

NORTH SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 25th March, 2021 at 5:30pm

This meeting will be held remotely. Joining details will be emailed to all participants.

The meeting will be livestreamed for the public to view on the Council's YouTube channel, 'sunderlandgov' at :-

<https://youtu.be/IQUn0PmXQc>

Membership

Cllrs D. Wilson (Chairman), S. Foster (Vice Chairman), M. Butler, K. Chequer, R. Davison, J. Doyle, B. Francis, G. Howe, J. Jackson, K. Jenkins, S. Leadbitter, D. MacKnight, J. McKeith, A. Samuels and P. Stewart.

Part I

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1. (a) Chairman's Welcome	
(b) Apologies for Absence	
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2. North Sunderland Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020 - 2023	7
(copy attached)	
3.* North Sunderland Area Budget Report	26
(copy attached)	

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Vivienne Metcalfe, Area Community Development Lead Tel: 561 4577
Email: Vivienne.metcalfe@sunderland.gov.uk

Information contained in this agenda can be made available in other languages and formats on request.

4. **Partner Agency Reports:-**

(a) Report of the North Area Voluntary and Community Sector Network (copy attached)	47
(b) Northumbria Police Update (verbal report)	-
(c) Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Services Update (verbal report)	-

* Denotes an item relating to an executive function

ELAINE WAUGH
Assistant Director of Law and Governance

17th March, 2021

At a meeting of the NORTH SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE held remotely on THURSDAY, 10th DECEMBER, 2020 at 5.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor D. Wilson in the Chair

Councillors Butler, Chequer, Davison, Doyle, Foster, Francis, Howe, Jenkins, Leadbitter, D. MacKnight, McKeith, Samuels and Stewart

Also in Attendance:-

Mr. Colin McCartney	-	Gentoo Housing
Mr. Peter McIntyre	-	Executive Director of City Development, Sunderland City Council
Mr. Shaun Makin	-	Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service
Ms. Vivienne Metcalfe	-	Area Community Development Lead, Sunderland City Council
Ms. Allison Patterson	-	Area Co-ordinator, Sunderland City Council
Ms. Joanne Stewart	-	Principal Governance Services Officer, Sunderland City Council
Mr. Andy Wilson	-	Environmental Services Manager, Sunderland City Council

Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Mr. R. Duggan and Inspector S. Prested.

Declarations of Interest

Item 4 – North Area Budget Report – Hylton Castle Project

Councillor Wilson declared an interest in the above matter as a member on the board of trustees and withdrew from the meeting at the appropriate point on the agenda taking no part in any discussion or decision thereon.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 17th September, be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Community Wealth Building Champions

The Executive Director of Neighbourhoods and Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture submitted a report (copy circulated) which advised the Committee of the next steps, following Cabinet approval in March 2020 of the Sunderland Community Wealth Building Strategy, taking into consideration the additional action to be taken to continue to grow community wealth across the City's communities.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Ms. Helen Peverley, Area Coordinator, presented the report and provided the Committee with a powerpoint presentation which detailed the Council's journey in growing the proposals around Community Wealth including the reasoning behind the nomination of the Chairman as the Community Wealth Building Champion for the North Sunderland Area.

Ms Peverley informed the Committee that the Council had been working with its key partners across the city to help ensure that the residents' 'pound' was kept within Sunderland. In the words of the Strategy, Community Wealth involved - "Developing assets, of all kinds (people and place), in such a way that the wealth stays local. Using local assets to make communities more vibrant. Aiming to help individuals, families and communities control their own economic destiny"

Ms Peverley highlighted the 7 Key Actions underpinning the Strategy with particular reference to 'Demonstrating our Commitment' and reiterated the work the Area Committee had already done and was continuing to do in this regard with examples including:-

- i) the Area Committee Call for Projects – eg supporting local organisations and supporting residents to gain employment, skills, training and grow resilience and continuing to build specific community wealth requirements into future proposals;
- ii) Supporting local traders – eg Christmas Hampers; Switch-on events seasonal activities;
- iii) Land and Asset Management – eg developing community assets as well as improving green spaces; and
- iv) Working with partners to ensure they consider 'community wealth'.

The Chairman thanked Ms Peverley for her presentation and invited questions and comments from the Committee.

In response to a question from Councillor Davison regarding allowing the Community to have an input into making the decision on where Section 106 monies is spent, Ms. Peverley advised that she had a meeting with Area Committee Chairmen and the Planning Department about the process. Following that, they would be able to share a similar presentation with the Neighbourhood and Community Boards so that they could better understand how they could feed into the process.

Councillor MacKnight referred to the procurement process, commenting that it could often be a lengthy and drawn out process which could leave Members frustrated and was informed by Ms Peverley that this issue had been raised a number of times by the Chairman and they were reviewing the process to ensure it was as streamlined as possible and that they would share the framework, once signed off, with the Committee.

Councillor Stewart commented on the proposal and how it fit in to the wider community wealth programme and felt it was important to remember that this went back to the decision to become a cooperative Council which was supported by all political parties at that time. For the programme to be a success, Councillor Stewart commented that communities in the North Sunderland area had to be support in a 'bottom up' approach and that it would prove to be an exciting few years for the area going forward as the programme developed further.

Members having no further comments or questions, it was:-

2. RESOLVED that:-

- i) The contents of the report and the work undertaken to support the growth of the Community Wealth across Sunderland be received and noted and t be agreed to continue to support the delivery of the Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy; and
- ii) It be agreed that the Area Committee Chairman deliver the Committee's Community Wealth Champion role on behalf of the residents of Sunderland, demonstrating the committee of the Committee to support growth.

North Sunderland Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020-2023

The Chairman of the North Sunderland Area Committee Neighbourhood and Community Board submitted a report (copy circulated) which presented the Area Committee Delivery Plan for 2020-2023 and provided an update against the area priorities associated with the delivery plan.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Councillor Foster took Members through the report and there being no questions or comments, it was:-

- 3. RESOLVED that the progress and performance update with regard to the North Sunderland Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020-2023 be received and noted.

North Sunderland Area Committee Budget Report

The Assistant Director of Community Resilience submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided a financial statement as an update position on progress in relation to allocating Area Committee Neighbourhood Funds, Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme and Community Chest and presented proposals for further funding requests.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Ms. Metcalfe, Area Community Development Lead, presented the report drawing attention to the recommendations detailed within the report.

Members having had any questions answered, it was:-

4. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the financial statements as set out in paragraphs 2.1 and 3.1 of the report be received and noted;
- (ii) approval be given to the allocation of £14,970 from the Neighbourhood Fund towards the Community Hub Redhill Project by Community Opportunities / SNCBC;
- (iii) approval be given to the reallocation of the previously awarded funding for the delivery of a Beach Camp in Summer 2020 holidays to the sum of £10,000 be used to deliver Christmas and February Half Term Activities as part of the Neighbourhood Funded School Holiday Project;
- (iv) approval be given to the alignment of £5,030 from the Neighbourhood Fund towards the Downhill Hub Project;
- (v) approval be given to the alignment of £200,000 from the Neighbourhood Investment Capital Fund towards the Regeneration of Thompson Park;
- (vi) approval be given to the alignment of £80,000 from the Neighbourhood Investment Capital Fund to support the development of the former Downhill School into a Community Hub;
- (vii) approval be given to the alignment of £100,000 from the Neighbourhood Investment Capital Fund towards the development of a project which provides additional CCTV/masts/airtime in the North Sunderland area; and
- (viii) approval be given to the alignment of £100,000 from the Neighbourhood Investment Capital Fund towards the development of a project which provides access to event space at Hylton Castle;
- (ix) the five approvals for Community Chest supported from the 2020/21 budget totalling £6,859.50 be noted.

Partner Agency Reports - Report of the North Area Voluntary and Community Sector Network

The Voluntary and Community Sector Network submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided an update with regard to the network.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Ms. Metcalfe advised that in the absence of a presenting officer, the report of the North Sunderland Area Voluntary and Community Sector Network was submitted for information only. Should Members have any questions, Ms. Metcalfe advised that they could be emailed to herself and she would ensure that a response was provided.

Members commended the outstanding work of the voluntary and community sector during the pandemic, working on the frontline supporting some of the most vulnerable residents in the community and asked that their thanks be extended to all of the organisations and groups, and it was:-

5. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

Northumbria Police Update

Ms. Metcalfe advised that in the absence of a presenting officer, Northumbria Police had provided Members of the Committee with a written report, sharing crime figures for the North Sunderland area. Should Members have any questions, Ms. Metcalfe advised that they could be emailed to herself and she would ensure that a response was provided.

Members thanked the Officer for the update, and it was:-

6. RESOLVED that the update from the Northumbria Police be received and noted.

Partner Agency Reports – Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Services

Station Manager, Shaun Makin of TWFRS gave a verbal update to the Committee on the current position with regards to fire related incidents and of any on-going issues in the North Sunderland area.

Councillor Samuels thanked the service for their work and was pleased to hear that this bonfire night had been better than previous years. She commented that the service were a key partner in the SARA project and referred to the significant amount of work that had been undertaken to address the problems which the area had experienced on previous bonfire years. Mr. Makin praised the work of the SARA project in the Southwick area and commented that he would like to see it as a model of good practice that could look to be rolled out in other areas of the city as he felt it had been so successful.

Councillor Wilson requested that the Committee receive a presentation on the SARA project and the work that they had undertaken in the area and Ms. Metcalfe advised she could arrange this for a future meeting of the Neighbourhood and Community Board.

