i) Schools receive uniforms back off parents at the end of the term/year, which are then passed onto families in need of clothing; ii) Parents advertise uniforms / school wear using word of mouth or social media and pass on clothing to other parents or friendship groups; iii) charity shops receive items which are then offered at a low cost price to families.<br><br>At the October 2021 Board meeting, Love, Amelia was invited along to provide Members with an update on their role in the community in supporting families who are living in poverty and suffering by providing vital items for babies and children to flourish, and to keep them happy and safe. Members gained an understanding about the Charity, why they were formed, their mission, vision and values. It was noted that the Group receive large volumes of pre-loved cloths, baby equipment (push chairs, cots, etc) and toys, which are cleaned and safety checked by the Team before distributed to families who have been referred by Partner Agencies i.e. Together for Children. The largest cohort of beneficiaries relate to families living in poverty and families living in domestic abuse households. Items provided include cloths, toiletries, sleeping, home safety and feeding equipment, toys and books, prams and pushchairs. The majority of which are diverted from going to the Recycling Centres and contribute towards reducing carbon footprint. Based on |

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| | | the information received, Members would like to recommend the approval of £10,000 to contribute towards a Project Co-ordinator who would focus on increasing the level of donations to complement the Low Carbon agenda, supporting volunteers and distributing the items to families in need across the East area. |
| Receive an update from the East Coastal Ranger and the Heritage Coast on the environmentally friendly and sustainable programme work ongoing in the East area. | ACDL to invite representatives along to the July 2021 meeting. | The Coastal Ranger and Heritage Coast Partnership attended the Board meeting and provided Members with an update on a variety of work and projects which have, or are getting delivered along the coastline of Hendon and Ryhope. Key points raised included:<br>• Halliwell Banks: major concerns being expressed around the length of time it is taking to resolve Halliwell Banks (18 years and still ongoing), which is a former landfill site that was used by Durham decades ago, but moved into Sunderland's boundary. With cliff erosion aspects of waste are now exposed and leaking into the sea. A Task Group between Durham, Sunderland authorities and The Environmental Agency are discussing actions to manage the site.<br>• Tyne and Tees Shore and Seas Programmes – agreed to invite a representative from the Programme to a future Board meeting to understand the 23 projects being delivered, funded by a £4m investment.<br>• Hendon Beach – The Coastal Ranger and the Heritage Coast were invited to submit a list of potential projects which would complement the location, taking into account, the need to protect the wildlife, flora and fauna along the cliff tops to a future meeting.<br><br>Discussed during year two. |
| **9. Invest in highways, pavements and street lighting** | | |
| **Links to: A Vibrant Smart City *People feeling safe in their neighbourhoods***<br>**A Healthy City Smart City *Cleaner and more attractive city and neighbourhoods*** | | |
| **Action** | **Next Steps** | **Update** |
| Consider possibility of replacing grass verge with concrete at Laurel Grove. | Arrange site visit. | A site visit was carried out in October 2020, and St Michael's Councillors carried out consultation with the residents who reside in properties 2-44 Laurel Grove. It was unanimously agreed to concrete over the grass verges outside their properties. Works are due to be completed over the Winter. |

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| | | Discussed during year one. |
| Infrastructure and Construction Services to provide performance updates on the 'Invest in Highway's' capital funded project. | Interim update due in January 2022 | In March 2021, Area Committee approved £214,800 to carry out a series of capital works to reduce speeding and dangerous driving at identified sites listed below, along with associated works.<br><br>i. Junction on Tunstall Vale road - install two sets of speed cushions. Nov 21: Estimates of works are being finalised, ready to start the public consultation.<br>ii. Essen Way - installation of fixed spot speed camera. Nov 21: Operation Mordero has proven the need for a camera at this site. Partnership agreement and tendering process to replace all force wide cameras remains outstanding. Timescale unknown. Update due in 2022.<br>iii. Commercial Road near Blue House Pub - install one set of speed cushions and speed table to complement priority give way junction. Nov 21: Scheme has been designed, costs are getting finalised then public consultation will proceed.<br>iv. Hall Farm Road - install two speed tables at the junctions of Aylesbury Drive and Aylsham Court. Nov 21: Road calming measures are agreed, costs are getting finalised then public consultation will proceed.<br>v. Haddington Vale - carry out further investigations on this site. Nov 21: Finalisation of the feasibility study will be completed soon and shared with Councillors.<br>vi. Stockton Road - installation of fixed digital speed camera. Nov 21: Partnership agreement and tendering process to replace all force wide cameras remains outstanding. Timescale unknown. Update due in 2022.<br>vii. Black Road - installation of up to two priority give way junctions Nov 21: Meeting orgnaised with local Councillors but no attendance, designs will be shared online, once feedback received costings will be finalised and public consultation commenced.<br>viii. Hollycarrside Road - carry out further investigations on this site. Nov 21: Study is near completion and will be shared with local Councillors, along with costings.<br><br>NEW: Derby Street, Thornhill – a one-way system has been introduced but drivers continue to access the 'no entrance' junction. Refer to Engineers to consider and |

