



Annual Report of the Area Committees

2021–22

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Foreword



Councillor Linda Williams

As Sunderland City Council's Cabinet member for Vibrant City, I am incredibly proud to present the Annual Report of Area Committees for 2021-22. This report is produced specifically to highlight the combined achievements of the Area Committees and partners and to demonstrate the remarkable joint working which has taken place over the past year.

Through Let's Talk Sunderland resident engagement we developed each of the five Neighbourhood Investment Plans, and continue to regularly consult with local communities to ensure the plans are still relevant and meet the needs and expectations within local areas. A series of campaigns continue to take place, with wide ranging consultation on subjects such as 'Let's Talk Parks', 'Let's Talk Highways', and 'Let's Talk Digital'. The Neighbourhood Investment Plans, have now delivered 2 years of a 3 year programme and have been updated and amended on a regular basis to keep our residents informed of progress.

As we commenced 2021, many of our services and projects had been reviewed and adapted to support communities through the ongoing impact the Coronavirus (Covid-19) continued to have, with the emphasis being on providing support to

communities and ensure residents were safe and protected.

I would like to give my thanks and gratitude to the local Voluntary and Community Sector organisations and all partners in each of the areas, who have continued to deliver projects and supported the work of the Area Committees throughout the past year. Area Committees are proud to support these groups who are providing valuable services for residents of all ages, including support for children and young people to protect their physical and mental wellbeing.

Sunderland City Council continues to support the Voluntary and Community Sector across Sunderland, through the established five Area VCS networks, which are linked directly with each of the Area Committees.

In the last 12 months, in addition to Area Funding, the sector has been awarded additional budgets to provide enhanced support to residents. One example of such funding was the Winter Covid Funding Programme which awarded £95,644 to 32 Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations across the City. Those organisations have delivered activities from December 2021 to March 2022, to our most vulnerable residents and families, and secured £42,727 by way of additional funding and volunteer time. The programme:

- Supported over 12,233 residents, families and young people
- Made 3,100 befriending, wellbeing calls and welfare checks
- Acted as Community Hubs for residents who needed advice and support
- Provided Christmas treats, presents activity packs
- Delivered covid-safe in person events and activities to bring

communities together to keep active, participate in wellbeing support, take part in intergenerational activities, and so much more - Over 9,847 people took part in the various activities delivered

- Supported 1,718 people to access additional support through referrals to other Services including Foodbanks, Welfare Support & the Social Prescribing Team
- Delivered 1,731 Xmas meals, hot meals, food parcels, and activity packs

As the impact and restrictions of Coronavirus reduces, and people are now keen to take part in activities and face to face support, we are all thinking ahead and planning for the final year of the Neighbourhood Investment Plan with more enthusiasm and positivity. The Area Committees continue to speak with residents to ensure our delivery plans meet their needs at a neighbourhood level, to re-build Sunderland's resilient communities for the future.

This year has seen the implementation of the Voluntary Sector Alliance (VSA) which has been developed with key partners across the City. Sunderland City Council, alongside Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Gentoo are committed to supporting the Alliance which will be pivotal in ensuring the voluntary sector is supported and resourced in the city. The VSA provides an opportunity for the key partners to engage with the sector through one recognised route, and for other local commissioners and national funding organisations to communicate through one streamlined and formally recognised route. The VSA continues to develop and grow and is in the process of exploring various models of governance for its future operations.