Councillor Davison commented that the problems had spread out further round the North Sunderland area and asked where had been the worst area on bonfire night. Mr. Makin advised that using data from the previous three years Southwick had been the worst hit area on a bonfire night and that was why that area had been focussed upon, although he knew that there were a lot of areas that had issues. He was looking to

identify further information on which areas were affected the worst and he would provide that information to the Chairman.

Members thanked Mr. Makin for his verbal update, and it was:-

7. RESOLVED that the update from the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Services be received and noted.

Partner Agency Reports – Unauthorised Encampments Update Report

The Area Committee received a report which provided an update on unauthorised encampment policy and site activity in 2020 and the associated financial and service impact.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Ms. Metcalfe advised that the report was submitted for information only and that should Members have any questions after the meeting they could be emailed to herself and she would ensure that a response was provided.

8. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.

(Signed) D. WILSON,
Chairman.

25th March 2021

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF NORTH NEIGHBOURHOODS AND COMMUNITY BOARD

North Sunderland Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020-2023

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 This report:-

- a. Presents the North Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020-2023
- b. Provides an update of progress against the Area Priorities associated with the Delivery Plan

2. Background

- 2.1 Following the approval of the Neighbourhood Investment Plans in March 2020, the North Area Committee has worked together to finalise their Delivery Plans. All priorities have been determined following significant resident consultation via Let's Talk Sunderland. The Council also undertook further consultation with residents, during June 2020, to ensure the priorities were still relevant post COVID-19.

3. Area Committee and Neighbourhood Investment Plan Governance Arrangements

- 3.1 The Area Committees are part of the Council's Executive Function and have two key roles:-

- a. Influencing decisions on services delivered at a neighbourhood level; and
- b. Identification of key priorities for their areas, in the context of supporting the delivery of the Council's City Plan at a neighbourhood level and ensuring maximum impact where necessary, through utilising its own resources.

- 3.2 Following the approval of the Article 10 Neighbourhood Investment Plans at Cabinet in March 2020, the Neighbourhood Investment Plans replaced the former Article 10 Local Area Plans.

- 3.3 It is now the responsibility of each Area Committee to deliver their agreed priorities to support the delivery of the Neighbourhood Investment Plan. Area Committee Delivery Plans have been developed to enable this to happen.

- 3.4 The Neighbourhood and Community Boards will be the working group for the Area Committee and the board will be Chaired by the Vice-Chair of the Area Committee. All Committee members are invited to attend all board meetings.

- 3.5 Members will work alongside key officers in what will be practical action orientated groups. It should be noted that the Board is not a decision-making body and the work / recommendations of the Board will be presented to the Area Committees for final endorsement. The Area Committee Chair and Vice-Chair were agreed at Annual Council in June 2020.

4. Key Areas of Influence/Achievements up to 11th March 2021

4.1 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of influence / achievements of the North Neighbourhood & Community Board up to **11th March 2021**

Priority	Update
<p>Invest in Parks, Play Areas, Cycle and Walking Routes in Consultation with Residents and Users</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a plan for the regeneration of Thompson Park as an activity and destination park for all ages in partnership with Friends of Thompson Park 	<p>Task and Finish Group met October 2020 priority agreed due to short timescale of funding opportunity for a group to develop a Places to Ride funding application to deliver cycling skills area in park and education/ training, match funding required to deliver project</p> <p>November Board agreed to recommend to December Area Committee an alignment of £200,000 for the regeneration of Thompson Park and £25,000 of this to be a match to Places to Ride application with full applications to be presented to future Board and Area Committee.</p> <p>December Area Committee agreed the alignment of £200,000 for the regeneration of Thompson Park. Task and Finish Group met January 2021, Design Services to update Regeneration Plan based on feedback from Group, discussions to be held with Lottery regarding potential funding opportunities. Places to Ride application passed Expression of Interest Stage with full application submitted 5th February 2021</p> <p>February Board agreed the formation of a smaller group to develop the plans to be considered for the Park and ensure input from the SARA project and linkages to potential Lottery funding applications</p>
<p>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</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the development of former Downhill School into a community hub 	<p>Task and Finish Group met October 2020, agreed for leaseholder of the venue to pull together costs for capital and revenue to develop the Hub into a resource for the Community</p> <p>November Board agreed to recommend an application be presented to December Area Committee to provide security measures at Downhill Hub with a total of this application and alignment for future applications to be submitted to Board and Area Committee of £100,000.</p> <p>December Area Committee agreed £14,970 for Security Measures and £85,030 alignment for refurbishment project. Task and Finish Group met February 2021 to discuss the refurbishment proposals and the services and activities proposed for the Hub. Full application to be considered in the Finance Report Item 3, Section 3.2, Annex 2</p> <p>February Board considered an Expression of</p>

	<p>Interest from Fulwell Community Library for funding to support the installation of a new roof and solar panels. Board agreed to recommend full application to be presented to March Area Committee. Details included in Item 3, Section 2.2, Annex 1</p> <p>The VCS has continued to be supported by the Area Committee, the Community hubs receive daily on-going support and the VCS network continues to be supported to ensure they have access to all funding opportunities. Members receive weekly performance reports detailing the support provided by the Community Hubs.</p>
<p>Support youth clubs and spaces for young people to be together and feel safe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighbourhood Funding in place for School Holiday delivery 2020 • £20,000 Neighbourhood Funding in Place for youth activities 2020 - 2021 	<p>£20,000 funding in place for youth activities 2020 – 2021 November Board agreed the development of a Call for Projects to be considered by future Board. February Board considered the proposal to utilise the £20,000 youth funding and add to the £20,000 for 2021 – 2022 for a full application to be developed by current North School holiday providers to cover school holidays 2021 – 2022 including Beach Camp to be presented to a future Area Committee.</p> <p>£10,000 remaining in the school holiday funding budget due to non-delivery of beach camp. November Board agreed to recommend to December Area Committee that this funding be utilised in Christmas and Feb Half Term School Holidays with the project leads for each Ward delivering activities for young people. December Area Committee agreed November Board recommendation.</p> <p>February Board agreed to recommend an extension to existing school holiday providers to provide a 2021 – 2022 school holiday programme utilising the £20,000 Neighbourhood Funding in place for youth activities 2020 – 2021 and adding the 2021 – 2022 £20,000 youth allocation subject to a full application being developed and presented to future Area Committee. Details of which are included in Item 3 Section 2.3</p>
<p>Increase safety through the improvement of CCTV and additional enforcement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider the feasibility of additional CCTV/Masts/Airtime Project 	<p>Task and Finish Group met October 2020 with Officers, Northumbria Police, TWFR tasked to identify hotspot areas and CCTV solutions within a budget of £100k.</p> <p>November Board agreed to recommend to December Area Committee an alignment of £100,000 for delivery of this project with a full application to be presented to future Board and</p>

	<p>Area Committee.</p> <p>December Area Committee agreed the alignment of £100,000.</p> <p>Task and Finish Group met January 2021 discussed hotspot areas which are currently in the process of receiving a site visit to identify the relevant camera solution for the area to be then developed into a fully costed up application to be presented to future Area Committee. Full Neighbourhood Investment Capital Application to be considered in the Finance Report Item 3, Section 3.2, Annex 2</p> <p>February Board agreed to recommend to March Area Committee an increase in overall budget be aligned for delivery of the CCTV project to £200,000. Details included in Item 3 Section 2.2 and 2.3 and Annex 2</p>
<p>Communicate heritage assets and deliver heritage activities to improve health and wellbeing and improve community cohesion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a project which provides access to event space at Hylton Castle in order to support bringing the community together and future sustainability of the Project 	<p>Task and Finish Group met October 2020, project is awaiting a decision on a Heritage Lottery Fund Application which will include elements of outside space. Trust to obtain costs for fence, matting to cover grass to protect archaeology and internal marquee refurbishments with a view to presenting to future Board for consideration of recommendations to Area Committee</p> <p>November Board agreed to recommend to December Area Committee an alignment of £100,000 for delivery of this project with a full application to be presented to future Board and Area Committee.</p> <p>December Area Committee agreed alignment of £100,000. Task and Finish Group to meet March 2021 to discuss next steps for project</p> <p>February Board considered an Expression of Interest from The Fans Museum for funding to support the development of Architectural Design, Videography, Photography and a Digital Tour Project. Board agreed to recommend full application to be presented to March Area Committee. Details included in Item 3 Section 2.2, Annex 1</p>
<p>Celebrate local heritage:</p> <p>Southwick Green Redevelopment Phase 2</p>	<p>February Board agreed for Southwick Ward Councillors to consider the original proposals for the Southwick Green Redevelopment and develop phase 2 proposals taking into consideration a local voluntary and community sector organisation proposals for heritage signage and potential of external funding to support project. Full proposals to be presented to future Board and Area Committee for consideration</p>

5. Recommendations

5.1 Members are requested to: -

- Consider the progress and performance update with regard to North Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020/23 as contained within **Annex 1**.
- Consider and agree the recommendations of the Neighbourhood & Community Board regarding the Highways Capital Maintenance programmes for the North for 2021/2022 attached at **Annex 2**.
- Note the Area Committee Video detailing performance over the year.