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| | | prepare an update. Nov 21: Not a priority, only one solution worth considering and that will be to close off the road completely and make it into a feature area i.e. pop up seating / outdoor space.<br><br>NEW: Speeding loop (Thornholme Road, Durham Road, Beechwood Terrace and Ashwood Terrace). Refer to Engineers to consider implementing a traffic speed survey to assess problem.<br><br>Discussed during year one and rolled over into year two. |
| Update to be provided on amount of investment planned by Highways Services for highways, pavements and street lighting replacement programme. | Highways Maintenance Programme for 2022 - 2023 to be presented to Neighbourhood and Community Board for discussion in January with recommendation to March's East Area Committee. | Will be discussed throughout the full three-year Plan.<br><br>Year One: proposal discussed and agreed in March 2021.<br><br>In November 2021, Members reviewed the work carried out in Year One and were requested to submit requests for roads or paths to be considered as part of Year Two by the end of November 2021 to enable Engineers to carry out site visits and assess the works required. A future update will be presented in the New Year. |
| **10. Invest in Parks, play areas, cycle and walking routes in consultation with residents and users** | | |
| **Links to: A Vibrant Smart City *More people visiting Sunderland and more residents informing and participating in cultural events, programmes and activities***<br>**A Healthy City Smart City *Cleaner and more attractive City and neighbourhoods*** | | |
| **Action** | **Next Steps** | **Update** |
| Area Committee approved £205,886 of capital investment to carry out improvement works across Barley Mow, Backhouse, Burn, Doxford and Ryhope Recreational Parks. | Monitor the implementation of the improvement works, with an interim update due in October 2021. | In July 2021, Members received an update on Time to Talk and Time to Walk initiative.<br><br>The proposal supports the aspirations to become an Ageing Well City by identifying current walking routes, heritage trails, parks and open spaces which have or may require seating. Once a bench/seat has been identified, a simply sign will be installed (which reads 'Sit here if you don't mind someone stopping to say hello'). The aim is when people are out and about, they can sit down on a bench and people are encouraged to say 'hello' and be friendly. This will help to combat loneliness for many who do not have anyone to talk to at home. The benches may |

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| | | also be painted a different colour and communities may wish to link with local art groups / projects to deliver a small art project.<br><br>The East have funded 29 new benches via the Invest In Parks programme. Once benches have been installed it is proposed to link this initiative to the Time to Talk proposal, and invite Members of the VCS Area Network to get involve in designing and painting a bench in their community. Funding maybe sourced via the Community Chest or Walk and Talk budget.<br><br>In October 2021, Members received an interim update on the Invest in Parks Programme which covered Local Services park improvements scheduled for the Winter months, as well as, the area funded enhancements which collectively covers over 70 actions ranging from clearance of shrubs and planting, carrying out deep cleans to installing new bins and benches. The aim is to complete all works by March 2022. A future report in due in Spring 2022. |
| Fixed play improvements comprising of new installation and refurbishment work will continue in areas which have 106 Developer contributions aligned. An update will be provided this Summer on sites and locations that have funding aligned and available to spend.<br><br>A survey is to be undertaken of all fixed play sites to identify condition, age appropriateness, accessibility and play value. This will be used to inform discussion on which sites should be targeted for further investment. | Invite the Assistance Head of Community Resilience to the July meeting to discuss the Open Spaces, Parks and Play equipment update. | In August 2021, Members received an update on the 14 fixed play areas across the East area, which are located at: St Matthews Field and Hall Farm, Doxford; Spelterworks Road, Barley Mow Park, Hudson Road, Town Moor and Mowbray Park, Hendon; Diamond Hall Pocket Park, Millfield; Ryhope Recreation, Willow Grange, Beechbrooke, Black Road, Bankside Close, Ryhope and Backhouse Park, St Michael's.<br><br>It was proposed to add Lime Street Pocket Park to the list, even though there is no fixed play equipment installed currently, however, it is an aim of the local Members to invest in the site.<br><br>It was noted that initial remedy works costing £110,000 are ongoing following a condition survey been carried out, and in September a designated Officer will lead on all fixed play equipment installations, repairs and general maintenance. Their first task will be to re-visit each site and carry out a further audit, to identify the condition of the play equipment, landscape (flooring, matting, etc) and site boundary (i.e. fencing) to grade them from good, acceptable to poor. Further consideration will be given to age appropriateness, accessibility and play value. |

