

Applications for North Neighbourhood Fund

Application No. 1

Funding Source	Neighbourhood Fund
Name of Project	Motorcycle Disorder Taskforce Project
Lead Organisation	Sunderland City Council

Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total NF Application
£20,000	£0	£20,000
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
1 Year	December 2023	November 2024

Project Description

The full project description is detailed below:
(**verbatim from application**)

The Police's Southern Area Command has experienced a 55% increase in reports this current 12-month period when compared to the same period in 2021/22 with a rise from 1238 to 1917 incidents.

Reports continue to increase to the Council, and we have seen an increase in Cllr enquiries and MP approaches to this issue.

The below table demonstrates Northumbria Police breakdown for the current 12-month period vs the previous 12-month period. It shows increases in reported motorcycle disorder across the city.

Area	Current 12 months	Previous 12 months	% change
A1/A2 (East)	125	80	+56%
A3/4 (West)	395	265	+49%
A5 (North)	243	192	+27%
A6 (Coalfields)	241	145	+66%
A7 (Washington)	269	193	+39%

Motorcycle disorder has consistently been highlighted a prominent issue for residents and / or ASB victims through Police and Council surveys.

The Safer Communities Survey (SCS) is a telephone survey conducted by Northumbria Police where residents are asked about their perceptions of their local areas and the services provided by the Police and Council. During the 12 months through to September 2023, 'Mini-motos / Scramblers / Off-road motorbikes' was the problem residents identified most frequently when they were asked which problem they wanted to see tackled first, (selected by 18% of residents that identified a problem in their local neighbourhood). 25% of those surveyed in Southern area command stated that they wanted to see the problem of motorcycle disorder tackled first.

Sunderland City Council carries out a resident survey annually led by Ipsos which is a postal survey to a random address sample. Results from 2022 showed that tackling anti-social behaviour remains a top priority for residents, and that feelings of safety both in the city centre and local area had decreased since 2021. In addition, the survey asks residents to explain in their own words why they feel unsafe. Although these have not been coded and quantified, they provide a sense of some of the issues that are concerning residents. In addition to the similar concerns listed from 2021, in 2022 we saw an increase in mentions of joy riding / bikes on roads in the responses.

PROPOSED NEW PROCESS

The Council in partnership with Northumbria Police will pilot a motorcycle disorder taskforce commencing in the autumn to provide a dedicated response to any antisocial or criminal use of motorcycles or e-bikes across South Tyneside and Sunderland.

The proposed initial resourcing for the taskforce is 1 x Sgt, 8 x PCs & 1 PCSO and 1 X ASB Officer from Sunderland and 1 x ASB from South Tyneside. Sunderland's ASB Officer will be employed by SCC and seconded into the team. **All Police and Council staff will be dedicated to the team and will not be removed for other operational businesses. This commitment has been given by the Police and Crime Commissioner.**

The team will provide weekly returns to Police and Council Senior Managers on drafted expected outcomes and KPI's. **Please see appendix one for early indications of what the performance management framework will look like.** This is to be agreed in forthcoming weeks.

Ongoing review of performance and learning will be carried out by Northumbria Police Chief Inspector for Communities and the Council's Neighbourhood Enforcement Manager.

The team will be co-located at Washington Police Station.

The team will work both proactively and reactively on a range of preventative, educational, disruption and enforcement tactics. **They will actively work to identify those responsible and take robust action against them.**

The contribution to the Sunderland ASB post would be £10K per Area Committee.

The dedicated ASB Officer will be a pivotal role in the team. The officer will support Northumbria Police on enforcement tactics utilising all powers available but will also drive forward the education and prevention strand of the Partnership action plan (see appendix 1 for additional information).

Area Committee are also asked to consider whether they would like to identify an area-based pot of money for any design out works/preventive measures to hot spot locations within their areas. **It is recommended this pot should be 6K from the North Area Budget.** Through data analysis and intelligence, the anti-social behaviour officer will look to identify the most problematic locations across the 5 regeneration areas and with specialist advice from crime prevention officer's and relevant teams determine if any appropriate and cost effective 'design out' actions can be carried out e.g., the installation of boulders, camera installation etc. **All design out/preventative measures will be managed by Sunderland City Council and will purely spent in the area that the funding is from and will include Area Committee members in the consultation of any proposed works.**

Area Committee are also asked to consider **£4,000** towards the cost of electric bikes to be used solely in the North by Northumbria Police to support the delivery of this project and the wider policing support in the North.

The City Centre and HALO Team in Hetton have already proven how effective electric bikes are for covering ground and improving officer visibility. CSO's and PC's would utilise the bikes and they would be available for all three neighbourhood teams in Sunderland North to utilise.

Electric bikes are invaluable especially for tackling motorbike ASB, local offenders who have the knowledge of short cuts are too often able to evade officers as they use pathways unsuitable for cars and lose officers on foot. The electric bikes would enable the teams and others to work smarter, more ground coverage, more visibility which leads to more satisfied residents and businesses.

