

## **COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE**

## AGENDA

## Meeting to be held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 at 6:00pm

# VENUE – Council Chamber, City Hall, Plater Way, Sunderland, SR1 3AA

### Membership

Cllrs Blackburn (Chairman), Burrell, Dodds, Heron (Vice Chairman), K. Johnston, Mason-Gage, Price, Rowntree, Scott, D. Snowdon, Speding and Thornton.

1.	<ul> <li>(a) Chairman's Welcome and Introductions;</li> <li>(b) Apologies for Absence;</li> <li>(c) Declarations of Interest; and</li> <li>(d) Minutes of the last ordinary meeting of the Committee held on 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 (copy attached).</li> </ul>	PAGE - - 1
2.	Neighbourhood and Community Board Report	9
	(copy attached).	
3.	Partner Reports	
	(a) Northumbria Police (copy attached).	37
	(b) Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service Update (copy attached).	39
	(c) Coalfield Voluntary and Community Sector Network report (copy attached).	45
	(d) Gentoo Update (copy attached).	49

Contact: Karen Mould, Principal Governance Services Officer Email: <u>karen.mould@sunderland.gov.uk</u> Pauline Hopper, Partnership and Community Resilience Manager Email: <u>Pauline.hopper@sunderland.gov.uk</u>

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

## 4\*. Coalfield Area Budgets Report

(copy attached).

\*Denotes an item relating to an executive function

## ELAINE WAUGH

### Assistant Director of Law and Governance

5<sup>th</sup> December, 2023

## At a meeting of the COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE held in the Council Chamber at City Hall, Sunderland on WEDNESDAY 27<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2023 at 6.00 p.m.

#### Present:-

Councillor Blackburn in the Chair

Councillors Burrell, Dodds, Heron (Vice Chair), Mason-Gage, Price, Rowntree, Scott and D. Snowdon

#### Also Present:-

Chris Binding	Local Democracy Reporter	
Jill Colbert	Chief Executive	Together for Children
Wendy Cook	Area Network Representative	Sunderland North Community Business Centre
Bill Little	Councillor	Hetton Town Council
Scott Wilson	Station Manager	Tyne and Wear Fire Service
Phil Baker	Inspector	Northumbria Police
Wendy Cook	Area Network Representative	VCS
Vicky Gamblin	Head of Neighbourhoods	Gentoo

#### **Chairman's Welcome and Introductions**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Coalfield Area Committee meeting and in particular Karen Mould, Principal Governance Services Officer.

#### **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors K Johnston, Speding and Thornton.

#### **Declarations of Interest**

The following declarations were received:-

#### Item 2 – Coalfield Area Committee Delivery Plan 2023-2026

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Councillor Dodds declared that she was a member of the Houghton Racecourse CA.

Item 4 – Area Budgets Report

Councillors Blackburn, Heron and Mason-Gage declared that they were Members of the Houghton Feast Steering Committee and withdrew from the meeting during the consideration of Application 1, Houghton Feast Community Programme.

Councillor Price declared that he was a volunteer at Houghton Feast and withdrew from the meeting during the consideration of Application 1, Houghton Feast Community Programme.

#### Minutes of the Last Meeting

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 7<sup>th</sup> June, 2023 (copy circulated), be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

#### **Neighbourhood and Community Board Report**

The Chair of the Coalfield Neighbourhood and Community Board submitted a report (copy circulated), which provided an update on the progress against the Area Priorities associated with the Delivery Plan, which would be the focus for the Coalfield Area Committee during 2023-24.

(For copy report - see original minutes).

The Chair of the Coalfield Neighbourhood and Community Board, Councillor Heron presented the report and highlighted the projects contained within the Coalfield Delivery Plan which provided an update on progress on the Area Committee's Area Plan.

Drawing the Committee's attention to the Dynamic Smart City priority, Councillor Heron advised that a call for projects had been circulated to groups and schools during September to develop applications to present at the November Neighbourhood and Community Board. She drew Members' attention to the 'Can Do' project highlighting that the deadline for applications was 31 October 2023.

Ms Pauline Hopper, Coalfield Area Community Development Lead, asked Members to promote the opportunity to groups of young people aged 11-19.

The Chair thanked all the Officers supporting the Area Committee.

Councillor Heron drew Members' attention to Annex 2 of the report, City Development: Economic Regeneration (City Development) and the Houghton Library improvements. Houghton Library would close at the end of October in preparation for the work to begin in December and would be back in operation at the end of March, based upon the current project plan. Councillor Heron explained that a pop-up library plan would be developed to provide library spaces during the transition period.

Full consideration having been given to the report, it was:-

- 2. RESOLVED that:
  - a) the progress and performance update regarding the Coalfield Area Committee Area Plan 2023/2026 be noted; and
  - b) the progress update with regard to Sunderland City Council Service Plans -Area Priorities be noted.