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| | | Once the audit has been carried out, it is proposed to invite the Officer along to discuss the findings, and use the information to inform discussion on potential future investment. Update Pending. |
| Establish a Friends Group of Galley's Gill / Festival Park to support the development of Riverside Sunderland. | CSW to liaise with local VCS Groups within the area and consider the best way forward to set up a Friends Group. | To be discussed during year three. |
| 11. **Increase 5G access across all neighbourhoods and support people with digital learning resources** | | |
| **Links to A Dynamic Smart City *A lower carbon City with greater digital connectivity for all***<br>**A Dynamic Smart City *More local people with better qualifications and skills***<br>**Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy *Improving community resilience*** | | |
| **Action** | **Next Steps** | **Update** |
| Invite Back on the Map along to a future Board meeting to provide Members with an update on the Go! Get Online Project. | Interim performance update due in November 2021 meeting. | In March 2021, Area Committee approved £99,250 to implement the Go! Get Online project, which involves The Box Youth and Community Project, Back on the Map, Sunderland Bangladesh International Centre, St Marks Community Association and Blue Watch Youth Centre delivering a mixture of community development methods to target people most excluded due to the digital divide, these are: young people, low income families, unemployment, people with learning disabilities and BAME communities. In addition, the City Council's first Recycling Tech Appeal was launched, enabling all Sector's (including resident's) to donate old desktops and laptops which will then be upcycled and moved onto the Voluntary Sector at low prices.<br><br>In July 2021, Members received an update on Go! Tech Appeal, with was a pilot developed in the East as part of the Go! Get Online project which received donated old desktops and laptops from members of the public or businesses to be restored, upcycled and prepared to be re-circulated into the community for use via the VCS Area Network. Members discussed the Digital Inclusion ICT Troubleshooting project, and agreed to change the provider to Protech, further information is set out in the budget report. |

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| | | In August 2021, Members received an update on performance of the Programme between April to July 2021. The programme has created 15 fully accessible Digital Community Hubs in the East area, 198 new individuals have access 1-2-1 digital support, 5 volunteers have been recruited, with 7 organisations benefiting from the Scheme.<br><br>A variety of 130 laptops and desktops have been provided to 16 Partners, under the GO! Digital recycling scheme.<br><br>Discussed during year one and rolled over into year two. |
| Carry out research to understand the digital divide within the East Sunderland community. | Consider the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment produced by Public Health, and other publications. Pull together a report to present to the November 2021 meeting. | To be discussed during year two. |
| 12. **Review opportunity to utilise existing and vacant properties to create cultural hubs, leisure activities and safe places to bring communities together** | | |
| **Links to** **A Vibrant Smart City** ***More people visiting Sunderland and more residents informing and participating in cultural events, programmes and activities***<br>**Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy** ***Socially productive asset management***<br>**Low Carbon Framework** ***Policies and Operational Practices*** | | |
| **Action** | **Next Steps** | **Update** |
| Review Community Buildings and Assets owned and leased by the Council within the East Area, and support the | Identify premises, their governance, leasing arrangements, and programme of activity to enabling a position statement to be | In November 2021, Members received an update on the Community Buildings and Assets review. It was noted that 62 VCSE buildings have been identified within the East area and mapped out on the Council's GIS Link. From the list approximately 30 are leased by the Council. Over the next three months, each property will be contacted and a diagnostic will be completed. The diagnostic will identify the governance arrangements including the trustees, volunteers and |

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| Management Committee's to operate at full capacity. | presented to a future Board meeting. | staffing support, income and expenditure, weekly attendance, timetable of activity and services delivered from the building and how these fit within the East's Delivery Plan, and the needs and wants of the organisation for the future. The information gathered will be collated and analysed, with a view of sharing the findings with Councillors in April 2022. Update Pending |
| Consider the findings from the Review and where feasible, support the development of cultural hubs, leisure activities and safe places to bring communities together. | Pending review. | See action update above.<br><br>To be discussed during year two. |
| **13. Create job clubs and education centres within local community venues including digital skill training and basic skills** | | |
| **Links to: A Dynamic Smart City *More and better jobs***<br>**A Dynamic Smart City *More local people with better qualifications and skills***<br>**Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy *Improving community resilience*** | | |
| **Action** | **Next Steps** | **Update** |
| | | To be discussed during year three. |
| **14. Development community cohesion to allow all people of different social backgrounds, ethnicities, faiths, and generations to interact with and relate to each other in a positive way** | | |
| **Links to A Vibrant City *Resilient People***<br>**Healthy City Plan *Starting Well: Give every child the best start in life***<br>**Healthy City Plan *Ageing Well: Strengthen the role and impact of prevention for older people*** | | |
| **Action** | **Next Steps** | **Update** |
| Consider inviting guest speakers to the Board to discuss any issues and potential solutions in the area | If possible, invite to January 2021 Board. | An invite has been sent to the Sunderland Partnership to provide an update on the Migration Fund project.<br><br>Discussed during year one. |