Annex 1 North Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020/2023

Annex 2 Highways Capital Maintenance Programme 2021/2022

Contact Officer: vivienne.metcalf@sunderland.gov.uk
Vivienne Metcalfe, North Area Community Development Lead

Item 2 Annex 1

North Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020 / 2023

Agreed 23rd July 2020



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 North 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 North 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 North Area Priorities for 2020 – 2023 are:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Tackle empty properties | 9. Support voluntary and community sector |
| 2. Derelict land | 10. Support youth clubs and spaces for young people to be together and feel safe |
| 3. Affordable homes | 11. Volunteer platform |
| 4. Love Where You Live | 12. Support communities to deliver local events |
| 5. Transport Routes and Parking | 13. Improve CCTV and Enforcement |
| 6. Highways, pavements and street lighting | 14. Promote Heritage Assets and Deliver Heritage Activities |
| 7. Parks, play, cycle and walking routes | 15. Preserve and Celebrate Local Heritage |
| 8. Social Prescribing | |

It is now the responsibility of North Sunderland Area Committee to deliver their Delivery Plan and will form the work programme for the Area Committee and the Neighbourhood and Community Board for the coming months and years.

NB: numbers are for reference only, they do not list them in priority order.

Neighbourhood Investment priority		
Action	Next Steps	Update
1. Tackle Empty Properties		
<p>Assistant Director Housing to present full update on Housing to North Neighbourhood and Community Board to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of empty properties and related issues in the North • Pro-active action in place in relation to properties allowed to go into a state of dilapidation by rogue landlords 	North Area Committee to consider update and how they can enhance and support the offer within the North area.	Graham Scanlan, Assistant Director of Housing, to attend February Board
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		
Executive Director Economy and Place to provide an update on derelict land and properties to North Neighbourhood and Communities Board.	North Area Committee to consider update and how they can support the development of sites within the North area	
3. Create more affordable homes		
Assistant Director Housing to present full update on Housing to North Neighbourhood and Community Board	North Area Committee to consider update and how they can enhance and support the offer within the North area.	
4. Launch 'Love where you live' campaign		
Continue to receive updates from the North Raising Aspiration Projects on their litter picks and environmental projects and ensure they advertise opportunities for residents/schools etc to get involved.	ACDL to continue to provide updates on delivery to the Neighbourhood and Community Board	<p>Quarterly Monitoring Update presented to November 2020 Board</p> <p>February Board received feedback on the Wild flowering the North Project</p>
5. Review transport routes in partnership with all providers in consultation with residents. Need to also pick up parking issues – residential and shopping		

VAS Signage Project in development for North Area which will provide 2 signs per ward which will be circulated to 40 locations across the North	<p>North Area Committee agree the funding and locations of the signs.</p> <p>Once agreed the Neighbourhood and Community Board will receive regular updates on the locations and effectiveness of the signs</p>	<p>North Area Committee have agreed the funding and sites proposed, Highways have commenced the procurement exercise and further updates will be provided to future Boards</p> <p>Signs were to commence deployment w/c 9th November however signs are currently in transit and project lead is awaiting delivery</p> <p>Signs are now installed across the North</p>
6. Invest in highways, pavements and street lighting		
Update to be provided on amount of investment planned by Highways Services for highways, pavements and street lighting replacement programme.	Highways Maintenance Programme for 2021 - 2022 to be presented to Neighbourhood and Community Board for discussion and recommendation to North Area Committee	<p>Report presented to November 2020 Board</p> <p>Report presented to February 2021 Board</p>
7. Invest in Parks, play areas, cycle and walking routes in consultation with residents and users		
Develop a plan for the regeneration of Thompson Park as an activity and destination park for all ages in partnership with Friends of Thompson Park	<p>Neighbourhood and Community Board agreed the formation of a Task and Finish Group.</p> <p>ACDL to coordinate and arrange the group and regular updates to be provided to the Neighbourhood and Community Board</p>	<p>Membership of Task and Finish Group agreed</p> <p>Task and Finish Group met October 2020 priority agreed due to short timescale of funding opportunity for a group to develop a Places to Ride funding application to deliver cycling skills area in park and education/</p>

		<p>training, match funding required to deliver project</p> <p>November Board agreed to recommend to December Area Committee an alignment of £200,000 for the regeneration of Thompson Park and £25,000 of this to be a match to Places to Ride application with full applications to be presented to future Board and Area Committee</p> <p>December Area Committee agreed the alignment of £200,000 for the regeneration of Thompson Park. Task and Finish Group met January 2021, Design Services to update Regeneration Plan based on feedback from Group, discussions to be held with Lottery regarding potential funding opportunities. Places to Ride application passed Expression of Interest Stage with full application submitted 5th February 2021</p> <p>February Board agreed the formation of a smaller group to develop the plans to be considered for the Park and ensure input from the SARA project and linkages to potential Lottery funding applications</p>
Develop a plan for small scale improvements in Roker Park in partnership with Friends of Roker Park and within the Heritage status of the Park	ACDL to support the Friends of Roker Park to develop plan and funding applications	Chair of Friends carried out site visit suggestions for development shared with Friends Group and projects in

		development to inform a Community Chest Application Online Friends of Roker Park meetings held November 2020 and February 2021 – group are actively moving forward with suggestions put forward via social media and Friends meetings
Develop a plan for improvements at Hylton Dene as a wildlife and walking, cycling and running route/destination	To be discussed at future Neighbourhood and Community Board	
8. 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 session are accessible and not cost or time prohibitive, in partnership with All Together Better		
Ensure 5 Ward based Raising Aspirations Projects are providing services and activities to local residents	ACDL to continue to provide updates to the Neighbourhood and Community Board	The 5 ward based Raising Aspirations Projects continue to deliver the Community Hub Support to residents across North Sunderland.
Ensure North Communication Project keeps local communities up to date with activities and services on offer and promotes the North Area	ACDL coordinates the content and delivery of the North Communication Project in partnership with the Neighbourhood and Community Board	Project currently on hold due to COVID-19 and newsletter is to promote activities delivered in the Ward however work is commencing on delivering the leaflet element of the project Leaflet currently in development with anticipated distribution March 2021
North Area Committee in partnership with Public Health Funding have supported health related projects in Sunderland North	ACDL to continue to provide updates to the Neighbourhood and Community Board	
Beach Access North East leading on a project on behalf of Sunderland Seafront Steering Group to install a container adjacent to Marine Activities Centre which will house beach accessible wheelchairs with volunteers managing booking of the wheelchairs	September North Area Committee to consider a funding application to deliver this project	September Area Committee agreed funding for the project, project lead is now working with Sunderland City Council on the planning process

9. 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		
<p>Support the development of former Downhill School into a community hub current delivery includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Activities • Boxing Club • Nursery <p>Potential for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional facilities to support the boxing Club retain affiliation • Additional sporting activities utilising both inside and outside space • Gardening Club • Additional Youth activities • Parent and Toddler Groups • Activities for Older/Socially Isolated • Resident Group support 	<p>Neighbourhood and Community Board agreed the formation of a Task and Finish Group. ACDL to coordinate and arrange the group and regular updates to be provided to the Neighbourhood and Community Board</p> <p>.</p>	<p>Membership of Task and Finish Group agreed.</p> <p>Task and Finish Group met October 2020, agreed for leaseholder of the venue to pull together costs for capital and revenue to develop the Hub into a resource for the Community</p> <p>November Board agreed to recommend an application be presented to December Area Committee to provide security measures at Downhill Hub with a total of this application and alignment for future applications to be submitted to Board and Area Committee of £100,000</p> <p>December Area Committee agreed £14,970 for Security Measures and £85,030 alignment for refurbishment project. Task and Finish Group met February 2021 to discuss the refurbishment proposals and the services and activities proposed for the Hub. Full application to be considered in the Finance Report Item 3, Section 3.2, Annex 2</p> <p>February Board considered an Expression of Interest from Fulwell Community Library for funding to</p>

		<p>support the installation of a new roof and solar panels. Board agreed to recommend full application to be presented to March Area Committee. Details included in Item 3 Section 2.2, Annex 1</p> <p>The VCS has continued to be supported by the Area Committee, the Community hubs receive daily on-going support and the VCS network continues to be supported to ensure they have access to all funding opportunities. Members receive weekly performance reports detailing the support provided by the Community Hubs.</p>
10. Support youth clubs and spaces for young people to be together and feel safe		
<p>Neighbourhood Funding in place for Youth Partnership delivery across all wards in North</p> <p>Neighbourhood Funding in place for School Holiday delivery 2020</p> <p>£20,000 Neighbourhood Funding in Place for youth activities 2020 - 2021</p>	<p>Updates on delivery of provision to be provided to the Neighbourhood Community Board</p> <p>Neighbourhood and Community Board to discuss allocation of £20,000 available and the potential of developing a call for projects</p>	<p>£20,000 funding in place for youth activities 2020 – 2021 November Board agreed the development of a Call for Projects to be considered by future Board. February Board considered the proposal to utilise the £20,000 youth funding and add to the £20,000 for 2021 – 2022 for a full application to be developed by current North School holiday providers to develop a full application to cover school holidays 2021 – 2022 including Beach Camp to be presented to a future Area Committee.</p>

		<p>£10,000 remaining in the school holiday funding budget due to non-delivery of beach camp. November Board agreed to recommend to December Area Committee that this funding be utilised in Christmas and Feb Half Term School Holidays with the project leads for each Ward delivering activities for young people. December Area Committee agreed November Board recommendation</p> <p>February Board agreed to recommend an extension to existing school holiday providers to provide a 2021 – 2022 school holiday programme utilising the £20,000 Neighbourhood Funding in place for youth activities 2020 – 2021 and adding the 2021 – 2022 £20,000 youth allocation subject to a full application being developed and presented to future Area Committee. Details of which are included in Item 3 Section 2.3</p>
11. Launch a volunteer platform to support residents to get involved more within their communities		
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.	Volunteers registered on the North Platform have been provided with a booklet of volunteering opportunities from projects based within Sunderland North and City Wide
12. Support communities to deliver local events		