#### Northumbria Police Update

Inspector Baker, Northumbria Police provided an update to the Committee (copy circulated), giving an overview of crime in the Coalfield area in relation to burglary, vehicle crime, anti-social behaviour (ASB) and an update on the Autumn Plan.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Inspector Baker informed the Committee that ASB was tracking below reporting levels from the last three years and reports had reduced by 30 reports in the last period. The Committee's attention was drawn to the ASB hot spots for the sector which were currently Houghton, Shiney Row and Easington Lane which had changed from the published report.

Inspector Baker provided an update on the National ASB week of action. Houghton, Shiney Row and Easington Lane foot beats had had the benefit of multi-agency days which had resulted in: the recovery of several stolen bikes; arrests in relation to significant offences; good intelligence and excellent partnership working with Gentoo and the local authority ASB team.

Whilst Burglary Dwelling had proved a challenge, figures continued to track below the last three years in relation to offences and as such, the Coalfields area was performing very well. Focused efforts would continue in the area and teams were fully aware of target locations and offenders. There was a very low number of commercial burglary offences.

Vehicle Crime was tracking below the last three years however it was still an issue. It remained a key focus area for teams due to the potential impact on anti-social behaviour and several operations were underway. Several excellent arrests had also been made in the reporting period which had resulted in stolen vehicles being recovered.

Councillor Mason-Gage asked for clarification of Commercial Burglary and whether shop owners reported incidents of shop lifting. Inspector Baker explained that Commercial Burglary did not include shoplifting but that it related to burglary of a commercial property. He went on to say that teams worked with shop owners and action was taken against serial offenders. Councillor Burrell asked whether those arrested for vehicle crime had received custodial sentences. Inspector Baker was unable to respond as they were currently going through the judicial process.

The Committee having discussed the report, the Chairman thanked Inspector Baker for his attendance and it was:-

3. RESOLVED that the update be received and noted.

#### Tyne and Wear Fire Service Update

Station Manager Scott Wilson, Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service (TWFRS) submitted a report (copy circulated), providing Performance Monitoring details in relation to the Local Indicators for the Coalfield Area Committee area from 4<sup>th</sup> June 2022 to 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2023 compared with the same period the previous year.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor Rowntree asked if there was a reason why the incidents of deliberate fires in Hetton had remained the same as last year. Station Manager Wilson replied that Hetton always had had high figures and agreed to forward further information to Councillor Rowntree.

The Committee commended the Phoenix Team and their excellent work to engage young people on the Phoenix Project. Station Manager Wilson thanked the Committee and agreed to forward their comments to John Anderson.

Councillor Herron commented that it was excellent to have the Phoenix Project in the Coalfields Area to support and change lives for young people.

Councillor welcomed the new layout of the report.

Full consideration having being given to the report, the Chairman thanked Mr Wilson for his attendance and it was:-

4. RESOLVED that the content of the report be received and noted.

#### **Coalfield Voluntary and Community Sector Network Update**

The Coalfield Voluntary and Community Sector Network submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide the Committee with an update on the work of the Sector to date.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Wendy Cook, Area Network Representative presented the report and was on hand to answer Members queries.

Ms Cook advised that meetings had been held in June, July and September and the report detailed the presentations received at these meetings. An update was also provided on the Sunderland Voluntary Sector Alliance which included recruitment and the launch of the Membership Scheme in October 2023.

The Committee having discussed the report, the Chairman thanked Ms Cook for her attendance, it was:-

5. RESOLVED that the update be received and noted.

#### Gentoo Update

Gentoo submitted a report (copy circulated) providing an update on their work from June 2023 to September 2023.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Vicky Gamblin, Head of Neighbourhoods, briefed the Committee on Neighbourhood Services and the proposed Investment Plan programme for Houghton and Hetton during 2022/23.

Councillor Herron referred to the Sunderland Foodbank at Churchill Square Community Centre and thanked Gentoo and Esh Construction for opening the provision for residents in Fence Houses; providing them with access to vital food resources during the current cost of living crisis.

In response to Councillor Rowntree, Ms Gamblin agreed to order Estate Walks by Ward going forward.

Councillor Scott enquired whether single glazed windows in-situ were still prioritised for replacement as part of the City Wide Window scheme. Ms Gamblin confirmed that all window replacements were almost completed and offered to provide Councillor Scott with numbers should this be of help.

Councillor Snowdon noted the Tenancy Sustainment Fund and wondered whether Gentoo would house individuals on priority of need.

With regard to the Tenant Committee, Ms Gamblin confirmed to Councillor Price that it was City-Wide but also area based. Councillor Price observed it was up to the residents to disclose their area however commented that they could attend if not in a paid role.