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| East's More Males project is funded until May 2021. It involves three VCS Groups encouraging men over 50, who are socially and mentally isolated to interact in their local community in positive activities. | Performance update due in January 2021 | The three organisations which were awarded the grant are CHANCE, Back on the Map and Raich Carter Sports Centre.<br><br>The original purpose of the call for project was to target males over 50 years old and encourage a healthier lifestyle by reducing levels of smoking and drinking alcohol and getting out and about more. Due to the pandemic the project proposals were changed to focus on providing emotional and wellbeing support. CHANCE and Back on the Map have both delivered successful project and were quick to react and provide pandemic support to residents in their neighbourhoods. Unfortunately, Raich Carter has remained closed since April 2020, with all staff furloughed. Once restrictions ease discussions between Area Arrangements and Raich Carter will need to be held to understand and agree next steps.<br><br>Due to the pandemic the project's start date was postponed until July 2021. 1st quarter report due in October 2021<br><br>Discussed during year one, rolled over into year two. |
| East's Positive Parenting project is funded until March 2021. It involves four VCS Groups working with families who have children under the age of 5 who need support helping their children reach the development stages and milestones associated to age abilities. | Performance update due in January 2021. | The four organisations which were awarded the grant are Groundwork North East, Keep Active, Ryhope Community Association and Raich Carter Centre.<br><br>The original purpose of the call for project was to target parents and carers of 0-5 year olds, along with the child(ren) to look towards improving key development milestones. Due to the pandemic three of the four projects have not commenced and are on hold. Ryhope Community Association did re-start in September 2020 and have continued to support parents and children. Once restrictions ease discussions between Area Arrangements and Keep Active, Groundwork North East and Raich Carter will need to be held to understand and agree next steps.<br><br>Due to the pandemic the project's start date was postponed until July 2021. 1st quarter report due in October 2021<br><br>Discussed during year one, rolled over into year two. |

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| 15. **Social prescribing – develop local offer to improve health and wellbeing and access to services locally to reduce social isolation, improve mental health and support long-term health conditions, and ensure physical activity sessions are accessible and not cost or time prohibitive, in partnership with All Together Better** | | |
| **Links to A Healthy Smart City *Reduced health inequalities enabling more people to live healthier longer lives* A Healthy Smart City *People enjoying independent lives***<br>**Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy *Improving community resilience***<br>**Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy *Business growth and investment in VCS*** | | |
| **Action** | **Next Steps** | **Update** |
| Consider inviting a guest speaker from the Sunderland GP Alliance, to share information about the Social Prescribing team and the Service provided. | ACDL to invite a representative to a future meeting. Potentially for the October meeting. | In October 2021, Members received an update from the Sunderland GP Alliance on what Social Prescribing means, which is looking at people as people not patients, and to consider how the person or family can be helped to be more resilience by connecting to their community and make informed choices about their lives. This could relate to helping someone to stop smoking, lose weight, improve their mood or develop healthier habits. The scope is wider and varied.<br>A key challenge is finding out what support or activities are happening within neighbourhoods, and signposting people onto this provision. Many VCS Groups provide vital services and sessions but on occasions funding streams are restricted, or sessions are full to capacity which places a 'hidden' pressure on VCS Groups to provide access to their facilities.<br>Sunderland GP Alliance has offered to write letters of support for Groups who are applying to funding streams to lever in external funding, where feasible but this can take between 6-9 months, and in the meantime the 'gap' in provision prevents the Team from being able to support their customers and connect them to a local Group/Service.<br>Recent discussions have highlighted the need to work in collaboration, by the Sunderland GP Alliance using local intelligence to identify gaps in the Service. Once gaps are identified, the VCS Alliance may be able to identify suitable funding streams and promote the gaps and funding opportunities to the VCS Sector, with the aim of VCS Sector then securing and attracting external funding into the City to bridge the gap. Work is ongoing to develop this cycle for Social Prescribing. Update pending. |
| Public Health Practitioner to provide an update on the | Date TBC | To be discussed during year two. |

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| Health Inequalities Strategy from an East perspective. | | |
| Evaluate Community Connectors programme, with a view to fund a new programme for 2021 / 2022 | Review Programme and share findings at the October meeting. | During August 2020 information was gathered against all 29 projects funded under the 2019 Community Connectors Programme. It was noted that seven projects have ended, as they had continued to deliver throughout lockdown. Eight projects had been extended due to the building closing down, with staff being furloughed or volunteers being over 70 and having to self-isolate. Fourteen projects needed the end date of the project to be revised as the building still remains closed and discussions are pending.<br><br>Several projects were highlighted as performing well and have been extended, with £49,900 being approved by Area Committee in September 2020.<br><br>In August 2021, Members noted there is an underspend of £6,100 to be returned to budget. The programme will end in September 2021, with an evaluation due to be carried out and presented to Members in October.<br><br>The evaluation due in October did not proceed due to other conflicting priorities and will be considered in the New Year.<br><br>Discussed during year one and rolled over into year two. |
| **16. Enhance local green spaces to encourage wider use including sports equipment, refurbishment of existing equipment and delivery of activities which support health and wellbeing** | | |
| **Links to: A Healthy Smart City *Cleaner and more attractive city and neighbourhoods*<br>A Vibrant Smart City *More residents participating in their communities*** | | |
| **Action** | **Next Steps** | **Update** |
| Look into the possibility of developing Panns Bank, using Ousburn in Newcastle as a model, ensuring proposals complement the Riverside Sunderland, One Campus | Investigate the feasibility of enhance the quay side between Panns Bank and the Port of Sunderland and provide an update at the February meeting. | To be discussed during year two. |