Area Arrangements and growing community wealth

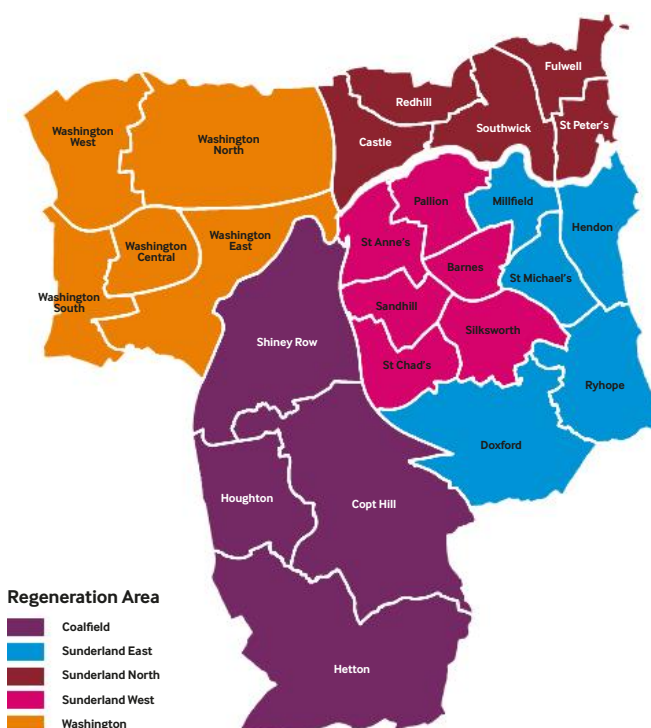
Sunderland Council is committed to growing Community Wealth and bringing forward significant investment into the City. Sunderland Councillors are all Community Wealth Champions, working hand-in-hand with residents and communities to reduce health inequalities, increase resilience and maximise the use of assets to improve communities.

The reality of Community Wealth Building at work is practiced through Area Arrangements and the work of the Area Committees with their supporting Neighbourhood and Communities Boards. The Area Committees are comprised of all Elected Members from the Area's wards who work closely with council officers, service delivery partners and members from the Area Voluntary and Community Sector Network (VCSN).

The role of the Area Committee is to:

- Identify the main priorities that reflect the biggest need in the area;
- Develop efficient and effective solutions to local area priorities as well as supporting city-wide issues; and
- Encourage local residents to become involved in decision making on matters which affect them.

They do this in many ways one of which is providing funding to take forward projects that deliver their identified priorities. Each of the Area Committees hold delegated budgets



in the form of the Neighbourhood Fund (NF), Neighbourhood Capital Investment Programme (NCIP) and Community Chest. These budgets are allocated to support projects and initiatives that can demonstrate their work will support delivery of the areas identified priorities. The focus of this locally delegated funding is as follows

- Developing community capacity in localities, often involving volunteering to make things happen
- Funding 'one off' projects where work would not otherwise be taken forward
- Acting as a catalyst to lever funding from other sources

- Implementing specific local actions to deliver priorities

The past year has been challenging for everyone involved in Area Committees. Priorities have changed, and Area Committee focus has changed and adapted to meet the requirements and needs of each local community.

The commitment and direction from all Elected Members, Officers and Partners is demonstrated in the outcomes and achievements highlighted in the individual area chapters. A flavour of local projects that are making a real difference in local communities can be found throughout this Annual Report.



Councillor James Blackburn, Coalfield Area Chair

I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the past year, and on the challenges which the continued effect of the Covid 19 pandemic brought.

The plans set out by Coalfield Area Committee in the Neighbourhood Delivery Plan at the start of the year were impacted by the ongoing restrictions, and the priority across our neighbourhoods has been to pull together to support each other to stay safe and protect communities, whilst delivering essential services. Despite the challenges faced, Coalfield Area Committee has, with the dedicated support of local Voluntary and Community Sector groups and partner organisations, continued to deliver a range of projects and services to local communities.

I want to offer thanks to my fellow Councillors, officers, partners, and

volunteers who have supported the implementation of area priorities for the benefit of our Coalfield residents.

The continuation and expansion of the Coalfield Community Hub has provided a tremendous amount of support to local residents with an incredible 7,041 adults from across the area being supported to improve their wellbeing or receive information, advice and guidance.

Projects and partners have found innovative and safe ways to continue to support children and young people to protect and improve their mental and physical wellbeing. Area funded projects alone supported 1,280 young residents by providing socially distanced, outdoor or on-line activities, or delivering resources and support to the family home.

In addition to all of this, and despite the challenges and restrictions, actions from the Coalfield work plan have been delivered. Officers and partner organisations have found alternative ways to deliver these priorities and services for the benefit of the community.

As an Area Committee, we have also worked with colleagues from the East and West Area Committees and a wide range of services and partners to develop 'the Stephenson Trail project' which will see a number of exciting celebrations and educational activities to commemorate 200 years of the important Hetton Colliery Railway.

I am proud to present this Annual Report for the Coalfield Area which outlines some of the key achievements, right across the area.