The Committee having discussed the report and the Chairman having thanked Ms Gamblin for her attendance it was:-

6. RESOLVED that the above information be received and noted.

#### Coalfield Area Budget Report

The Assistant Director of Housing and Communities submitted a report (copy circulated), providing a financial statement as an updated position on progress in relation to allocating Area Committee Neighbourhood Funding and Community Chest and presented proposals for further funding requests.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms Pauline Hopper, Coalfield Area Community Development Lead, presented the report, drawing the Committee's attention to the current financial position of the Area Committee Neighbourhood Fund 2023/2024 as set out in paragraph 2.1 and 3.1, the Neighbourhood Fund proposals set out in 2.3 and Annex 1 and the Community Chest approvals supported from 2023/2024, as detailed in Annex 2.

Ms Hopper briefed the Committee on the applications for funding set out in paragraphs 2.3 and explained the budgetary implications set out in paragraph 2.4. She also referred Members to Application No. 3, Coalfield Christmas and explained that the Neighbourhood and Community Board had discussed a comprehensive three-year Christmas programme for the Coalfield Area. Members noted the addition of Newbottle to the programme.

Jill Colbert advised the Committee of the generous donations received at Christmas across Early Help and Together For Children(TFC). Jill suggested the lead Co-ordinators within TFC be notified to ensure maximum support for everyone.

Full consideration having been given to the report, it was:-

- 7. RESOLVED that:
  - a) the financial statements set out in sections 2.1, 3.1 and 3.2 be noted;
  - b) the three Neighbourhood Fund proposals set out in 2.3, excluding No. 1 Houghton Feast, be approved; and
  - c) the Community Chest approvals supported from 2022/2023, as detailed in Annex 2, be noted.

Councillors Blackburn, Heron, Price and Mason-Gage left the meeting during consideration of the following item.

Councillor Rowntree took the Chair for consideration of Application No. 1, Houghton Feast Community Programme.`

**RESOLVED** that:-

d) the Neighbourhood Fund proposal set out in 2.3, No.1 Houghton Feast be approved.

Councillors Blackburn, Heron, Price and Mason-Gage left the meeting during consideration of the following item.

Councillor Blackburn resumed the Chair.

#### **Current Planning Applications (Coalfields Area)**

A schedule (copy circulated) of current planning applications lodged during the period 1<sup>st</sup> July and 23<sup>st</sup> August, 2023 was submitted for Members' information only.

(For copy schedule – see original minutes).

8. RESOLVED that the schedule be received and noted.

Before closing the meeting, the Chairman thanked Members and Officers for their attendance and participation at the meeting.

(Signed) J. BLACKBURN, Chairman.

#### 13 December 2023

## REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF COALFIELD SUNDERLAND NEIGHBOURHOOD AND COMMUNITY BOARD

#### Coalfield Area Committee Delivery Plan 2023-2026

#### 1. Purpose of Report

1.1 This report is to provide an update of progress against the Area Committee's Area Plan priorities, which will be the focus for the Coalfield Area Committee during 2023-2024.

#### 2. Background

- 2.1 The Area Committees are part of the Council's Executive Function. The purpose of the Area Committees is to:
  - Lead on the development, implementation, and effective delivery of an Area Plan, working closely with residents to ensure the plans include all main priorities for the Area, which enables residents to be resilient, The Area Plans are linked to the City Plan and other significant strategies for the city.
  - Actively encourage local residents to become involved in shaping the Area Plan, ensuring delivery of activities to support matters which affect them.
- 2.2 The Article 10 Area Committee Area Plans for 2023 2026 were agreed by Area Committees in June 2023 and approved at Cabinet in July 2023.
- 2.3 It is now the responsibility of each Area Committee to deliver their agreed priorities to support the delivery of the Area Plan.
- 2.4 The Neighbourhood and Community Board supports the work of the Area Committee and specifically the delivery of the Area Plan. The Boards are chaired by the Vice-Chair of the Area Committee and are practical and action-orientated groups. The role of the Board is to respond to all priorities in the Area Committee Area Plan, as agreed by the Area Committee. They develop and implement plans for the delivery of each priority and make recommendations to the Area Committee based on information and research and working closely with partner agencies, particularly the VCS, to ensure effective delivery of the plan.
- 2.6 The Board is not a decision-making body, the work of the board is presented to each Area Committee via this Report of the Chair of the Neighbourhood and Community Board. The purpose of the report is to update on progress in relation to the delivery of the Area Plan in addition to making any recommendations of the Board to the Area Committee for final approval. Funding decisions to support delivery of the plan can be found at **Item 4 Area Budget Report.**
- 2.7 Additionally all Sunderland City Council Service leads, when producing Service Plans this year, provided a list of Area Priorities, where relevant, for each of the five geographical Areas of Sunderland and have agreed that regular updates for those priorities will be appended to this report, to the relevant Area Committee, to provide quarterly performance updates (Annex 2).