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| Masterplan and Port of Sunderland expansion plans. | | |
| Look into the possibility of changing the use, or tidying up the land next to Grangetown CA, Stannington Grove. | Invite a representative from Property Services along to the February meeting to discuss options. | To be discussed during year two. |
| Executive Director Economy and Place to provide an update on the future of the Civic Centre building and surrounding land and car parking, which is due to close in the Autumn 2021. | East Area Committee to consider update and how they can support and shape the development of the site. | In August 2021, it was noted that the closure of the Civic Centre has been pushed back to December 2021, and a Partnership has been created between Linden and Bovis Homes to develop the site. Public consultation was held in August 2021, with a planning submission due by the end of September. Update pending. |
| **17. Support the voluntary and community sector to provide additional services and extend opening times within local community venues as well as host community events, activities and nurture family learning** | | |
| **Links to A Vibrant Smart City *More residents participating in their communities***<br>**Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy *Increasing social value through procurement and wider activity***<br>**Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy *Business growth and investment in the VCS*** | | |
| **Action** | **Next Steps** | **Update** |
| The importance of Blue Watch to St Michael's ward was recognised, especially in relation to support to children in need from the Grangetown and Hill View area. Support and invest in Blue Watch to establish a community hub in St Michael's ward. | ACDL to look into potential opportunities for a base in the area and discuss feasibility at a future board. | In March 2021, Grangetown Community Association was highlighted as the ideal site to develop a community hub. Discussions were held with the existing Management Committee to discuss next steps.<br><br>In July 2021, an AGM was held with a new Management Committee being elected. Several meetings have been held to agree and scope out what is required to transform the Centre into a vibrant and friendly Community Hub, that will deliver a broad range of diverse and inclusive activities. The initial focus has been on reopening the Centre for Groups and the public to access, and they have set a date for early October 2021. |

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| | | A number of practical exercises have been carried out, including: Renaming the Charity and Building to St Michael's Community Centre; Carrying out building and fire safety inspections; Organising a deep clean and painting of the building 11 September 2021; Updating the constitution, policies and bank account details; Renewing insurances and updating contact details; Issuing job tickets for repairs and setting up waste management processes and Securing a tenancy for the building.<br><br>Area Committee approved an investment of £50,000 to develop the Centre over the next two years. Quarterly updates will be received on the progress, with any relevant information being shared with the Area Committee. |
| The Box are currently preparing a business and funding strategy to justify the expansion of the building, if favourable, invite representatives along to discuss future plans and consider allocating capital funding to support the initiative. | August 2021 receive an update. | NEW: Redwood Grove, Doxford Ward, is a community building owned by Bernicia, is their scope for The Box access the building for outreach sessions.<br><br>In August 2021, The Box Youth and Community Project presented a overview of their background, work delivered before lockdown, how the pandemic has shaped their existing community offer, and the need to change the size of the building due to: established and ongoing demand for services; the building operating at full capacity; new housing developments increasing the population resulting in additional request to provide: school holiday activities; afterschool clubs; Counselling for young people; working with adults 16+ who have learning disabilities; supporting vulnerable adults with a hot meals service, weekly lunch club and foodbank; supporting independent living via the Lend a Hand Project and supporting the Area Delivery Plan via the GO! Get Online; East Rangers and Covid-19 Community Hub.<br><br>Preliminary ideas were shared with Members, who were keen to support the proposal, but it was recognised that further work needed to be carried out, which includes: securing a 25 year lease; securing land from Gentoo; producing plans and calculating costs for the re-development and producing a business plan. Subject to this work showing favour, members are considering awarding funding to the scheme.<br><br>To be discussed during year two. |

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| Support CHANCE to turn the disused car park into a community play area. | Invite the Centre manager along to the January 2022 meeting. | At the March 2021 Board, CHANCE's Centre Manager presented plans on how the organisation would like to transform an under used car park into a safe play space, based on consultation carried out with children and residents.<br><br>Area Committee approved £16,500 to install a climbing wall, multi-use play station, seating and an art feature. The Centre Manager will be invited along to a future meeting to provided members with an update.<br><br>Discussed during year one and rolled over into year two. |
| Look into the possibility of supporting Ryhope Community Association save energy and money on heating bills by improving their currently heating system. | Invite the Centre Manager to the October meeting. | An energy efficient survey was carried out in November 2021. The results will be shared at a future meeting for consideration. |
| **18. Launch a volunteer platform to support residents to get involved more within their communities** | | |
| **Links to A Vibrant City *People Participation***<br>**Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy *Community Empowerment, Engagement and Involvement*** | | |
| **Action** | **Next Steps** | **Update** |
| Co-ordinate volunteers from Covid 19 hub and link with our VCS. | Update volunteer platform to enable matching volunteers to future VCS volunteer requirements in the area. | In July 2020, as the country moved towards the recovery stage of the pandemic, volunteers who were registered on the Covid-19 Volunteering Platform were contacted and asked whether or not they would like to continue to volunteer in their neighbourhood post Covid-19. From a pool of 232 volunteers, 72 residents said yes.<br><br>Information was gathered from the East VCS Area Network on the latest volunteering opportunities available and a catalogue was produced and shared with the 72 residents.<br><br>To support the Covid 19 Hub volunteers link with VCS Groups, Area Committee approved a Project which would enable VCS Groups to apply for a small grant up to £500 to cover the costs of items, such as, DBS Checks, training, workwear, etc. if they successfully recruit any of the East Covid-19 Volunteers from the Platform. |