Total cost to the North Area Committee for this project would be **£20,000.**

BENEFITS

The current approach to motorcycle disorder is mainly led by Neighbourhood Police Teams and the Council's Neighbourhood Enforcement Team. The consistency and efficacy of this response has been inhibited by capacity issues, officers' remit being spread across all aspects of anti-social behaviour and the cross-sector nature of offending. The team will provide a dedicated and flexible response to any issues identified.

It is acknowledged that there may be underreporting in this area, and this has been communicated to local teams in community forums. The promotion of this taskforce is likely to stimulate reporting, intelligence submissions and engagement as a direct result of well communicated results.

The current response to motorcycle disorder has been identified as a source of victim dissatisfaction. The taskforce will guarantee follow-up with clear communication around action taken. The impact of the taskforce on ASB satisfaction will be monitored throughout the pilot. There will be an opportunity to engender trust and confidence through a 'we asked, you said, we did' approach.

Appendix 1

ASB Officer duties (list not exhaustive and will develop as the team embeds)

- **Target those young people that are disengaged who in the main are carrying out the motorcycle disorder by going out to areas where young people congregate and linking with youth projects.**
- Develop a hard-hitting education package for delivery in schools/colleges and universities.
- Proactive visits to both primary and secondary schools to educate children on the importance of road safety and the consequences of riding off road vehicles illegally (work with families who have been impacted negatively by the illegal use of motorbikes and get permission to share their story)
- Devise, Manage and monitor relevant parts of Partnership Action Plan
- Liaise with fuel stations and put something in place for them to be able to report off road/suspicious vehicles being fuelled up to try get perpetrators identified off their CCTV footage alongside limiting where bikes can be fuelled.
- Train allotment teams and any other agencies on intelligence submissions and information on how to report re storage of bikes etc
- Become an admin on all the Sunderland City Councils Local area Facebook pages to be proactively posting about what the team is doing and how the public can help us tackle the issues.
- Speak with other local authorities to discuss what powers they use to help tackle motorcycle disorder.
- Victims follow up and feedback.
- Issue ABA's, CPW's CPN's where applicable.
- Prepare case files for Injunctions/CBO's where appropriate.
- Community Engagement days raising awareness of the laws around Motorcycles/Quads/Electric scooters to both adults and children.
- Attend resident meetings.
- Be actively involved in the "Back on Track" programme running in the primary schools in the coalfields and explore how this can be rolled out across the city
- Identify hotspot areas by reports made to the council ASB team.
- Organise site visits to problematic locations and consider the installation of preventative measures for identified areas such as A frames, boulders, gates and CCTV.
- Manage area budgets and prepare reports to Cllrs.
- Review customer journey for reports to the council and develop new mechanism dedicated to this issue.
- SPOC for links to all council departments such as highways, planning, environmental services

- **Makes links and work closely with commissioned youth services and voluntary and community sector agencies in identified areas.**
- **Working closely with wardens and review BWC footage, download stills, engagement with schools for ID, social media etc**
- **Proactive patrols to hotspot areas to gather information and intelligence.**
- Leaflet drops in hotspot areas to inform residents how to report vehicle ASB.
- Support/assist in applications by completion of appropriate statements or required paperwork in support of an application for a search Warrant requested by Police on evidence obtained.
- **Engage with local Councillors to promote the team and encourage reporting. Obtain dates of appropriate resident meetings and encourage social media post sharing via Councillors.**
- **Collate all actions on a daily/weekly basis for required Area Committee reports.**

Weekly reporting measures (list not exhaustive)

- **Number of bikes seized**
- **No of drone deployments**
- **No of section 59 notice issued**
- **No of arrests**
- **No of intel submissions**
- **No of proactive operations**
- **No of tenancy enforcement actions**
- **No of asb tools and powers actions e.g. home visit, ABA, CPW etc**
- **No of victims contacted**
- **No of victim referrals**
- **No of design out measures**
- **No of school inputs**
- **Offender referrals (YOLO etc or adult pathways)**
- **No of voluntary offenders**
- **Number of summons – there will be traffic matter (e.g. no insurance) which won't be arrestable offences**
- **No Media submissions and Social Media Posts**
- **No Premises search**

Costs:

Item and Description	NF Contribution	Match Funding	Total Cost
Sunderland City Council ASB Officer	10,000	0	10,000
Preventative Measures	6,000	0	6,000
E Bikes	4,000	0	4,000
Total	£20,000	£0	£20,000

Total Request from Neighbourhood Fund £20,000

Recommendation:

November Board recommended approval of full application to be presented December Area Committee to deliver to the following priority:

- **Vibrant Smart City – Addressing Motorcycle Disorder**

Application No. 2

Funding Source	Neighbourhood Fund
Name of Project	Refurbishment
Lead Organisation	Redhouse Community Centre

Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total NF Application
£14,772	£4,772	£10,000
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
3 Months	1 st January 2024	31 st March 2024

Project Description

The full project description is detailed below:
(verbatim from application)

Redhouse Community Centre was formed in 1952 where it met in Redhouse School to raise funds and develop a community provision, the Community Centre then opened in 1961 and has been delivering a wide range of services and activities to the local community.