#### 3. Area Committee Area Plan 2023-2026- Areas of Key Action and Progress

- 3.1 The last meeting of the Neighbourhood and Community Board, held in November, received applications from three groups of young people as part of the CAN DO project. Each group presented their request to the Board and were awarded £750 per organisation to deliver various activities.
- 3.2 November Board received a report to commence the process for the development of the 2024-2025 Highways Maintenance Programme and were updated on the 2023 2024 scheme progress.
- 3.3 November Board received feedback from Marion Dixon, Assistant Director of Regulatory Services and Craig Mordue, Assistant Director of Transport and Infrastructure on their service areas.
- 3.4 Vehicle Activated Signs and Motorcycle Disorder were also discussed. Further information can be found in **Annex 1** to this report and within **Item 4 Budget Report**.
- 3.5 Attached as **Annex 1** is the Coalfield Area Committee Delivery plan which highlights progress against the Area Committee plan. Good news stories and promotion of projects are shared at every opportunity.
- 3.6 Attached as **Annex 2** is an update on Sunderland City Council Service Plans Area Priorities, specifically relevant to the area, including a quarterly update on progress for information purposes only.

#### 4. Recommendations - Members are requested to:

- 4.1 Consider the progress and performance update with regard to Coalfield Area Committee Area Plan 2023- 2026.
- 4.2 Consider the progress update with regard to Sunderland City Council Service Plans Area Priorities, for information purposes only.
- Contact Officer: <u>pauline.hopper@sunderland.gov.uk</u> Pauline Hopper, Partnership and Community Resilience Manager

#### Coalfield Area Committee Delivery Plan 2023 - 2026

#### Updated December 2023

The Area Plan commits the Area Committee to a number of priorities, which will be delivered within the Coalfield Sunderland area. This Delivery Plan provides an update on progress on the Area Committee's Area Plan and will be monitored by the Area Committee and actions will be addressed throughout the next three years via the Coalfield Neighbourhood and Community Board.

Priority	Progress Update
Dynamic Smart City We will have	
A Can Do Project to develop skills of young people	Three groups of young people attended the Neighbourhood and Community Board on 14 November to present their proposals to Councillors. Kepier School, Houghton Boxing Club and Philadelphia Cricket Club were all successful in their applications for funding. A further round of funding will be open in January 2024 for consideration at the February N&C Board meeting.
Coalfield Communities Connected Project to develop digital skills of residents	The Coalfield Communities Connected IT project is delivered by Springboard in four locations, 'Community Hubs', each week. In all hubs, participants have access to laptops and PCs, and also get support in improving their knowledge on the use of their personal mobile phone and tablets (using venue's wifi). It has been identified that digital poverty is a factor for many residents so the project offers free data via the databank to be able to offer additional resources to clients to support their digital development. Hubs are reviewed regularly to ensure the best coverage for all sectors of the community. Members were provided with an update via the project performance report circulated in November 2023.
Support to residents to improve financial resilience via R U Ready	The RU Ready for UC project, funded by Coalfield Area Committee, and delivered in partnership by Springboard and ShARP continues to support residents to apply for and maintain their Universal Credit requirements including job search, journal upkeep and providing advice and guidance where relevant. Members were provided with an update in November 2023.
A VAS and Road Safety programme	The current VAS programme consists of 32 locations and 13 signs which are rotated on a quarterly basis. Members are provided with performance and data reports each quarter. The project ends in January 2024. The N&C Board discussed this at the

A Tree planting programme across the area	November meeting and recommend continuation of the project. A proposal will be presented to Area Committee in December 2023. <b>See Item 4, Budget</b> <b>Report</b> In addition to proposals put forward to plant trees on a number of the 13 sites included in the LinkTogether project, members have been asked to submit relevant locations within their ward for consideration for inclusion in a 'community orchard' programme. Discussions are underway with Durham Wildlife Trust and Wear Rivers Trust to develop an educational project with local schools. The 'Source to Sea' initiative highlights the 'journey' of a plastic bottle (or
Healthy Smart City	other discarded items) through local waterways to the sea and the coastline
We will have Provision of positive activities for young people during school holidays	The Coalfield Area Committee approved 12 project applications, totalling £55,932 at the June Area Committee to deliver a programme of holiday activities from July 2023 to May 2024. Over the summer and October school holidays, projects have provided a wide range of activities such as sports, swimming, crafts, cooking, environmental activities and day trips. All included a drink and snack. The Fun and Float sessions at Hetton Pool were a new addition to the holiday programme. During the summer holidays 137 children and young people from all four wards across the Coalfield accessed these free sessions at Hetton. Children from Shiney Row ward could also access Washington pool – 39 individuals with a Shiney Row postcode enjoyed the free sessions during July/August.
Youth clubs in each of the four wards	The two year Neighbourhood Fund project 'Youth Choices', delivered by Community Opportunities, provides two sessions of youth activity, per ward, per week. Current sessions are delivered at outdoor and indoor venues including Flatts Youth Centre (and field), Shiney Row CA (and Claremont Drive field), Houghton Racecourse CA (and Kirklea field), Houghton Sports Centre (and MUGA). 415 individual young people accessed youth services/activities in the previous quarter. A total of 87 sessions were delivered and, during summer, sessions were delivered through HAF (Holiday Activity and Food) funding. All sessions provide our young people with a safe space to meet, where they can engage in discussions and talk about issues that are relevant to their lives or make sense of what is happening in the world. Common themes have been the war in Ukraine, refugees and asylum seekers, bullying, confidence building, relationships, health, and wellbeing, ASB and risk-taking behavior. Members were provided with an update via the project performance report circulated in November 2023.