Coalfield Area Committee

Councillor James Blackburn, Coalfield Area Chair

Coalfield Area priorities set out in the Delivery Plan

- Improve housing and neighbourhoods
- Improve the physical and natural environment, and local greenspaces
- Increase access and improve support to digital resources
- Support local shopping centres and businesses
- Improve access to education and employment opportunities
- Reduce social isolation and improve health and wellbeing
- Invest in local voluntary and community sector organisations/assets
- Support young people and provide positive activities and opportunities
- Preserve and celebrate heritage

Key highlights

From our 2021–22 allocated budgets, we approved over **£600,000** of area budget to deliver projects to meet identified priorities. Examples of funding awarded are:

£40,495 of Community Chest funding was awarded to local groups delivering a total of 33 Community projects. These include funding towards improvements to community venues such as new flooring, band hire for Durham Gala, purchase of a PA system and Platinum Jubilee celebrations. The average grant was **£1277.84**

8 local organisations were awarded funding, totalling **£37,431**, to deliver projects to support young people and provide positive activities and opportunities

A programme of physical activity for 11-19 year olds was awarded **£24,534**. There are 5 local organisations delivering the Coalfield Healthy and Active Teens (CHAT) programme over a 12 month period

2 local cricket clubs were granted a total of **£13,369** to improve their community based facilities

9 projects, totalling **£41,088**, were approved with the aim of reducing social isolation and improving health and wellbeing

Funding of **£18,210** was provided to purchase a utility vehicle to assist with park maintenance and improvement

£20,000 was awarded to extend the Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) programme in each ward. Signs are deployed on a rotational basis in locations where speeding has been identified as an issue

£200,000 has been allocated to the Link Together project which will engage the community to revitalise local greenspaces to create a vibrant and wildlife rich network

with work taking place on 11 local sites

An additional anti social behaviour (ASB) officer, dedicated to the Coalfield area, will be employed for a 2 year period. This has been enabled by a **£79,840** grant from Area Committee

£100,000 was allocated to a 'Clean it, Green it' environmental and education programme. The programme will be delivered by a VCS organisation over 2 years across all wards in the Coalfield area

The first Coalfield Pride event will be held in July 2022, thanks to Neighbourhood Funding of **£9,957**

In addition to the **£100,000** allocated in 2021/22 for environmental improvements in Rectory Park, a further **£35,000** has been approved to install lighting to the footpaths within the park

Our year in numbers

27 

Projects, totalling £537,715 awarded
Neighbourhood Fund

6,502 

Local residents who are older,
lonely or vulnerable accessed
supported transport services
including weekly shopping trip

38 

Additional volunteers supported
Community Chest funded projects

637 

People participated in services and
support to improve digital skills

39 

People moved in to further training
or employment, following
1-2-1 digital support

252 

Youth sessions for 11-19 year olds
have been delivered across all wards

103 

Older or isolated residents supported
to live more independent lives

1,280 

Children and young people attended
activities, youth clubs, advice and
support to improve wellbeing and
develop life skills

361 

Residents of all ages participated in
glass making workshops as part of the
Community Loco Project celebrating
200 years of Hetton Colliery Railway

33 

Local groups were awarded
Community Chest totalling £40,495 to
support neighbourhood projects

7,240 

Adults accessed activities and
services to improve mental and
physical wellbeing

209 

Adults supported in relation to
accessing and managing Universal
Credit benefits

Our year in images





Councillor Elizabeth Gibson, East Area Chair

As Chair of the East Area Committee, I am proud to present this Annual Report in my final year as a Councillor, which highlights the key achievements delivered in partnership with groups and organisations from across the East area, over the past year.

The Area Committee agreed their workplan following extensive research and consultation amongst all communities and neighbourhoods across the Area.

I want to offer thanks to my fellow Councillors, key workers, partners, local groups and volunteers who came together

to give help in whatever way they were able to ensure that residents of the Area were given access to support and care in the community. The East VCS Network restarted face to face meetings, with host venues providing access to their community buildings to ensure we could meet up and adhere to covid restrictions. The East Area Community Hub and Community Champions continued to work tirelessly throughout the year, especially during the Winter months, providing invaluable support to households who experienced food, fuel and clothes

poverty. Without the Voluntary Sector's involvement more people would have suffered.