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| | | This funding opportunity was shared with the VCS Area Network and updates will be presented to the Board, as and when appropriate.<br><br>To date 9 Covid volunteers have been matched up with Little Company of Calm, The Box Youth and Community Project and Young Asian Voices.<br><br>The project has been closed, and an underspend of £3,568 remains which will be returned to Area Committee's Neighbourhood Fund budget.<br><br>Discussed in year one. |
| Following on from the OSCARS Volunteering Awards Members were keen to host an event every two years to celebrate and acknowledge the extraordinary commitment of East volunteers. | Members need to discuss and agree further details, i.e. dates, categories, etc. | The OSCARs event is due to be held in 2021. Due to covid-19 it will be unrealistic to expect the event to be face to face. Ideas are being discussed on how to host a virtual celebration, with a future report due to be presented.<br><br>In May 2021, the Council launched the Sunderland Shining Stars award. There are seven categories and two rounds. The first round will have an Area perspective, with applications being presented to a judging panel made up of East Area Cllrs. The Councillors will select winners and highly commended individuals from each category. The winners of each category will then compete during the second round, against all other areas for a city wide title.<br><br>In July 2021, the East Judging Panel selected the Winners, who are:<br>• Organisation of the Year: Sunderland Area Parents Support (SAPs)<br>• Outstanding Contribution to the community (over 18s): Graeme Riddle<br>• Young Person's Outstanding Contribution to the community (under 18) Harvey Gordon and Charlie Lamb<br>• Sunderland's most Neighbourly Neighbour: Mandy Brown<br>• Best use of Digital Technology: Media Savvy CIC<br>• Community Group that has supported resident's Mental Health: MBC Arts Wellbeing<br>• Community Fundraising Champion: Mark Allison |

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| | | *Links to Priority 7:* To contribute towards the running of the East's In Bloom competition, it was agreed that the underspend relating to the OSCAR's Volunteer's Award scheme totalling £5,682 is used.<br><br>Discussed in year one and rolled over in year two. |
| **19. Support communities to deliver local events** | | |
| **Links to A Vibrant City *People Participation***<br>**A Vibrant City *Events and Visitors*** | | |
| **Action** | **Next Steps** | **Update** |
| Support residents, schools, places of worship and VCS Groups to organise small local events which celebrate the Queen celebrate her 70th Jubilee in June 2022. | Members to discuss a suitable model at the December meeting. | To be discussed in year two. |
| Keep a watch and brief on potential events for 2021 / 2022 which maybe postponed due to covid restrictions. | Provide Board updates as and when. | • Heritage Action Zone – premises being opened up and accessed.<br>• 17-19 aka Holy Trinity Launch in 2022<br>• East End Carnival / Trafalgar Square Tea Party<br>• Ryhope Pump House<br><br>To be discussed in year three. |
| **20. Support Youth clubs and spaces for young people to be together and feel safe – young people just want to hang out and don't always want organised activities – they just want to be together in a safe and flexible environment** | | |
| **Links to: A Healthy Smart City *Access to equitable opportunities and life chances***<br>**A Vibrant Smart City *More people feeling safe in their homes and neighbourhoods***<br>**Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy *Improving community resilience*** | | |
| **Action** | **Next Steps** | **Update** |

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| Fancy a Day Out aka holiday hunger school holiday programme to be considered at the June Area Committee meeting. | Grant requests to be considered at the June 2021 Area Committee meeting. Interim update due October, subject to approval. | In June 2021, Area Committee funded the Fancy a Day Out Programme, which funds holiday activities which are supplemented with access to a nutritional meal.<br><br>In September 2021, a short video was been produced, and was shared with members during Area Committee and afterwards on the East's Facebook page to promote the valuable work delivered by members of the East VCS Area Network. |
| Maximising Community Assets: Sunderland Community Hub and East End ABC restarted in May 2021, providing access to the boxing club for children and young people, instead of hanging around the streets. | Interim update due November 2021 | The four organisations which were awarded the grant are The Box Youth and Community Project, Blue Watch Youth Centre, Sunderland Community Hub Boxing Club and East End ABC.<br><br>The Programme was to enable community buildings to open their doors on a Friday and Saturday night to young people to reduce the risk of youth disorder. Due to the pandemic two project proposals were changed and adapted from being centre based to providing outreach, detached and crisis support these projects were delivered by The Box Youth and Community Project and Blue Watch Youth Centre who complied with Youth Federation guidance relating to covid restrictions.<br><br>The remaining two project proposals were unable to change, based on guidance from the Amateur Boxing Association and restarted in May 2021.<br><br>In August 2021, Members received an update on the Maximising Community Assets Programme and based on the success of previous projects, proposed to recommend approval of £15,000 to extend the work being delivered in Doxford, Ryhope and St Michael's, by The Box and Blue Watch, and proposed a further £10,000 for Hendon and Millfield. If secured the ACDL will work with local members to see any previously funded Groups warrant an extension, or advert a call for projects (Hendon and Millfield only).<br><br>In October 2021, an application was received from St Marks Community Association to open up the building on a weekend for youth people in the Millfield Ward, and in November 2021, an application was received from Young Asian Voices to work with the local Neighbourhood Police Team in the Hendon ward to open up their building on a weekend and provide positive activities for young |