Delivered by Everyone Active, the project offers the opportunity for 11-15 year olds in the Coalfield area of the city to participate in a programme of junior gym and wellness sessions at Hetton and Houghton Sports Centres. The project will engage 12 young people per quarter, 48 different young people over a year. The young people will be given a gym induction of the safe use of the equipment and will be free to come and use the gym and swim facilities at certain allocated times throughout the week. Everyone Active will also put on a regular weekly bootcamp for 15-19 year olds.
The Links for Life programme will support increased social and wellness activity. The Neighbourhood and Community Board will discuss this priority in February 2024.
Links for Life is Sunderland's social prescribing programme. Further information is contained within the Links for Life update in <b>Annex 2.</b>
The two year Clean it, Green it project, delivered by Springboard, continues to deliver activity across all four wards on sites and locations which are not currently on a maintenance schedule and need environmental improvement. One Councillor from each ward sits on the steering group, alongside SCC and Gentoo colleagues. The meetings discuss progress and propose locations for action by the team. Volunteers and residents are supported to carry out improvements within their own neighbourhood, and Springboard and Community Opportunities (in partnership) tackle larger scale works. The project complements mainstream cleansing schedules and works alongside Sunderland City Council Environmental Services and Gentoo. A Clean it, Green it facebook page is under development.
The Stephenson Trail project is ongoing and a number of events and activities have taken place to highlight the heritage aspect of the trail. Local community events throughout the year are supported by Community Chest and Neighbourhood Fund.
The 2023 Houghton Feast was delivered successfully in October 2023. The opening ceremony, and parade saw hundreds of community groups, schools and residents engaged in activities and entertainment. The planning for 2023 will commence early in the new year.
Following allocation of Neighbourhood Fund and Neighbourhood Capital Improvement Programme, works are underway to improve the pavilion at Herrington Colliery Welfare Ground. The Class A football pitch has been improved and encroaching

	trees have been removed and pollarded. Repairs to the spectator rail has been completed and external fencing will be installed early in the new year to protect the site from unauthorised use.
Improvements to Houghton Rectory Park	Improvements at Rectory Park are ongoing. The railings around the park have been repainted and the large tree restricting access near the entrance to the Old Rectory has been removed. As part of the Area Committee funded project, new benches have now been installed and future works including creation of a reflection garden, a places to ride cycling area and planting ground covering plants are planned for Spring 2023.
Delivered the Stephenson Trail heritage programme	The Stephenson Trail programme has delivered a wide range of environmental and educational activity across the Coalfield, East and West areas. A comprehensive update was sent to members of all 3 Area Committees in August 2023. A 12 month programme of maintenance works is now being developed with community organisations in each of the 3 areas. Waymarkers have been installed along the route and information boards have been erected in three locations. A map/booklet has been designed and printed and is available in various venues and electronically.
Contributed to habitat and ecological improvements via Link Together	Development proposals for each of the 13 sites have now been prepared. Consultation on each site plan has been carried out and will be used to inform the final spec for each site. This development stage of the project has engaged residents and groups across the area. The delivery phase of the project is planned to commence in 2024. To gain more value for money it is proposed that the NF funding allocated to this project is held by Sunderland City Council's Low Carbon team, jointly managed with Durham Wildlife Trust.
Continued the Proactive Coalfield Anti-social behaviour project	The additional, proactive, ASB Officer for Coalfield is working alongside partners, businesses and residents to identify and target problematic areas in a planned way. A performance update with specific ward based information was provided to members in November 2023.
Held a Coalfield Pride Event at Houghton	The Coalfield Pride event was held on 19 August 2023 at The Rectory Field, Houghton le Spring. It was a successful family focused event, building on the inaugural event in 2022. In addition to headline music and drag acts, craft stalls, children's entertainment, food court, wrestling and dance displays were provided.
Developed environmental improvements at Copt Hill and Seven Sisters	Following approval of Neighbourhood Capital Improvement Programme funding, a number of site visits have take place at the Copt Hill/Seven Sisters site. Proposals for improvements include information boards and signage.