As well as providing additional support to our residents throughout the pandemic, the Councillors of the East Area Committee, together with our partners, have continued to deliver the actions outlined in our Neighbourhood Investment Plan with some great projects and improvements being seen across the area. This report contains just a snapshot of the key outcomes and achievements.



East Area Committee

Councillor Elizabeth Gibson, East Area Chair

East Area priorities set out in the Delivery Plan

- Tackle empty properties
- Derelict land
- Private landlords
- Affordable homes
- Love Where You Live
- Enforcement
- Bloom activities
- Carbon and plastic pollution
- Highways, pavements and street lighting
- Parks, play, cycle and walking routes
- Digital technology and 5G
- Use of existing and vacant properties
- Job clubs and educational centres
- Community cohesion
- Social prescribing
- Enhance local green space
- Support voluntary and community sector
- Volunteer platform
- Local events
- Youth clubs and spaces
- Reduce fear of crime
- Support local organisations
- Fuel poverty
- Credit solutions
- More than a Foodbank
- Heritage assets and activities
- Preserve heritage

Key highlights

From our 2021–22 allocated budgets, we approved over **£487,352** of area budget to deliver projects to meet identified priorities. Examples of funding awarded are:

£50,000 Community Chest was awarded to local groups, delivering a total of 51 community projects including youth activities, repairs and improvements. The average grant was £1,055

£29,570 was awarded to eight VCS Groups to deliver the Fancy a Day Out Programme. The grant has enabled Groups to deliver sessions, which were fun and educational to children and young people during the 13 weeks of the school holidays, whilst providing access to a nutritional meal

£50,000 was awarded towards a joint project with the Coalfield and West Area Committees to deliver an educational programme, environmental enhancements and a series of events along the internationally renowned Stephenson Trail, to celebrate its 200th anniversary and preserve our heritage

£75,000 was awarded to deliver the Walk and Talk Programme. The grant was split equally across the five wards, enabling local Councillors to work with residents to find solutions towards historical neighbourhood issues

£50,000 was awarded to transform and develop St Michael's Community Centre into a thriving community hub, providing an array of activities and sessions to local residents to improve their health and wellbeing

£25,000 was awarded to five VCS Groups to deliver the Maximising Community Assets programme, to enable Groups to open up their buildings on a Friday and Saturday night, providing a safe place for young people to visit, instead of hanging around the streets

£2,000 was awarded to the Private Sector Housing Team to host a series of roadshows on the City Council's Private Landlord Accreditation Scheme, aiming to increase the number of Accredited Landlords in the East to improving housing standards

£10,000 was awarded to support the expansion of the Babies and Children ReUse Bank, which recycles unwanted cloths, toys and equipment for families, who just need that little bit extra support to help them through a tough time

£115,145 was awarded to Environmental Enforcement Team to employ an additional three members of staff who will proactively tackle environmental crime, such as, fly tipping, dog fouling, etc. across the East area

Our year in numbers

641  £184k  508 

Volunteers involved in area activities

Of in-kind support provided
by volunteers

Litter picks carried out

11k  173  198 

m² of potholes in roads resurfaced

Families received support from the
Babies and Children ReUse Bank

Holiday hunger sessions delivered
to families in poverty during the
school holidays

418  1,252  601 

Young people took up the offer
to attend centre-based activities
on a Friday and Saturday night,
to engage in positive activities in
our neighbourhoods

Children and young people
received a meal and accessed activities
that were educational and fun
throughout the school holidays

People supported to GO! Get Online
to reduce the digital divide.

1,854  63  1,702 

Socially isolated and vulnerable
adults received support

VCS Groups received
an Area grant.

Children and young people engaged
in health and wellbeing activities

Our year in images





Councillor Denny Wilson, North Area Chair

As Chair of the North Area Committee I would like to take this opportunity to introduce the 2021–2022 North Sunderland Annual Report, highlighting some of the activities and achievements delivered in what has been another very challenging year for everyone.

The Area Committee agreed their workplan following extensive research and consultation amongst our communities

and neighbourhoods across the area.

I want to offer mine and the Area Committees thanks for the amount of support and dedication shown by local community and voluntary groups who have worked tirelessly alongside ourselves and partners to ensure that the services and support have been available to help and care for the residents of North Sunderland.