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| | | people to get involved in, instead of hanging around the streets. Both Centres will start from December 2021, up until November 2022.<br><br>Discussed in year one and rolled over into year two. |
| **21. Establish a Neighbourhood watch/help scheme in partnership with the Police and residents** | | |
| **Action** | **Next Steps** | **Update** |
| During Covid-19 residents developed support groups via social media to help each other out. Harness this community spirit to develop structures to develop Neighbourhood Watches or Resident Associations to continue the ethos of communities helping each other post Covid-19. i.e. Alexandra Park Residents Group. | ACDL to bring information to future board meeting re neighbourhood watch schemes.<br><br>Update to December 2020 Board meeting. | The Force were due to review re-establishing a 'new look' Neighbourhood Watch scheme, but unfortunately Covid has superseded work demands and there is no plans to restart this in the next two years. On that basis the action has been removed from the plan. REMOVED |
| **22. Reduce fear of crime by working in partnership across neighbourhoods to bring communities of all ages together** | | |
| **Links to: A Vibrant Smart City *More people feeling safe in their homes and neighbourhood*** | | |
| **Action** | **Next Steps** | **Update** |
| Joint patrols between Police/ASB Team and Cllrs to develop action plans to address substance misuse, ASB and | ACDL to set up Task group(s) to address hotspot. | An internal meeting was held with colleagues from ASB Team, Environmental Enforcement and Eco Team. A key issue that was flagged up during discussions was around the lack of reports coming through the council's 'Report it' system. It seems the public prefer to talk about issues that impact their community on social |

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| youth disorder in Blakeney Woods. | | media, instead of notifying the authority's. This results in Services not being aware of local concerns and problems being left unaddressed.<br>Contact details of key officers have been shared with local Cllrs, who do receive reports from residents that are actioned, but it was felt many might be 'hidden'.<br><br>Area Arrangements are currently working with the Communications Team on a social media marketing campaign to get the message out to the public about to report concerns and the many different channels they can use to do this.<br><br>In July 2021, a site meeting was held with Partners, Council Officers and Cllrs to walk around Blakeney Woods and pull together an action plan. An update on the Operations and activities delivered during the Summer's is pending.<br><br>Discussed in year one and rolled over into year two. |
| Black Path / Mineral Line – repeatedly cleared and cleaned, but ASB remains an issue – consider what else can be done. | Check with West Area Committee priorities and consider setting up a joint Task Group. Proposals from which to come to future board meeting for consideration. | There has been no reports of ASB along the mineral line, however the route does form part of the Stephenson Trail. Proposed to keep a watch and brief on this Section, but refer the development of the Mineral Line to the Stephenson trail Task Group.<br><br>To be discussed in year two. |
| Strengthen relationships between West Neighbourhood Policing Team and Doxford Cllrs | ACDL to co-ordinate through LMAPs and specific update meetings. | The West Neighbourhood Team have shared contact details with the Doxford Councillors to strengthen relationships, and a written report from the West Inspector is now provided to East Area Committee.<br><br>Discussed in year one. |
| **23. Support local organisations to grow capacity to support those who require additional support within communities to ensure they access services which are available to them** | | |
| **Links to Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy *Developing the role of Anchor Institutions*** | | |
| **Action** | **Next Steps** | **Update** |

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| The City is establishing a Sunderland VCS Alliance | Invite the VCS Alliance Manager to the September 2021 Board | In September 2021 an update was provided to Members on the Sunderland VCS Alliance. It was noted that currently the VCS Area Networks have a membership of over 230 organisations who engage with the Council's via the Area Committee's. Greatest pressure faced by the Sector relates to securing funding to cover core costs, as opposed to activities. A number of key messages were shared, such as, the need to develop diverse and sustainable income streams, cross-sector collaboration, encourage and support volunteering, and Sector Leaders to share and support others. In terms of the future, the presentation covered the role of the Alliance; steps taken so far; key issues and challenges; designing proposals for future arrangements including benefits, structure and strategic fit with existing or emerging strategies and plans.<br><br>Future updates will be shared through the VCS Update Report. |
| **24. Publish our Statement of Intent in relation to fuel energy measures that positively impact on fuel poverty** | | |
| **Links to A Vibrant Smart City *Resilient People***<br>**Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy *Improving Community Resilience***<br>**Healthy City Plan *Strengthen the role and impact of prevention*** | | |
| **Action** | **Next Steps** | **Update** |
| An updated Statement of Intent has been agreed by Cabinet and work is underway to establish the Sunderland Delivery Framework. | Invite a representative along to provide an update on the framework. Date TBC. | To be discussed in year two. |
| **25. Launch an affordable credit solution for residents** | | |
| **Links to A Vibrant Smart City *Resilient People***<br>**Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy *Improving Community Resilience***<br>**Healthy City Plan *Strengthen the role and impact of prevention*** | | |
| **Action** | **Next Steps** | **Update** |