	This will complement work to be carried out as part of the LinkTogether project. Durham Wildlife Trust will lead on this project and a detailed proposal will be sent to members for consultation prior to work commencing.
Supported VCS organisations and Community Hubs	A Coalfield Voluntary and Community Sector Network meeting is held on the first Tuesday of each month. The meetings are chaired by the Vice Chair of Area Committee and continue to be well attended, participative and informative and provide a mechanism for attendees to network with Council Officers, partners and community organisations. The PCRM has supported a number of groups with advice and support on funding, governance and project development.
Improved Community Assets	The November 2023 meeting of the Neighbourhood and Community Board discussed support for organisations delivering services in local community buildings. The Board agreed to align a sum of funding, initially £75,000, to this priority and carry out a call for projects which organisations could apply to for improvements to their building. The N&C Board recommend a maximum value of £7,500 per application. This will be reviewed at the February 2024 meeting. <b>See Item 4 Budget Report</b>
Supported the celebration event at former Houghton Colliery site	Work on the new retail development at Houghton is underway. The mining heritage artwork is complete and in storage until the site is at a stage to incorporate the installation. A celebration event and unveiling of the artwork will be planned in 2024.
A Christmas Tree at Newbottle	Further to approval of funding at the September Area Committee to deliver the 'Coalfield Christmas' project, arrangements were made to install infrastructure to accept delivery of a 30ft Christmas tree in November 2023. The tree lights were switched on at a community event on Friday 1 December. The local community, including St Matthews, provided entertainment and refreshments.
A Music Event at Elemore Park	The first live event took place at Elemore Park on Saturday 26 August 2023. The event included a number of acts such as Marty Longstaff (Lakes Poets), Houghton Brass, Dennis and James Thoroughgood. Fun entertainment and activities for all of the family were also provided. This successful event attracted approximately 500 residents.

#### Service Plans – Coalfield Area Priorities – for information only 1. ADULT SERVICES: Strategic Commissioning Team and Strategic Safeguarding Team

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Doric View	Development of Supported Living Accommodation for adults with social care, support and accommodation needs, in partnership with the Registered Social Landlord	TBC	TBC	Bernicia are to proceed with completing suitable drawings and a planning application. The necessary improvement works are expected to start in the next financial year.

#### 2. CITY DEVELOPMENT: Economic Regeneration (City Development)

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
2023/24 planting	Tree and hedgerow planting at a series of individual sites as part of Low Carbon Framework. Options for sites in each area to be assessed and then discussed with Neighbourhood & Community Boards		3/24	Individual planting schemes developed in further detail, with some requiring further consultation before the overall programme is finalised. Seven sites currently have in- principle funding approval: Holmeside Phase 2 (East); Hetton Primary School (Coalfield); Rickleton Primary School (Washington); Roker Park (North), Silksworth Ski Slope and Pit Wheel (West); Doxford Park (East); Ryhope Junior School (East). An additional 3-4 sites are also being considered and are currently at the feasibility stage.
Framework and	Range of city-wide low carbon programmes and projects across the seven strategic priority areas to include			Link Together Heritage Lottery bid for £915,000 has been submitted – if successful it will support greenspace uplift to 13 sites across the Coalfield.

implementation withi Area Committee area	Sunderland City Council is working in partnership with energy suppliers Utilita and E.On on the current phase of Energy Company Obligation (ECO4), which requires energy suppliers to implement energy efficiency improvements in residents' homes. The scheme is aimed at lower income and/or vulnerable households and less energy efficient properties with the aims of tackling fuel poverty, reducing carbon emissions from the domestic sector and improving thermal comfort. The ECO4 scheme was launched in October and is available to residents in all areas of Sunderland (city-wide). Utilita will include a particular focus on engaging with residents in Southwick (North) and E.On with residents in Hendon (East) during Nov/Dec to raise awareness of the scheme and its benefits to residents. Eco- 4 will run to 2026 across the city.
Houghton library improvements	<ul> <li>Houghton Library closed on Saturday 3rd November – The decant of all internal furniture will take place in the weeks following ready for construction work to begin on site WC Monday 4th December 2023</li> <li>Alternative provision in Houghton will be provided during this time including:</li> <li>Click and collect service and a Pop up library service delivered from the Café unit at street level within the library building on Newbottle Street.</li> <li>Extended Books at home provision</li> </ul>

## 3. City Development: Regulatory Services

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
HALO (currently Safer Streets Funded)	1 x community engagement worker and office costs	08/22	08/23	Project continues to deliver agreed aims and objectives. the expansion into Easington Lane has been welcomed and community events at ELCAP are well attended.

	1 x partnership officer	01/23	01/24	funding for the community engagement worker has been secured until March 2025.
ASB Project (currently AC funded)	1 x ASB officer Proactive approach working in identified areas across the 4 wards in Coalfields	09/22	09/24	Neighbourhood Enforcement AC update submitted October 2023 via agreed reporting arrangements
Motor Cycle Task and Finish meeting				MC attends these meetings and has updated the board on new dedicated team and the ask for AC.
Elemore Festival	Community Folk music event	8/23	9/23	Event successfully held 26th August

## 4. CORPORATE SERVICES: Smart City Team

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Digital Inclusion	Delivery of a range of DI initiatives subject to interest/approval	4/23	4/26	Significant work ongoing, a newsletter is available and can be circulated if of interest and further information can be found in the City Resources section of our website: <u>www.sunderlandoursmartcity.com</u> In addition, Digital Dashboards have been produced for every ward detailing the existing digital provision, challenges, and potential opportunities for consideration. Attached at Appendix A.
Smart Cities	Opportunities for a range of digital and data solutions e.g. interactive play, smart bins etc	4/23		Significant work ongoing, further information can be found across our website and in the Innovation Challenges section: <a href="http://www.sunderlandoursmartcity.com">www.sunderlandoursmartcity.com</a>