Despite the challenges and restrictions we have faced the North Area Committee and partners have continued to deliver the actions outlined in our Neighbourhood Investment Plan with some great projects and improvements being seen across the area. I am proud to present just some of the key achievements delivered.



North Area Committee

Councillor Denny Wilson, North Area Chair

North Area priorities set out in the Delivery Plan

- Tackle empty properties
- Derelict land
- Affordable homes
- Love Where You Live
- Transport Routes and Parking
- Highways, pavements and street lighting
- Parks, play, cycle and walking routes
- Social Prescribing
- Support voluntary and community sector
- Support youth clubs and spaces for young people to be together and feel safe
- Volunteer platform
- Support communities to deliver local events
- Improve CCTV and Enforcement
- Promote Heritage Assets and Deliver Heritage Activities
- Preserve and Celebrate Local Heritage

Key highlights

From our 2020–2021 and 2021–22 allocated budgets, we approved and aligned over **£830,000** to deliver projects to meet identified priorities. Examples of funding aligned and awarded are:

£52,350 Community Chest was awarded to local groups, delivering a total of 41 community projects including vintage bus rally, creation of an accessible garden area, remote controlled boats, community venue refurbishment support and 2 Suits of Armour. The average grant was £1,278

£16,975 was approved for the installation of a Wheelchair Accessible Swing at Hylton Castle Park

£2,000 was approved for the delivery of a Heritage Event at Seaburn by the Classic Vehicle Society

£40,000 was approved for the delivery of school holiday activity for young people across Sunderland North

£25,000 was approved for extensive bulb and wildflower planting at St. Peters

Church, Monkwearmouth

£100,000 was aligned for the development of an application that will see a wide range of services and activities delivered from Downhill Community Hub

£100,000 was aligned for the development of an application which will see the commencement of the regeneration of the Chapel in the grounds of Hylton Castle

£100,000 was aligned to add to the previous **£175,000** for a project which will lead to significant regeneration of Thompson Park and the addition of new and improved play areas.

£100,000 was approved for a project which will support the provision of events space at Hylton Castle

£25,000 was awarded to match fund the installation of a Places To Ride Skills Area in Thompson Park

£250,000 was awarded to five Raising Aspirations Phase 3 Projects covering the wards of Castle, Fulwell, Redhill, Southwick and St. Peters which will deliver a range of services and activities meeting the needs of the local communities

£12,000 was awarded to Redby Community Association to support roof repairs and refurbishment

£9,844 was awarded to a range of groups across Sunderland North for the installation of public access defibrillators

Our year in numbers

2,256 

Young people benefiting from school holiday activities

8 

Community Defibrillators to be installed

1 

Wheelchair Accessible Swing Installed

3 

Wildflower and Bulb planting projects supported at St. Peters Church and Southwick Green

305 

People Accessing Social Isolation Sessions - Southwick Raising Aspirations

477 

Young People attending Youth Provision - St. Peters Raising Aspirations

435 

Families supported - Fulwell Raising Aspirations

71 

Social Isolation Support Activities Delivered - Castle Raising Aspirations

12 

Monthly Community Litter Picks supported - Redhill Raising Aspirations

1 

Southwick Illumination Switch On Event delivered

2 

Suits of Armour installed at Hylton Castle

1 

Cycling Skills Area installed at Thompson Park

Our year in images





Councillor Len Lauchlan, Washington Area Chair

As Chair of the Washington Area Committee, I would like to highlight some of the key areas of work delivered over the last year. The Area Committee agreed their workplan following extensive research and consultation amongst all communities and neighbourhoods across the area.

I want to offer thanks to all the key workers, my fellow Councillors, partners and volunteers who have supported our

Washington residents. The priority became ensuring that services and support to help our local communities and that residents who were vulnerable or isolating had the help and care they needed. This was delivered through the Washington Area Hub with everyone pulling together to support each other to stay safe and protect communities, whilst still delivering essential services.

Despite the challenges and restrictions, as well as providing additional support to our residents throughout the pandemic, the Washington Area Committee, together with its partners, has continued to deliver the actions outlined in our Neighbourhood Investment Plan with some great projects and improvements being seen across the area. Some of the key highlights are contained in the following pages.