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| Moneywise Credit Union is now working with Sunderland City Council to develop a media campaign to promote the Credit Union as a place to save but also as a place to access affordable credit targeting staff and residents as part of the wider financial resilience activity.<br><br>This will target residents across the city but will work in areas with a range of local providers. The service will also work alongside the Illegal Money Lending Team | Invite a representative along from Moneywise Credit Union to provide members with an update at the November meeting on their service, and understand how Committee can encourage more community buildings to act as payment hubs. | To be discussed in year two. |
| **26. Ensure a 'more than food' offer is built into foodbank provision** | | |
| **Links to A Vibrant Smart City *Resilient People***<br>**Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy *Improving Community Resilience***<br>**Healthy City Plan *Strengthen the role and impact of prevention*** | | |
| **Action** | **Next Steps** | **Update** |
| This has been successfully embedded during the CovId-19 crisis with welfare checks and information being provided to anyone accessing crisis food support either via the council or partners. | Invite representatives from Welfare Rights to the February meeting to provide an update on the More Than Foodbank model. | To be discussed in year two. |

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| **27. Communicate heritage assets and deliver heritage activities to improve health and wellbeing and improve community cohesion** | | |
| **Links to: A Vibrant Smart City *More people visiting Sunderland and more residents informing and participating in cultural events, programmes and activities***<br>**Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy *Community empowerment, engagement and involvement*** | | |
| **Action** | **Next Steps** | **Update** |
| Celebrate heritage assets, but also be forward thinking and consider new art projects, introducing an open tender process to attract or retain Sunderland artists. | | To be discussed in year two. |
| **28. Preserve and celebrate local heritage** | | |
| **Links to: A Vibrant Smart City *More people visiting Sunderland and more residents informing and participating in cultural events, programmes and activities***<br>**Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy *Community empowerment, engagement and involvement*** | | |
| **Action** | **Next Steps** | **Update** |
| Stephenson Trail opened on the 18 September 1822. Look into the opportunity to improve the trail (info points, app, etc.) and host a celebration event in partnership with Coalfields and West Area Committees, if agreeable in 2022 at the turn of its 200th 'birthday'. | To consider alongside Coalfields and West Area Plans. Look into the potential of a Multi Area Task group to develop proposals to come back to a future board.<br><br>Update February 2021 Board | In November 2020, Area Committee agreed the Membership of the Task Group for the Stephenson Trail, this was:<br>• Doxford ward: Cllr Heather Fagan<br>• Millfield ward: Cllr Andrew Wood<br>• St Michael's ward: Cllr Peter Wood<br><br>In January 2021 the inaugural Task Group meeting was held with representatives from the Coalfields, East and West Sunderland Area Committees, Council Services, Hetton Colliery Railway 200 Trust and Sustrans. A vibrant discussion was held, with suggestions coming from all attendees which assisted in the development of an Action Plan with ideas and actions being formed under the following headings. |

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| | | a) Information boards and signage<br>b) Sculptures along the trail/ Iconic art at beginning and end<br>c) Environmental improvements (cutting down vegetation etc..)<br>d) Enhance cycle route options<br>e) Walking maps/guides<br>f) Educational programme<br>g) Install rest spots<br>h) Raise awareness of route<br>i) Promote historic importance<br>j) Promote health benefits/encourage use<br>k) Hold celebration event/s in Summer 2022<br><br>In June 2021, East, West and Coalfields confirmed that they have aligned £150,000 to the Task Group.<br><br>In August 2021, Members received an update from the Stephenson Trail Task Group who identified the need for educational and recreational activities to be available to promote and celebrate the route. An outline proposal for Schools Resource Pack, and Art Project Ideas has been developed and shared with Members. The Area Committee awarded £50,000 to the Stephenson Trail Task Group to allocate to identified projects and actions outlined in the multi area plan. Update pending<br><br>Discussed in year one and rolled over into year two. |
| To support the Heritage Action Zone initiative, an interpretation board has been funded to enhance the brown sign directing people to Old Sunderland. | Receive a future update from HAZ on the initiative.<br>Update to be arranged. | During 2020/21 Sunderland's Heritage Zone (HAZ) initiative progressed key building projects at Mackie's Corner and 170-175 High Street West with funding from a Partnership Grant Scheme set up by Sunderland City Council and Historic England. The restoration works have transformed the high street, brought significant historic buildings back in to use and also helped to create a more attractive street scene. New businesses have already opened at Mackie's Corner with more new tenants joining in the spring. 170-175 will operate as a social |

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| | | enterprise providing a new home for Pop Recs as well as a gig venue and support for aspiring young musicians in the city.<br><br>The Sunshine Co-operative, a food wholesaler, will also be moving into the building. Further restoration projects under the HAZ Partnership Scheme are planned for later this year, including a new shop front for the Elephant Tea Rooms. Alongside this activity, the wider HAZ programme continues to engage residents, schools and the general public through its Heritage Skills Programme and promotional activities. This includes new wayfinding which will be installed in Old Sunderland, thanks to East Area Committee funding, to encourage visitors to explore this part of the city and promote the area as a heritage destination.<br><br>Discussed in year one. |