The Community Centre is located at the heart of the community it serves, ran purely by volunteers and the services and activities delivered from the Centre to benefit as many local residents as possible include:

- Tea Dance
- Craft
- Luncheon Club
- Karate
- Coffee Mornings
- Bowls
- Social/Bar
- Keep Fit
- Slimming Group
- Charity Events
- Cultural Spring Events and Activities
- Football Presentations

Due to the wide and varied programme offered the Centre is extremely successful and has over 304 members with 450 – 500 people attending on a weekly basis. In order to continue to provide these activities and services the committee have identified the following requires refurbishment:

- Ladies Toilets

The North Area Committee in 2018 supported the Community Centre with funds for kitchen and gents toilet refurbishment since that time the Community Centre have carried out additional renovations and refurbishments including installing additional storage, centre redecoration and replacing furnishings. The refurbishment of the ladies toilet will see the Centre fully upgraded to meet the needs of the local community

Costs:

Item and Description	NF Contribution	Match Funding	Total Cost
Toilet Refurbishment	£10,000	£4,772	£14,772
Total	£10,000	£4,772	£14,772

Output	Target
Number of Existing Assets Improved	1

Recommendation

November Board recommended approval of application to December Area Committee to deliver to the following priority:

- Vibrant Smart North – Support to VCS & Community Hubs

Application No. 3

Funding Source	Neighbourhood Fund
Name of Project	Castletown Mural Project
Lead Organisation	Castletown Scouts

Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total NF Application
£21,774	£0	£21,774
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
6 Months	1 st January 2024	30th June 2024

Project Description

The full project description is detailed below:
(verbatim from application)

Castletown Scouts group are passionate about their local history and heritage and are working closely with local residents and local business owner to lead an application on their behalf to deliver a project which sees a Hylton Mining Banner Mural installed on the gable end and rear of 19 Ethel Terrace, Castletown.

Castletown has no reminder of its 79 years of coal mining history. Hylton Colliery was open from 1900 - 1979, sadly with 58 miners killed at work during this time, some as young as 14 years old. With countless many others injured and maimed working almost 2,000 feet below ground. As a memorial this mural project will deliver a painting of the banner and it is also hoped to provide an information panel bearing the names of those in memorial. It wasn't always dark, bleak and miserable in coal mining communities there were also many times of happiness and pride in the local community and to represent this the mural will be vibrant and colourful. The mural will be of the banner which is unique to the Hylton Colliery and the pride of its coal mining community

The building owner has no objections to the project and has confirmed permission and this has been received in writing and is included in the application pack

Stage one of the project will be to commission an artist and provide a photo of the banner which will form the basis of the mural the artist will then provide drawings/dimensions in order to submit to Sunderland City Council for Advertising Consent. The artist will also advise on any works required to the gable end to enable mural to be installed. In addition an interpretation panel will be installed as part of the project.

Castletown Scouts, Local Ward members and the artist will continually have conversations with local residents to ensure they are fully on board with the project and it is acknowledging their heritage.

Project lead will submit advertising consent online via planning portal

Stage two of the project will be Advertising Consent in place and any works to the gable end carried out

Stage three of the project will be the painting of the mural on the gable end, rear of the building and also the installation of an interpretation panel

Stage four of the project will be an official unveiling by the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Sunderland which the Scouts will lead on behalf of the Local Community who will be consulted with and support in identifying attendees for event.

Any ongoing maintenance required of the mural will be picked up via Castletown Scouts engaging with the local community

Costs:

Item and Description	NF Contribution	Match Funding	Total Cost
Advertising Permission Costs	526	0	526
Artist Costs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pressure Washer Hire • Primer • Spray Paint • Design • Labour • Underground Scene on Yard Ward 	11,360	0	11,360
Works to Gable End: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of Foliage • Rendering • Scaffolding 	3,000	0	3,000
Event: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Band • Refreshments • PA Hire 	2,000	0	2,000
Storm Guard Interpretation Panel & Art Work & Installation	3,000	0	3,000
Contingency	1,888	0	1,888
Total	£21,774	£0	£21,774

Output	Target
Number of existing assets improved	1
Number of community events supported and delivered	1
Number of visitors footfall at neighbourhood events	100

Recommendation

November Board recommended approval of full application to be presented to December Area Committee to deliver to the following priority:

- Vibrant Smart North – Delivery of a Wide Range of Heritage and Culture Projects – Castle Ward Improvement Project