Washington Area Committee

Councillor Len Lauchlan, Washington Area Chair

Washington Area priorities set out in the Delivery Plan

- Invest in parks, play, cycle and walking routes, open spaces and Love Where You Live activities
- Improve housing, tackle empty properties and ensure enforcement is used to manage neighbourhoods effectively tackling flytipping, litter and dog fouling
- Road safety, highways, pavements and street lighting
- Increase 5G access & support digital learning to improve employment opportunities and basic skills
- Health and Wellbeing - including social isolation and emotional wellbeing
- Support and invest in the Voluntary & Community Sector and volunteering
- Support the VCSE to deliver local services such as social care and welfare
- Support for young people
- Events, culture and local heritage
- Create safe neighbourhoods

Key highlights

From our 2021–22 allocated budgets, we approved over £827,000 to deliver projects to meet identified priorities. Examples of funding awarded are:

£43,119 Community Chest was awarded to local groups, delivering a total of 41 community projects including equipment for volunteers, equipment and improvements to community venues, therapy sessions and targeted workshops. The average grant was £1,051.68

£179,000 approved for improvements to community buildings, safety measures and traffic management

£193,000 invested in Washington parks, green spaces and play facilities. In

partnership with the Council **£180,000** is being spent on Usworth Park and **£100,000** to improve footpaths and routes in Princess Anne Park

£50,000 has been approved to develop Healthy Eating programmes across Washington

£150,000 approved to support local heritage and culture

£164,000 approved to support Washington's young people. This includes

the Creative You Project, Youth Matters - Making Money Work, and further support for the Washington Can Do initiative and the Outreach Project

Another **£16,000** approved to continue to support local residents in crisis, providing welfare support through information advice and guidance

£45,000 approved to encourage the local community to celebrate the Queens Jubilee

Our year in numbers

15 

Projects awarded £826,970
Neighbourhood funding during
2021/2022

59 

Clean & Green Environmental
Programmes and community clean
ups, 16 active volunteers delivering
615 volunteering hours

1,469 

Environmental Enforcement
Actions taken. This includes 1,395
written warnings, 61 Section 46
notices served, and 12 Fixed penalty
notices served

56 

New volunteers recruited, trained
and given ongoing support and 46
voluntary and community sector
groups supported

81 

Local organisations supported
to apply for funding and strengthen
their governance arrangements

41 

Groups awarded £43,119 within
the local community via
Community Chest, with an average
grant of £1,051.68 to support
neighbourhood projects.

1,163 

Young people engaged in 25
'social action' and positive
activities projects

17 

Individual Ward
Improvement Projects

3,190 

Young people engaged through
the Washington Outreach Project
and the Safe Care Project

127 

Residents in crisis receiving
much needed information, advice
and guidance

432 

Local residents benefiting from 11
'Healthy Lifestyles' Projects

112k 

Residents reached through the
Area Facebook page

Our year in images





Councillor Peter Gibson West Area Chair

As Chair of the West Area Committee I would like to take this opportunity to introduce the 2021–2022 West Sunderland Annual Report, highlighting some of the activities and achievements delivered in what has been another very challenging year for everyone.

The Area Committee agreed their workplan following extensive research and consultation amongst our communities and neighbourhoods across the area.

I want to offer thanks to my fellow Councillors, key workers, partners, local community and voluntary groups who

have continued to come together to pool resources and ensure that residents of the Area were given access to support and care in the community. The West VCS Network began to meet face to face again, with host venues providing access to their community buildings to ensure we could meet up and adhere to covid restrictions.

The West Area Community Hubs continued to work tirelessly throughout the year, especially during the Winter months, providing invaluable support to households who experienced food, fuel and clothes poverty. Without the Area

Hub's involvement more people would have suffered.

As an Area Committee, we have also worked with colleagues from the Coalfield and East Area Committees and a wide range of services and partners to develop 'the Stephenson Trail project' which will see a number of exciting celebrations and educational activities to commemorate 200 years of the important Hetton Colliery Railway.

I am proud to present this Annual Report which outlines just some of the key achievements delivered.