<p>North Area Committee supported Southwick Illumination Project since 2012 – further additions required 2020</p>	<p>July North Area Committee agreed £10,000 capital funding to support festive lighting project</p> <p>July Neighbourhood and Community Board agreed the focus for the North Illumination priority for 2020 to be Southwick Green and quotes and design options to be received for the extensive wrapping of 20 trees on Southwick Green with the expectation that additional funding will be provided from Area Committee.</p> <p>ACDL Completed Procurement Request Form 30th July 2020</p>	<p>Costs are anticipated to be over the budget available therefore additional funding to be requested at September Area Committee</p> <p>September Area Committee agreed additional funding</p> <p>Due to COVID 19 restrictions a Christmas Switch On Event cannot be held however the Christmas Tree is installed on Southwick Green and dressed with lights and was switched on in line with all other Christmas Lighting across the City on the 19th of November. Additional lighting will be installed in 2021</p> <p>Procurement process progressing for additional lighting installation 2021</p>
<p>13. Increase safety through the improvement of CCTV and additional enforcement</p>		
<p>North Area Committee funded CCTV and Enforcement project operational and ongoing</p>	<p>July Neighbourhood and Community Board received feedback on the current CCTV/Enforcement project and agreed the set up of a Task and Finish group to consider the feasibility of additional CCTV/Masts/Airtime costs</p>	<p>Task and Finish Group met October 2020 with Officers, Northumbria Police, TWFR tasked to identify hotspot areas and CCTV solutions within a budget of £100k.</p> <p>November Board agreed to recommend to December Area Committee an alignment of £100,000 for delivery of this project with a full application to be presented to future Board and Area Committee</p>

		<p>December Area Committee agreed the alignment of £100,000.</p> <p>Task and Finish Group met January 2021 discussed hotspot areas which are currently in the process of receiving a site visit to identify the relevant camera solution for the area to be then developed into a fully costed up application to be presented to future Area Committee. Full Neighbourhood Investment Capital Application to be considered in the Finance Report Item 3, Section 3.2, Annex 2</p> <p>February Board agreed to recommend to March Area Committee an increase in overall budget be aligned for delivery of the CCTV project to £200,000. Details included in Item 3 Section 2.2 and 2.3 and Annex 2</p>
14. Communicate heritage assets and deliver heritage activities to improve health and wellbeing and improve community cohesion		
Develop a project which provides access to event space at Hylton Castle in order to support bringing the community together and future sustainability of the Project	<p>July Neighbourhood and Community Board agreed the set-up of a Task and Finish group to develop plans to consider the proposals for the development of event space at Hylton Castle</p> <p>ACDL to coordinate and arrange the group and regular updates to be provided to the Neighbourhood and Community Board</p> <p>.</p>	<p>Membership of Task and Finish Group agreed</p> <p>Task and Finish Group met October 2020, project is awaiting a decision on a Heritage Lottery Fund Application which will include elements of outside space. Trust to obtain costs for fence, matting to cover grass to protect archaeology and internal marquee refurbishments with a view to presenting to future</p>

		<p>Board for consideration of recommendations to Area Committee</p> <p>November Board agreed to recommend to December Area Committee an alignment of £100,000 for delivery of this project with a full application to be presented to future Board and Area Committee</p> <p>December Area Committee agreed alignment of £100,000. Task and Finish Group to meet March 2021 to discuss next steps for project</p> <p>February Board considered an Expression of Interest from The Fans Museum for funding to support the development of Architectural Design, Videography, Photography and a Digital Tour Project. Board agreed to recommend full application to be presented to March Area Committee. Details included in Item 3 Section 2.2, Annex 1</p>
15. Preserve and Celebrate Local Heritage		
Southwick Green Redevelopment Phase 1 to commence July 2020	Regular updates to be provided to the Neighbourhood and Community Board	Southwick Green Redevelopment Phase 1 near completion. Local VCS organisations, Springboard, Southwick Neighbourhood Youth Project and Southwick Green Preservation Society have supported the project with bulb

		<p>and winter planting led by the Southwick SARA Project and supported by Southwick Community Chest funding.</p> <p>February Board agreed for Southwick Ward Councillors to consider the original proposals for the Southwick Green Redevelopment and develop phase 2 proposals taking into consideration a local voluntary and community sector organisation proposals for heritage signage and potential of external funding to support project. Full proposals to be presented to future Board and Area Committee for consideration</p>
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Highway Maintenance - Capital Programme 2021-2022

STREET NAME	WARD	Area (m2)	Treatment	Estimate Footway £	Estimate Road £
Caithness Road	Castle	40	Localised footway works	4000	
Cramlington Road	Castle	40	Localised footway works	4000	
Laburnum Grove	Castle	2733	Resurface carriageway		20800
The Broadway	Castle	520	Resurface footway	10575	
Bransdale Avenue	Fulwell	50	Localised carriageway patching		10000
Browne Road (part)	Fulwell	510	Resurface carriageway		6100
Fulwell Road	Fulwell	50	Localised carriageway patching		10000
Lee Street	Fulwell	500	Resurface carriageway		5750
Weardale Avenue	Fulwell	25	Localised carriageway reconstruction		5000
Brunswick Road	Redhill	200	Localised carriageway patching		6400
Ramilies/Rotherfield	Redhill	80	Localised carriageway reconstruction		2575
Ramsgate/Redcar Road	Redhill	150	Localised carriageway patching		4800
Redesdale Road	Redhill	100	Localised carriageway patching		3200
Rotherham Road	Redhill	60	Localised carriageway reconstruction		11150
Broadsheath Terrace (south)	Southwick	1500	Resurface carriageway		17750
Darwin Street	Southwick	1545	Resurface carriageway		18250
Eglington Street	Southwick	1675	Resurface carriageway		19475
Manx Square	Southwick	150	Localised carriageway repairs		21450

STREET NAME	WARD	Area (m2)	Treatment	Estimate Footway £	Estimate Road £
Swan Street	Southwick	1560	Resurface carriageway		18375
Burscough Crescent (part)	St Peters	280	Localised carriageway resurfacing		3300
Gladstone Street (part)	St Peters	20	Localised carriageway reconstruction		4100
Horatio Street rear	St Peters	1050	Resurface carriageway		12450
Mere Knolls Road	St Peters	30	Localised footway repairs	3900	
Roker Baths Road (part)	St Peters	25	Localised carriageway repairs		2500
			AREA TOTAL	22475	203425
			SELECTION TOTAL	22475	77525

TOTAL = £100,000

Schemes highlighted in bold represent officers' priorities based on members requests and local need considering the budget constraints.

<p align="center">NORTH SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE 25th March 2021 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I</p>	
<p>Title of Report: North Sunderland Area Budget Report</p>	
<p>Author(s): Assistant Director of Community Resilience</p>	
<p>Purpose of Report: Area Committee has delegated budgets to allocate to specific strategic priorities identified in the Neighbourhood Investment Plan, with the overall aim to benefit the wider community and to attract other funding into the area. The report provides a financial statement as an updated position on progress in relation to allocating Area Committee Neighbourhood Funding, Neighbourhood Investment Plan Capital Programme and Community Chest, and presents proposals for further funding requests.</p>	
<p>Description of Decision:</p> <p>Committee are requested to: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Note the financial information detailed in sections 2.1, 3.1 and 4.1 (b) Approve the 4 projects, detailed in Section 2.2 Annex 1 and Annex 2, from the Neighbourhood Fund (c) Approve the alignment of 2 projects from the Neighbourhood Fund as set out in Section 2.3 (d) Approve the 2 projects, detailed in Section 3 and Annex 2, from the Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme (e) Note the approved Community Chest grants within Section 4, from 1st April 2020 as detailed in Annex 3 	
<p>Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework? Yes</p>	
<p>Suggested reason(s) for Decision: The Area Committee has an allocation of £463,280 (inc Youth allocation) for 2020/2021 from the Neighbourhood Fund and £500,000 from the Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme to deliver key priorities identified in the relevant Neighbourhood Investment Delivery Plan and to attract other funding into the area.</p>	
<p>Alternative options to be considered and recommended to be rejected: The circumstances are such that there are no realistic alternatives that could be considered.</p>	
<p>Is this a “Key Decision” as defined in the Constitution? No</p> <p>Is it included in the Forward Plan? No</p>	<p>Relevant Scrutiny Committees:</p>

NORTH SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE

25th March 2021

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

North Sunderland Area Budget Report

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 Area Committee has delegated budgets to allocate to specific strategic priorities identified in the Area Neighbourhood Investment Plan, with the overall aim to benefit the wider community and to attract other funding into the area. The report provides a financial statement as an update position on progress in relation to allocating Area Committee Neighbourhood Funds, Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme and Community Chest and presents proposals for further funding requests.