#### 5. CORPORATE SERVICES; Property Services (Strategic)

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	
Houghton New Depot	Design and construction of a new Coalfields depot to replace the current provision at Market Place Industrial Estate	4/23		A preferred site at Rainton Bridge has been identified. A project brief has also been agreed and a revised funding application has been submitted for approval. Detailed design and further due diligence on the proposed site are progressing.
Hetton Park	Renewal / Re-surfacing of tarmac footpaths	4/23	3/24	The path through Hetton Park is being improved from the Hetton Centre end to the new tennis court by Building Services. The work is currently planned in for the new year with completion by March.

#### 6. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES:

#### Bereavement Services

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion Full expenditure by	
Improvements	Prioritisation of improvement measures within area cemeteries according to an assessment of risk, need and local demand	June 22	Ongoing	As part of the ongoing cemetery improvement works led by the Cemetery Improvement Boards, work is advancing on the enforcement of cemetery regulations relating to unauthorised items and enclosures on lawn section graves. In the coming week, signage will be installed in relevant cemetery sections providing advanced notice of the removal of unauthorised items on lawn section graves, following written notice of the requirements to remove items sent to each grave owner concerned.

	<ul> <li>Following the initial removal works, operations will temporarily cease for the Christmas period and resume in January, continuing until complete.</li> <li>As part of the memorial safety programme in all cemeteries, safely audits have now been conducted and we are awaiting the findings from our consultants. Further updates will follow as the findings are available.</li> <li>Cemetery Improvement Board meetings will continue to convene on a bi-monthly basis and have been instrumental in developing the process for the regulatory implementation. As regulatory enforcement becomes part of business as usual, and the memorial safety testing programme is underway, cemetery specific action plans will be introduced to identify and deliver on improvement works specific to each cemetery dependant on local requirements and need.</li> <li>In addition to the regulatory enforcement and MST programme, the board are currently reviewing options to improve cemetery maintenance including the sowing of low cover and slow growing clover seed in older sections as an alternative to grass, as well as increased signage relating to issues around the control of dogs in cemeteries.</li> </ul>
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#### 7. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES: Local Services

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	
		1 <sup>st</sup> April 2023	2023	The 2023 trial which commenced on the 1st of April which is due to conclude on the 30th of September 2023 is enabling Local Services to ensure we capture a full weed season. The process is allowing us to monitor the impact of using alternative methods to Glyphosate, understand how effective other weed control methods can be, the impact these treatments have on the effectiveness of maintenance,

	use of herbicides in weed killing.			resource, costs, equipment/training requirements, environmental and visual impact, and importantly the views of our residents.
				To date detailed records on all aspects of the trail are being gathered and analysed. Aspects such as:
				<ul> <li>Application process</li> <li>Environmental Impact</li> <li>Cost</li> <li>Effectiveness</li> <li>Resident Feedback</li> </ul>
				We are continuing to engage with residents, our wider council colleagues, key city stakeholders and neighbouring authorities.
				We are also engaging with several other Authorities and organisations such as Cardiff Council, South Lanarkshire Council, Brighton Council the Amenity Forum and APSE.
				A final report will be produced and published following the conclusion of the trial. The further targeted trials which started in April have continued into November 2023. The detailed trial will provide clear evidence to review, enabling consideration of the available options, cost and resource implications for each method tested.
	A cituwido trop inspection and	Mov	2027	The results of the trial will inform the appropriate next steps.
Tree Surveying	A citywide tree inspection and mapping project.	2023	2027	Tree inspections and mapping commenced in May 2023. Starting in the East area to date we have surveyed and digitally mapped over 5000 trees. The survey will move into the West area over the coming weeks. The survey will enable SCC to fully understand our tree stock, which will in turn increase our ability to manage the risk more effectively.

			The survey will also facilitate a much more proactive approach to tree planting and replacement, establish how much carbon as a city our trees can sequester, it will also inform us of the overall impact of Ash Dieback disease. The data base as it grows will provide a deeper case by case record of each tree and its inspection record which will improve member and customer journeys as the information held will provide more detailed information when responding to customer requests and complaints.
Trialling alternative Electric equipment to replace petrol fuelled kit to reduce carbon emissions.	May 2023		We continue to trial alternative kit not only to reduce carbon emissions but to reduce the hand arm vibration some kit exposes our workforce to. To date we have tested Electric hedge trimmers, chainsaws, strimmers and grass cutters. We are hoping in the coming weeks to explore hybrid chipper technology. We are also working with our fleet team to future proof our kit replacement programme factoring in the feedback we capture as part trials and are confident that over a period of time to further reduce our reliance upon petrol tools and equipment. Trials are continuing with appropriate tools being considered as part of our fleet replacement capital programme.
Improving green spaces in Coalfields.	April 2023	March 2024	<ul> <li>Shiney Row war memorial was given an overhaul and some new plants we're planted in the tubs to give more colour and a better display.</li> <li>Easington Lane war memorial was also treated to some new plants in the planters and the brick structured beds given a general tidy up.</li> <li>Hetton town centre planters refreshed with some new sustainable planting to compliment the hanging baskets.</li> <li>Bringing in the planters from the Broadway at Rectory Park to revamp them ahead of spring.</li> <li>Shiney Row planters are to be fully refreshed ahead of spring.</li> <li>Where any of the plants have perished in the other planters at Easington Lane, Hetton Town Centre we will replace.</li> </ul>