West Area Committee

Councillor Peter Gibson, West Area Chair

West Area priorities set out in the Delivery Plan

- Invest in the voluntary and community sector
- Work with Private landlords across the West
- Improve the feel and look of neighbourhoods
- Enhance green spaces
- 'Love where you love' and In Bloom
- Invest in Highways, pavements and street lighting
- Support the Voluntary and Community sector
- Improve Health and Wellbeing and financial resilience
- Improve activities for young people
- Increase 5G access and support digital learning to improve employment opportunities and basic skills
- Create job clubs and education centres
- Invest in local shopping centres and support local business
- Event, Culture and heritage
- Supporting Low Carbon Sunderland

Key highlights

From our 2021–21 allocated budgets, we approved over £1,022,214 to deliver projects to meet identified priorities. Examples of funding awarded are:

£60,000 Community Chest was awarded to local groups, delivering a total of 44 community projects including community venue repairs and improvements, sports equipment for youth activities and projects to address social isolation. The average grant was £1,367

Highways improvements, including, road surfacing, line marking, VAS signs and speedy reductions schemes received **£288,884**

6 sites across the area have each had 5 pieces of free to use, outdoor gym equipment, installed

New bins were installed across the neighbourhoods

Play equipment was upgraded in parks across the West, new equipment, seating, painting and new improved play equipment

£229,977 was invested in an improved enforcement programme, recruiting an additional enforcement officer and 2 neighbourhood wardens as well as 6 street watch cameras

9 Projects secured Neighbourhood fund to deliver a programme of activities to Keep Sunderland West Tidy

£42,500 was awarded to support West REACT Employability support

Young Peoples Emotional & Mental Health support project received over **£44,000**

A programme of youth activities was awarded **£213,480** to deliver 2 youth sessions per ward per week. Additional funding of **£32,460** was provided to deliver sessions to target youth ASB

Our year in numbers

26 

Projects awarded £1,022,214
Neighbourhood funding during
2021–2022

158 

People received employment
support and guidance

1,140 

Children accessing 'activity with food'
sessions during summer holidays

200 

Residents volunteered in the
local community

1,728 

Volunteer hours spent supporting
the Environmental projects West
Clean and Green and Keep Sunderland
West Tidy

22 

Ward based improvement projects
which focused on reducing anti-
social behaviour, reducing crime and
improving the physical environment

60 

VCS Groups Supported

300 

Children and young people attended
activities, youth clubs, advice and
support to improve wellbeing and
develop life skills

9 

Digital hubs created enabling
residents to access digital support in
their local community

30 

Pieces of outdoor gym
equipment installed

44 

Community Chest grants with an
average grant of £1,367 awarded to
groups across the West

60 

Bins across the neighbourhoods
replaced and refreshed

Our year in images



The year ahead

In the year ahead each of the Area Committees will focus on ensuring that the third, and final, year of the Neighbourhood Investment Plans and associated Delivery Plans are moved forward. Each Area Committee will make sure that priorities are realigned to meet the needs of residents and communities. Identified actions within the 3 year plans will be considered, and through the Neighbourhood and Community Boards, be developed and delivered.

We recognise the need to be flexible and prepare for ongoing challenges, aligning area budgets to meet these challenges where relevant. Communication across all elements of area working is vital and we will continue to make a commitment to the Voluntary and Community

Sector partners who have supported Area Committees throughout a very difficult period.

The year ahead will see further implementation and strengthening of the Voluntary Sector Alliance (VSA) which has been developed with key partners across the City.

COVID-19, and other recent challenges, has demonstrated the huge value and importance of VCS organisations to residents of the City, and how working in partnership with the key stakeholders in the City has made a significant difference to the delivery of services. These partnerships will be built upon and strengthened as a recognised way of working within communities. The VCS have a vital role to play within all our neighbourhoods.

The facilities and services they offer, their local knowledge of the communities of which they are such an integral part and their understanding of the needs of residents within those communities are all invaluable to supporting the work of Area Committee to meet the objectives set out in each area's plans.

The Neighbourhood Investment Plans will be reviewed and refreshed throughout the year to inform plans for the future and development of priorities and projects beyond the year ahead. This will be done via VCS Networks, resident consultation, Area Neighbourhood and Community Boards and Area Committees.



Area Committees 2022-23