2. Area Committee Neighbourhood Fund

- 2.1 The table below shows the financial position of the Area Committee Neighbourhood Fund 2020/2021:

Project Name	Committee Date	Budget Returned	Budget Aligned	Budget Approved	Budget Remaining
Starting Balance for 2020/2021 – (inc youth funding £20k)					£463,280
Dame Dorothy Community Hub	21.03.19	£36.00	-	-	£463,316
Phoenix Project	21.03.19	£4,560	-	-	£467,876
Ready, Steady “Redhill” (former Redhill Raising Aspirations project)	17.09.20	-	-	£34,000 (previously aligned)	£467,876
Beach Access for Roker Beach	17.09.20	-	-	£24,975	£442,901
Community Hub Redhill Project – Community Opportunities/SNCBC	10.12.20	-	-	£14,970	£427,931
Downhill Hub Project	10.12.20	-	£5,030	-	£422,901

- 2.2 There are **4** funding proposals presented to Area Committee for consideration from the 2020/2021 Neighbourhood Fund, set out below and further detailed at **Item 2 Annex 1** and **Annex 2**

- **Fulwell Community Library – Raising the Roof** **£18,250**
- **The Fans Museum – Wagon Shed Development Plans** **£11,384**
- **SNCBC/Community Opportunities Community Hub – Redhill – Phase 2 (previously aligned)** **£5,030**
- **Sunderland City Council - CCTV Project** **£61,366**

- 2.3 There are **2** alignment proposals presented to Area Committee for consideration from the 2020/2021 Neighbourhood Fund as set out below:

- **Sunderland City Council - CCTV** **£38,634**
- **School Holiday Activities 2021 – 2022** **£40,000**

2.4 The total Neighbourhood Fund budget requested for approval is **£174,664 (£5,030 of which was previously aligned)**. If approved, the remaining balance will be **£253,267**

3. Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme

3.1 Area Committee has been allocated £500,000 for capital developments which complement the Coalfield Area Investment Delivery Plan. The table below shows the financial position of the Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme, 2020/2023:

Project Name	Committee Date	Budget Returned	Budget Aligned	Budget Approved	Budget Remaining
Starting Balance for 2020/2023					£500,000
Festive Lighting Project	15.07.20	-	-	£10,000	£490,000
Southwick Illuminations Project	17.09.20	-	-	£10,000	£480,000
Regeneration of Thompson Park	10.12.20	-	£200,000	-	£280,000
Development of former Downhill School into a Community Hub	10.12.20	-	£80,000	-	£200,000
North additional CCTV	10.12.20	-	£100,000	-	£100,000
Event Space at Hylton Castle	10.12.20	-	£100,000	-	£0

3.2 There are **2** funding proposals presented to Area Committee for consideration from the 2020/2021 Neighbourhood Capital Investment Programme, set out below and further detailed at **Annex 2**

- **SNCBC/Community Opportunities Community Hub – Redhill – Phase 2** **£80,000**
- **Sunderland City Council CCTV Project** **£100,000**

3.3 The total Neighbourhood Capital Investment Programme budget requested for full approval is **£180,000 of the budgets previously aligned**.

4. Community Chest

4.1 The table below shows the financial position of the Area Committee, Community Chest Fund 2020/2021. Members are requested to note the Community Chest funding awards made from 1st April 2020, detailed in **Annex 3**,

Ward	2020/2021 Allocation	Budget Returned	Budget Approved	Budget Remaining
Castle	£10,000	-	£10,000	£0
Fulwell	£10,000	-	£8,300	£1,700
Redhill	£10,000	-	£9,000	£1,000
Southwick	£10,000	-	£4,983.45	£5,016.55

St Peter's	£10,000	-	£8,863.50	£1,136.50
Total	£50,000	-	£41,146.95	£8,853.05

5. Recommendations:

- 5.1 Note the financial information detailed in **Sections 2.1, 3.1 and 4.1**
- 5.2 Approve the **4** projects, detailed in **Section 2.2, Annex 1 and Annex 2**, from the Neighbourhood Fund
- 5.3 Approve the alignment of **2** projects from the Neighbourhood Fund as set out in **Section 2.3**
- 5.4 Approve the **2** projects, detailed in **Section 3 and Annex 2**, from the Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme
- 5.5 Note the approved Community Chest grants from 1st April 2020, as detailed in **Annex 3**

Contact Officer: Vivienne Metcalfe, Area Community Development Lead
vivienne.metcalfe@sunderland.gov.uk

Applications for North Neighbourhood Fund**Application No. 1**

Funding Source	Neighbourhood Fund
Name of Project	Raising the Roof
Lead Organisation	Fulwell Community Library

Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total NF Application
£74,000	£55,750	£18,250
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
2 Months	April 2021	May 2021

ALL PROJECT DETAIL TAKEN VERBATIM FROM APPLICATION**Project Description:**

Fulwell Community Library has over 100 volunteers helping to deliver the services provided from the venue including:

- A community café is now established and welcoming visitors to the venue. Prices are kept low and the café has been expanded to almost twice the size to accommodate a growing number of customers.
- Access to computers is available for those carrying out employment searches. Following the withdrawal of the printer from late March a new computer system has been installed making the library the most up to date in the City.
- Volunteers are providing a children story time session within the venue. This consists of stories for primary school children. Also running is a Rhyme time for babies and toddlers and a young mothers group.
- A local art group is exhibiting in the library and any sales achieved will result in a percentage donation to the library. The library also runs an Art Group many of who were new to art but have developed to the point where they have exhibited in the City
- The Community Library has joined the Sea Road and Fulwell Traders group in order to establish links with local traders and support the development of the local area. This led to the provision of a Christmas Tree and further illuminations in the area.
- A Community Choir is established and meets on a weekly basis and has 80 members. Many of these are from hard to reach individuals who come in company with friends.
- A local Ukulele group meet in the library and have 20 members
- Craft sessions are delivered to the local community with both a textile group and Knit and Natter where beginners are welcome.
- A Readers Group and a separate Writers Group meet in the library.
- Holistic sessions available for those interested.
- A monthly Quiz session is held
- Regular events such as afternoon teas, drama productions, talks, I-pad sessions and beetle drives are held among other activities.

The services and activities are accessed by all members of the community from young to old and from all areas of the North. In addition the library has become a focal point for those that are socially isolated by providing companionship and a safe, accessible and welcoming space for those with disabilities.

Due to the Covid Pandemic the Library has followed all guidelines and delivered the following:

- Book Deliveries within Sunderland North to Socially Isolated and a click and collect service.
- Worked in partnership with Friends of Fulwell with the delivery and collection of Activity Packs. Also can call on them for help with deliveries.
- Carried out major refurbishment project to improve our offering.
- Upgraded computer systems to state of the art Windows10 and 6 core processors, 22-inch monitors and a XEROX printer which is much more versatile than its predecessor.
- Gardening Project which is entering its final phase with numerous plants awaiting insertion. This has seen the boundary fence replaced and access to the public enhanced with two new gates and benches awaiting installation.
- Significant partner in Sea Road & Fulwell Traders Christmas Lighting and the Christmas Tree as well as helping with the cameras now fitted on Sea Road with plans for more. The library has helped the Traders access funding towards these ventures as well as underwriting the cost.
- Engaged Seaburn Rotary Club in various activities such as bulb planting and raising money.
- Encourage local authors and work with them including Glenda Young and Nancy Revell who are both on the national Best Seller lists on a regular basis and Sheila Quigley until her untimely death.

In order to continue the offer to the community the building needs to be fit for purpose and a warm, welcoming environmental for all. At the last door servicing the mechanic advised the front door had opened over 29,000 times since the last service even reducing by 30% this still leaves almost 50,000 visitors. The roof is now at the end of its life with leaks in several places and needs to be replaced by carrying out the following:

- Removal of the skylights on the roof which are in most cases not working and seized up.
- Strip the roof and fit a DPM rubber solution with a projected life of 30 years guaranteed. The roof will be boarded with Marine Ply.
- Installation of insulation which at present is non-existent in order to reduce utility bills with anticipated reduction of 20%.
- Fit a solar PV system which has a back-up battery. At its 7Kw rating it has been determined that it can run the electric system for 3 hours at full rating which will help over the winter. On days of low sunlight the battery, if depleted can recharge from lower cost overnight electricity. It is expected this system can save the library £600+ on electricity almost half of current usage.

Project Monitoring and Management:

The project will be monitored by regular board meetings by the Fulwell Community Library CIC and a member of the Board will be nominated to be project lead to liaise with the contractors.

Budgets will be managed via our financial recording, within accountancy spreadsheets in line with the CIC structure and invoices will be provided as evidence. We use a VT spreadsheet compatible with accountancy practices and employ an accountant to submit our Corporation Tax returns.

All budgets will be monitored to ensure a competent job is done.

Financial Breakdown:

Item and Description	Total Costs	Match Costs	NF Contribution
Replace roof	62,500	50,000	12,500
Install Solar System	11,500	5750	5750
Total	74000	5750	18250

If approved the following conditions are recommended:

- **Evidence Provided of Landlords Consent**
- **Evidence of Match Funding to be Provided**

Recommendation – Approve

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend approval of this project, which delivers to the North Area Investment Delivery Plan Priority of **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**

Application No. 2

Funding Source	Neighbourhood Fund
Name of Project	Wagon Shed Development Plans
Lead Organisation	The Fans Museum

Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total NF Application
£11,384	£0	£11,384
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
2 Months	April 2021	May 2021

ALL PROJECT DETAIL TAKEN VERBATIM FROM APPLICATION

Project Description:

Over the last 3 years we have secured the future of our Grade 2* listed building and created the Fans Museum, already a much-loved local institution, and a place, not only for football fans, but for everyone with an interest in the history of working people in our city, and an oasis for local residents, people with disabilities and the isolated and lonely. The next stage of our project is to grow the facilities at the Fans Museum to increase the number of visitors, volunteers and jobs, and to contribute positively to the regeneration of this area. Our key next phase projects include:

- The addition of a second wagon shed giving more space for a wide range of heritage related activities and volunteering (the specific focus of this project).
- The restoration of the railway bridge and opposite platform to create a much needed pedestrian link and to provide a highly visible focus to the museum.
- Increased activities for school aged children and older people ensuring all day use of the building once Covid restrictions are lifted.
- A micro-brewery with a vision to create skilled employment and high-quality local produce.

We have been awarded 50% or up to a maximum of £60,000 from Sunderland City Council on a match funding basis to cover half the cost of the capital works for the wagon shed. We are keen to ensure that this element of the project can raise its match funding and that it is properly connected to our larger vision. Our immediate need is for £11,384 to cover the costs of developing more detailed architectural plans for the site and a topographic survey, employing a bid writer to raise the match funds for the capital works, and design and print costs to ensure that we are communicating effectively with potential funders, local residents and stakeholders about our plans. This grant will act as a key catalyst for us to bring money from outside Sunderland to enable the Fans Museum to reach its potential. Our aim is to highlight what we could do with the site and what it would mean to the local community and its stakeholders. In just one year of operations before Covid, the Fans Museum generated amazing local support and reach with minimal public funding. Our ambition is to come out of Covid with an amazing story, a more diverse offering, a great story of our heritage and people of all ages and all abilities attending on a daily basis. The Fans museum will bring together soccer stars of the past and present, children, tourists and people who once worked in the mines and shipyards.

Our plans to improve the current building, bridge and opposite platform fit exactly with the wider ambitions of the city for the surrounding area including the proposals for Riverside and

will help to ensure that older residents and those struggling in the likely K-shaped economic recovery from Covid are included in the growth of the city and its ambition.

In order to deliver the Wagon Shed project there are a number of initial costs which the Fans Museum needs to cover. In normal circumstances we would have met these costs from the income from our activities however the Covid pandemic has forced the Museum to be closed for almost the whole of the last year, depriving us of almost all regular income. We are therefore asking the Neighbourhood Funds for funding for the critical preliminaries, without which the project cannot proceed. The Fans Museum has already covered some initial costs, such as £700 for weed removal to enable an effective drone survey of the site. The initial costs we are looking to cover are: for a pre assessment element, that will be the starting point of the full project, we have another 3 possibly 4 elements of Architect drawings as well as more Digital offerings and more Design and Print, as well as many other surveys to be carried out, ground contamination, utility surveys, drainage surveys, structural surveys. We have not asked for any financial support previously, these costs are literally our starting point so we can then engage with the community and the city planning authority to enable us to show a unique visual and interactive offering of what we want to bring to the destination.

The fundraising element of this bid will cover the costs of researching which funders we can approach for this project, producing a case for support for the project, and making some initial applications. We are unable to provide a detailed list at this stage of which funders we will apply to, as establishing that list is part of the work. However we anticipate that it will include a number of well-known national funders (e.g. National Lottery Heritage Fund, Clore Foundation, Foyle Foundation, Esmee Fairbairn Foundation) as well as more and regional local funders with an interest in community and/or heritage projects (e.g. Barbour, Vardy, Cookson). We will also consider applications to the various landfill tax credit providers (e.g. Biffa, FCC) and undertake a business case analysis on the possibility of utilising repayable finance from a social investor such as the Key Fund. Our preferred contractor for this work is Think Philanthropy, whose Director, Andrew Evans, is already working with Sunderland City Council on the Vibrancy strategy and has an extensive knowledge of funders with an interest in cultural, community and heritage projects in the area.

Through the consultation process funded by this grant we will involve other groups, such as Hetton 200, other railway and locomotive model groups (we are in contact with three such groups presently) and Network Rail to engage with and promote the project. This will drive footfall to the building, and help us recruit additional volunteers to support is in developing the full site to create a true full day experience. We believe our progress so far to be quick and efficient (we received a 35-year lease on the building and the offer of 50% funding for the capital works for the project on 22nd January) and this funding will enable us to keep that sense of momentum and engage the local community with our passion and desire to put Southwick and the North Side truly on the map.

The refurbishment of the listed spaces in a derelict area will present all those travelling on the Metro and Trains a view that will really create the word Gateway, and building the positive responses we will not only attract acknowledgements from our residents across the city, but those who will travel to see what we are creating. Enabling the footbridge to be restored and the opposite platform will be a great asset for our city

Partnerships:

Sunderland Football Club - Since setting up the Fans Museum we have been Integral to many aspects of support to the football club, being the starting process of the Fan Zone as

well as creating many charity fundraising nights at the SOL for many local charities. We have created something dynamic that is getting recognition from all other football clubs now and this will only grow when we can open up for many other heritage factors.

Sunderland University - The Fans Museum have been involved with many events for the University, creating days that International Students have loved and then shared their experiences back home to their families from different countries. We aspire to keep creating such amazing events that will enable students to look at Sunderland as their first choice, knowing they have a destination on their doorstep unlike another.

St Peters Church - Being steeped with history and having a huge link with the Fans Museum (we have a number of foundation stones from St Peters built into the Fans Museum) we can guarantee we will be embracing more to support St Peters. We will ensure we drive a footfall element to the church and to engage with our unique approach in doing so.

Sunderland College - Having supported the College now for three years by having work experience students, we have been informed we are a venue that many students want to choose to gain extra life experience as well as work experience. We plan to create more opportunities for students at the Fans Museum and will continue our partnership with the College.

Sunderland Council - The Fans Museum has covered many events to support SCC including the Mayor's Ball, Unison, Mens Health Days, even down to members of staff leaving parties. We see a very strong bond in what we have created and the knowledge that the building we are in will always be owned by Sunderland City Council.

Schools - We have supported schools from day 1, going into schools whilst we were still mobile to now seeing school parties visit us. We know when the holidays are here, we get a large number of children visiting. We find being the attraction we are, it is easy for all family members to have the common approach of loving football and how we engage with our Interaction is again something very unique.

Care Schemes – We have worked with children to make them aware of Dementia by taking them into care homes and hospitals to work alongside ourselves to let them understand what the world of Dementia is about. Post-Covid we will be emphasising the impacts of Isolation and Loneliness, something we have been pushing since March 2020 with daily videos of footballers telling their stories.

Vaux - We have a collection of over 2,500 items in our collection that will keep the heritage of Vaux brewery alive, as well as having Frank Nicholson involved. We see our plans for a micro-brewery not just to rekindle past history and engaging with the thousands that worked at Vaux, but also to provide jobs and an interactive attraction people can participate in.

Hetton Colliery Railway – We are looking to engage with this organisation and other locomotive enthusiasts.

Sir Peter Hendy, Chairman of **Network Rail** has provided us with a letter of support and we will partner with Network Rail on all the railway facing aspects of the site.

Project Monitoring and Management:

Michael Ganley will oversee the delivery of this element of the project. He will liaise and work with all parties involved to ensure completion of the design package ready for it to be launched and presented. Michael Ganley has over 25 years previous construction and building experience. He has lots of experience of project and risk management, and all proposed contractors will provide detailed work plans. Evidence can also be seen on what the Fans Museum has achieved thus far.

Our budget is based on quotations provided by experts we would like to work with on this project. Before signing any contracts we will obtain additional quotations for each area of expenditure to check we are receiving best value.

Financial Breakdown:

Item and Description	Total Costs	Match Costs	NF Contribution
Topographic Survey	1,320		1,320
Architects Fee	3,900		3,900
Bid Writing	3,564		3,564
Digital Design	1,800		1,800
Design & Print	800		800
Total	11,384		11,384

If approved the following conditions are recommended:

- Details of Board members – name and if applicable organisation representing
- Evidence of 3 or more Directors on CIC
- Evidence of All Required Documents submitted to Companies House
- Evidence of Lease in Place

Recommendation – Approve

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend approval of this project, which delivers to the North Area Investment Delivery Plan Priority of **Promote Heritage Assets and Deliver Heritage Activities**

Applications for North Neighbourhood Capital Investment Programme**Application No. 1**

Funding Source	Neighbourhood Capital Investment Programme
Name of Project	North Area CCTV
Lead Organisation	Sunderland City Council

Total cost of Project	Total NF Application	Total NCIP Application
£161,366	£61,366	£100,000
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
5 Years	March 2021	March 2026

ALL PROJECT DETAIL TAKEN VERBATIM FROM APPLICATION**Project Description:**

North Sunderland Investment Plan has been written in consultation with residents and partners from across Castle, Fulwell, Redhill, Southwick and St. Peters Wards. The plan has been developed to demonstrate a commitment to real change and investment within neighbourhoods across all partnerships to create solutions, alongside residents which will improve the local area.

During 2019 – 2020 the Let's Talk Sunderland engagement strategy was launched where residents were asked what they liked about their neighbourhood and what they would like to change. Many residents identified the need to offer a CCTV solution which would increase their feeling of safety and help with additional enforcement to deal with anti-social behaviour and environmental issues.

In order to achieve this the North Area Committee developed a Task and Finish Group to identify areas of concern and explore the opportunity for an increase in the number of Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras to support the detection and prevention of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and Environmental Crime/Enforcement.

This group included representatives from Northumbria Police, Tyne & Wear Fire Authority, Councillors and Council Officers. Each group presented a list of locations and discussions were heard as to the viability of each location, upon conclusion a list of twenty locations were recorded, attached as Appendix 1, and Council Officers were tasked with obtaining costings for the purchase and installation of suitable 10m heavy duty lighting columns and appropriate CCTV systems.

Council Officers have identified that a range of CCTV solutions are required from 4G high definition public space cameras to smaller independent cameras for environmental issues, as such numerous discussions have taken place with a range of camera system providers and system users.

As for the CCTV installations, it must be noted that these cameras will not be monitored 24/7 from within the Emergency Centre but will be viewed as and when required throughout the 24-hour period or following intelligence received.

With regard to the environmental enforcement cameras, there is currently a capacity issue to support the development of additional cameras as each camera requires a weekly site visit to remove the recording media and change the batteries. Therefore an element has been included within this project for resources to accommodate this routine attendance. An Officer has been identified to support the project and will work one day per week specifically with Environmental CCTV. This Officer is a member of the Security Team with training and experience of CCTV, and will receive additional training from the Environmental Enforcement Team. They will also carry out installation, evidence gathering and image production to investigating officers.

The following are identified as the most appropriate cameras for the areas and issues highlighted:

- To purchase six 4G Panoramic cameras, three 4G HD cameras with blue light and speech units, four 4G HD cameras with blue light from WCCTV
- To purchase four Smart Camera Pro from iDefigo/Vodafone
- To trial a StreetWatch camera from Viper Uk
- To resource an Officer for one day a week to support for the five years of the project
- To arrange the replacement of ten street lighting columns as to provide 10metre heavy duty columns.

Exact values for six of the proposed columns are still outstanding from suppliers, the exact number and therefore of Viper cameras is still outstanding and successful dependant on outcome of trial.

The project includes airtime, maintenance and staffing to cover a five year period

Locations of the cameras purchased in the first instance will be at their home location as detailed in Appendix 1 however relocations responding to need will be discussed through the Area Committee Chair Neighbourhood & Community Board Chair and relevant ward members. In addition this project will link in with the previously funded CCTV and Enforcement Project

Project Monitoring and Management

The project will be monitored by the project lead and regular updates will be provided to the North Neighbourhood and Community Board

The budget will be monitored through Sunderland City Council budget monitoring processes and all spend will be via SAP and evidence provided to Community Resilience for finance transfers to be actioned

Sunderland City Council have managed similar projects and will follow all accounting, auditing and planning requirements. Any delays in permissions will be communicated to the North Area Committee

Finance Breakdown:

Item and Description	Total Costs	Match Costs	NF Contribution
6 x 4G HD Panoramic camera	£46,500		£46,500

3 x 4G HD Mini Dome with Blue Light and Speech Unit	£21,750		£21,750
4 x 4G HD Mini Dome with Blue Light	£27,000		£27,000
4 x Smart Camera Pro	£21,425		£21,425
10 x 10m lighting Columns	£19,691		£19,691
1 x Staff (1 day per week for 5 years – total cost)	£25,000		£25,000
Total	£161,366		£161,366

Recommendation – Approve

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend approval of this project which delivers to the North Area Investment Delivery Plan Priority of **Increase safety through the improvement of CCTV and additional enforcement**

Appendix 1

Locations	Issue	Column Price	Camera Price	Comment
Shipwrights	Fly-tipping	£2,000	£21,425	Column plus iDefigo Cameras
Town End Farm Shops	ASB		£6,750	Column plus 4G HD Mini Dome with blue light
Downhill Pond	ASB	£3,500	£7,750	Column plus 4G HD Panoramic camera
Downhill Sports	ASB		£	Onsite existing private system
Downhill Skate Park	ASB		£7,750	4G HD Panoramic camera
Harry Watts (Ramalies Rd)	Fly-tipping		£	Adjacent to new school development
Southwick Cemetery	ASB	£2,454.05	£6,750	Column plus 4G HD Mini Dome with blue light
Witherwack Shops	ASB		£7,750	4G HD Panoramic camera
Hilda St	Fly-tipping		£	Potential for area can be seen from existing cameras
Mere Knowles Cemetery	ASB	£1,517.38	£6,750	Column plus 4G HD Mini Dome with blue light
Seafront Skate Park	ASB	£3,500	£7,750	Column plus 4G HD Panoramic camera
Sea Road	Speeding		£6,750	4G HD Mini Dome with blue light
Roker Park	ASB		£7,750	4G HD Panoramic camera
Osborne/Duke St	Fly-tipping		£	Viper camera to be considered after trial
Monk Street	Fly-tipping		£	Viper camera to be considered after trial
Roker Avenue	Fly-tipping		£	Trial of Viper Camera

Marine Walk	ASB	£1,393.13	£7,250	Column and Mini Dome with blue light and Speech Unit
Fulwell Quarry	ASB	£2,324.88	£7,750	Column plus 4G HD Panoramic camera
Queen Alexander Bridge	Health and Safety	£3,000	£14,500	2 x Columns and 2 x 4G HD Mini Dome with blue light and Speech Unit
Staffing		£ 25,000		
	Project Total	£ 161,366		

Application No. 2

Funding Source	Neighbourhood Capital Investment Programme
Name of Project	Community Hub – Redhill – Phase 2
Lead Organisation	Community Opportunities (SNCBC)

Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total NCIP Application	Total NF Application
£88,030	£3,000	£80,000	£5,030
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date	
11 Months	May 2021	March 2022	

ALL PROJECT DETAIL TAKEN VERBATIM FROM APPLICATION

Project Description:

SNCBC/Community Opportunities have been working closely with Sunderland City Council Officers and Councillors to develop a ward-based Community Hub in the Redhill area of Sunderland through a Task and Finish Group as agreed by the North Area Committee. The hub will respond to issues and ideas raised by residents through the recent Let's Talk public consultation exercise and will also contribute to achieving the strategic priorities set out in the Sunderland Masterplan.

The most suitable location for the Community Hub in the Redhill ward has been identified as the Downhill Centre as it has extensive indoor and outdoor facilities which have proven able to engage young people in a variety of activities, can provide a range of environmental activities such as a community garden, home grown allotment ideas, children's scavenger hunts and picnics as well as offering a base for more formally support such as training, learning, employability support and introductory sports, leisure and health activities.

An application was made to Neighbourhood Fund in late 2020 to improve security at the site, specifically installing shutters and replacing windows broken due to vandalism. This work has been successfully completed and we now wish to proceed with the phase two works to improve facilities to enhance activities for young people, learning, providing access for the community to suitably equipped spaces and upgrading such as the toilets and some kitchen resources to meet the required standards for use. The capital works to the building will also improve the appearance of the site for local residents and neighbours, particularly considering the new housing development which will run parallel to the boundary fence of the site.

The scope of the proposed works include upgrading the windows, fire exits and flooring to two previous classroom areas, along with a sink/washing area to enable multi-purpose use of these rooms for such as community meetings, coffee morning, mens club, toddler group etc. The toilets at the site include the original school urinals and pedestals and these will be fitted with new sanitary ware and flooring and walls will be decorated. The front entrance to the site will have remedial works carried out to the fascia to make this look smarter and more attractive and new flooring to the foyer and decoration of the rooms at the front of the Centre to create a welcome point and information Centre. The Hall area provides the original wooden floor from when the school was built and lends itself to sporting and recreational activities. There is a floor to ceiling window which creates difficulties around security and also creates issues when the sun is shining and blinds people from taking part in activities

successfully. Options to reduce the size of the window and introduce panelling are costed within this application but will need further stress testing measurements to be taken before we can confirm the most suitable design.

The exterior areas of the Centre are vast, offering a range of green spaces, outside Nursery play area, community garden and some tarmac areas. The tarmac has failed and cracked in many places however to replace all these areas would be in the region of £42,000 and therefore we propose to initially resurface the outside play area to the right front of the building, relay paving stones to the walkway to address movement due to tree roots and resurface the driveway into the site. We also recognise the opportunity work in partnership with local builders to potentially save costs.

A contingency amount has been included in the budget as we need to ascertain if there is asbestos in any areas that we intend to renovate, allow for waste disposal needs and unforeseen issues that may arise. We know that residents are unclear as to what activities are available in the building and have made an allowance for signage to be introduced.

We have gathered quotes which have formed the basis of this quotation however we intend to gather a minimum of two competitive quotes for all items. Building contractors are currently very busy and are therefore reluctant to come out to quote for the works until funding is secured.

Partnerships:

SNCBC/Community Opportunities will work in close partnership with a range of people and Organisations including Local Councillors, Sunderland City Council Officers, North VCS group to provide a suitably accessible and safe community hub which will benefit residents.

We will deliver services from the Community Hub in partnership with the All Together Youth Consortia, Family, Adult and Community Learning Partnership, REACT project, Hylton Castle Project, and the local Raising Aspirations Services. We work closely with the City Council sports and events teams and will share that information with our in-centre partners.

We have a network with local primary and secondary schools in the Redhill ward, through our delivery of youth work in the area since 2003 and hope to strengthen these links through the delivery of the Redhill Raising Aspirations project. We provide a range of services for young people with disabilities from our delivery base in Downhill Centre and have robust working relationships with professionals across the social care and childcare sectors.

Project Monitoring and Management:

We will monitor the planning and implementation of the project against a documented and time lined action plan. Project delivery will be monitored against the achievement and evidencing of outcomes and outputs as set out in this application.

Performance will be evidenced through paper records which we will hold in line with the legal data protection regulations.

SNCBC monitor and manage financial transactions through an electronic finance system, sage, supported by paper evidence and ledger referencing. These systems have satisfied several audits by such as European Social Fund, Sunderland City Council, Prime Providers on behalf of Department of Work and Pensions. Budgets are set at the beginning of a project and monitored on an operational basis by the relevant department Manager and

overseen by SNCBC Chief Executive monthly. All purchases must be authorised by the relevant line Manager and Chief Executive and all payments require the signatures of the Finance co-ordinator and Chief Executive. These systems will be mirrored in the operation of Community Opportunities Limited.

Financial records are randomly tested by the Finance Co-ordinator and Chief Executive a minimum of monthly. Annual accounts are compiled by an external company, historically this has been Torgersen's Accountants.

Any fluctuations against budgets set are discussed at quarterly meetings and where these remain within tolerance levels set, no action is required. When variations are outside of those tolerance levels, which are informed by project size and any seasonal fluctuations, then deviance controls are actioned which ensure financial re-profiling and monitoring of the cost of output delivery is undertaken on a weekly basis. This minimises the risk of overspending against budget but also ensures that best value opportunities are recognised, with cost savings been pursued and that the project is delivered to a high quality within the identified budget allocation.

All expenditure by SNCBC/Community Opportunities is evidenced through purchase invoices.

SNCBC occupy ten premises in Sunderland, all of which have fully repairing Lease and as such we are familiar with suitably assessing and costing repair needs through a reputable and established supply chain. This includes working with the planning department, Historic England, English Heritage and Heritage Fund in relation to listed buildings and scheduled ancient monuments that SNCBC run through documented Organisational Management agreements. Our NEBOSH qualified Health and Safety Manager will oversee the project works to ensure they meet any legislative requirements.

This proposal does not duplicate any work currently being delivered in the Redhill ward but rather adds value to it by improving resident access to local services for their benefit.

We believe our ability to identify and assess risk is well developed due to our experience of running other community projects in Sunderland.

We feel the main risks may be

Suppliers failing to deliver the works due to lack of materials – we understand that due to the impact of the pandemic, building materials have become more difficult to source. We have checked with the glazing and shutter suppliers who are confident that they would be able to respond to our request if approval is received for this project. We therefore feel this is a minimum risk however we will ensure regular communication with suppliers to ensure any potential delays are identified well in advance.

Suppliers failing to carry out works – if the preferred suppliers prove unreliable then we have additional companies identified who would carry out the works. The suppliers who have given the best value quotes have all carried out work at an SNCBC premises previously and have provided to be reliable and deliver quality work. We therefore think this scenario is a low risk.

Financial Breakdown:

Item and Description	Total Costs	Match Costs	NF Contribution
Windows (3 x classroom, toilets and Hall)	£28,800		£28,800
Flooring	£ 8,900		£ 8,900
Toilets	£12,900		£12,900
Kitchen	£ 5,500		£ 5,500
Reception and Information point – decoration and flooring	£ 3,000		£ 3,000
Classroom sinks etc	£ 1,400		£ 1,400
Painting x 2 classrooms and corridor	£ 2,750		£ 2,750
Tarmac	£12,500		£12,500
Paving	£ 2,500		£ 2,500
Signage	£ 4,500		£ 4,500
Contingency	£ 2,280		£ 2,280
Project Management	£ 3,000	£ 3,000	£ 0
Total	£88,030	£3,000	£85,030

Recommendation – Approve

Area Committee are recommended to approve this project, which has been developed through the Downhill Hub Task and Finish Group and delivers to the North Area Investment Delivery Plan Priority of **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**

Item 3 Annex 3

North Sunderland Area Committee

25th March 2021

Community Chest Awards April 2020 to March 2021

Castle Ward Budget	£10,000		Approvals
Project	Approval Date	Returned	Approvals
Hylton Castle Trust	14.10.20	-	£3,201
Castletown Community Primary School	09.02.21	-	£2,148
Hylton Castle Primary	11.03.21		£4,651
Remaining balance			£0
Fulwell Ward Budget	£10,000		
Project	Approval Date	Returned	Approvals
Theatre Space NE CIC (Joint with St Peter's)	24.07.20	-	£807.50
Fulwell and Sea Road Traders Association	18.08.20	-	£2,000
Sunderland City Council - Mast	25.09.20	-	£1,498.50
St Benet's RC Primary School	20.01.21	-	£1,150
Fulwell Junior School	20.01.20	-	£346
Whitburn Parish Church	04.03.21		£414
NE Sports	04.03.21		£2,000
Sunderland City Council - Wildflowers	04.03.21		£84
Remaining balance		-	£1,700
Redhill Ward Budget	£10,000		
Project	Approval Date	Returned	Approvals
Sunderland City Council – CCTV	11.03.21		£2,454
Sunderland City Council – VAS	11.03.21		£5,300
Community Opportunities – Downhill Gardening Project	11.03.21		£1,246
Remaining balance		-	£1,000
Southwick Ward Budget	£10,000		
Project	Approval Date	Returned	Approvals
Southwick Village Green Preservation Society	27.10.20	-	£1,228
SARA Project – (Sunderland City Council)	27.10.20	-	£476
SARA Project – (Sunderland City Council)	08.02.21	-	£2,279.45
Sunderland Home Grown CIC	08.02.21	-	£1,000
Remaining balance			£5,016.55
St Peter's Ward Budget	£10,000		

Project	Approval Date	Returned	Approvals
Theatre Space NE CIC (Joint with Fulwell)	24.07.2020	-	£807.50
Sunderland Community Action Group	24.07.2020	-	£765
British Divers Marine Life Rescue	22.09.2020	-	£456
Sunderland City Council - Environmental Services	09.12.2020	-	£3,150
St Benet's Primary School	07.01.2021	-	£2,902
Sunderland City Council - Wildflowers	10.03.21	-	£783
Remaining balance		-	£1,136.50

25th March 2021

REPORT OF NORTH AREA VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR NETWORK

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The report provides an update with regard to the North Area Voluntary and Community Sector Network

2. Background

- 2.1 To develop the capacity and influence of the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) across the City, Area Networks have been established and delegates represent each Area Network at Area Committee taking forward issues on behalf of the whole VCS in the area, reporting on area priority delivery by the VCS, and reporting back, providing a two-way flow of communication.
- 2.2 North Area Network delegates will present a report to each Area Committee meeting informing Members of activity, progress, issues and concerns of the sector.

3. North Voluntary and Community Sector Network (VCSN) Progress Report

- 3.1 The North VCS Network met via Microsoft TEAMS in December 2020 and March 2021. The Network has kept in regular contact sharing information and ideas.
- 3.2 The meetings included the following agenda items:
- Benefit/Debt/Advice Support Service – Pallion Action Group
 - North VCS Network Representation Selection Process
 - Moneywise Credit Union
 - SARA Project Update
 - Census Engagement Update
 - Networking and Information Share Opportunities
- 3.3 Regular funding bulletins have been provided to the Network to ensure VCS organisations are kept informed of funding opportunities available.
- 3.4 Winter COVID funding opportunity was circulated to the Network in November with an invite for VCS organisations to apply for funding to deliver support linked to the North Community Hub supporting residents to have a fantastic, safe and healthy Christmas as well as ensuring their general health and spirits are uplifted during Winter.
- 3.5 Mental Health & Wellbeing funding opportunity was circulated to the Network in February with an invite for VCS organisations to apply for funding to deliver to 2 Themes:
- Theme 1 – COVID-19 Young People Mental Health and Wellbeing Support
 - Theme 2 – COVID-19 Mental Health and Wellbeing Support
- 3.6 The North VCS Network became galvanised within days after the lock down was declared and transformed their services to ensure they continued to support those in need from across the North. Whilst many centres had to close services continued to be delivered but in different ways. Examples include food parcel delivery and collection points, activity

packs, on-line exercise sessions, cookery, quizzes, craft activities and training on social media.

- 3.7 Southwick Neighbourhood Youth Project, Sunderland Community Action Group, Sunderland North Community Business Centre and Friends of Fulwell as leads of the North Raising Aspiration Projects worked with the Council, CCG, Gentoo and resident volunteers to provide support for shopping, prescription pick-ups, befriending, dog walking and many more services for the North Community Hub. Hundreds of residents across the North have been supported, the network strengthened and identified what strong communities we have.
- 3.8 A key element of the Community Hub work was also asking local residents if they would be willing to volunteer to support the Hubs and be matched to residents. Due to the overwhelming support there are now many local residents registered on the volunteer platform willing to continue to support and volunteer within communities post COVID. Therefore the North VCS Network members were contacted to identify any volunteering opportunities they may have and the barriers to them supporting volunteers. These opportunities have been developed into a booklet which has had successful wide promotion to the registered volunteers with VCS organisations advising they are receiving requests to volunteer and support their projects.
- 3.9 As COVID-19 restrictions regularly change VCS organisations are advised to keep up to date via the Government website and VCS organisations from across the network share ideas on how they can re-open safely and offer services and activities to our communities within the restrictions. It is expected that activity programmes will look very different to previous years as the need to work within guidelines and restrictions are followed whilst respecting social distancing and implementing rigorous hygiene procedures.
- 3.10 Sunderland City Council in its continued commitment to support a thriving VCS in the city seeks to bring additional capacity to the sector through the recruitment of 5 Community Support Workers.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 Members are requested
- To note the contents of the report and consider the opportunities and issues raised by the North VCSN.

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