Rectory Park Improvements	Rectory Park Improvements.	April 2023	March 2024	<ul> <li>New planters implemented to close off the unofficial car park, these will be distributed into the park following the decision with property services about the space.</li> <li>All park benches have been replaced, except for a memorial bench.</li> <li>Looking at plans to improve the shrub beds in spring 2024.</li> <li>This will involve removing older beds and replanting with a more sustainable shrub which will provide a mixture of colours through the growing season. Also looking at planting spring bulbs and wildflower sections.</li> </ul>
Hetton Park	Renewal / Re-surfacing of tarmac footpaths	4/23	3/24	The path through Hetton Park is being improved from the Hetton Centre end to the new tennis court by Building Services. The work is currently planned in for the new year with completion by March. As per Building Services

#### 8. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES: Winter Maintenance

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
	Trials of several infrared road surface sensors across the highway network.	through the winter of 2023/2024	remains ongoing through the winter of 2023/2024	Following the recent trial of 10 smart sensors at a variety of key locations across the city, the detailed findings of the trial have enabled the Environmental Services Winter Maintenance Team, to further improve the planning for the essential replacement of the city's Vaisala weather station network and ensure that the positioning of the new equipment is optimised in response to the current and future development of new key routes and any road network changes across the city. With the new installations of modern Vaisala equipment occurring from May 2024, the road users of Sunderland can be assured the city will have some of the most advanced weather

				monitoring and forecasting equipment available, provided and supported by one of the market leaders in the industry.
Development of a salt barn in Houghton.	Construction of a new Coalfields depot to replace the current provision at Market Place Industrial Estate including a salt barn.	2023	April 2028	A preferred site at Rainton Bridge has been identified. A project brief has also been agreed a revised funding application has been approved. Detailed design and further due diligence on the proposed site is now progressing

#### 9. HEALTH HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES: Area Arrangements

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Developing the community support offer, working closely with the voluntary sector to enable maximise positive outcomes from Social Prescribing	Supporting VCS to develop their capacity to deliver commissioned services within communities	April 2023	March 2025	UKSPF funds secured to support VCS in Sunderland to deliver 12 months of community support across the city. VCS providers will support the establishment of the Links for Life social prescribing programme in Sunderland, signing a delivery charter, ensuring a digital platform is developed and delivery is evaluated to inform future community support service delivery
VCS Alliance – growing capacity of voluntary and community sector	Continue to work in partnership with the voluntary sector Alliance to maximise resources into the sector via external funding and grow social value resources	April 2023	March 2025	The Council continue to support the VS Alliance in Sunderland, who are now an independent Charity as a member of their strategy board, alongside other VCS partners, Gentoo and the ICB,.
Delivery of Financial Wellbeing Strategy Delivery Plan	Supporting residents within areas to improve their resilience	April 2023	March 2025	Continue to use household data and intelligence to identify issues and inform Support offer available within communities, working closely with partners including the voluntary sector. The

UKSPF community support offer is supporting residents to become financially resilient and forms a core part of the wider Links for Life service offer.
The team continues to talk to residents in communities about their experience and report on issues and themes from the conversations. The work is facilitated by excellent relationships already established with local VCS organisations. We are combining quantitative and qualitative data to provide context and a deeper understanding of the Lived experience of residents. We are currently refining a recording and reporting system to manage both statistical and anecdotal information so that if a service or partner organisation requires some contextual information we can find and provide it.

#### LINKS FOR LIFE SUNDERLAND

Links for Life is Sunderland's approach to social prescribing; working with our partners to help people live the best life they can by linking them to community level services and support to make a lasting difference to their health and wellbeing.

Partners recognise that without growth of the service offer in the community we will not reduce health inequalities. Effort has gone into building support for voluntary and community groups who are delivering vital services within our communities.

#### WHAT IS SOCIAL PRESCRIBING?

Factors such as stress, unemployment, debt and loneliness can affect our health.<sup>1</sup> Also, one in five GP appointments are about issues wider than health, especially for people living in areas of high deprivation.<sup>2</sup>

Social Prescribing is about connecting people with activities and services that improve their physical and mental health, and wellbeing. It supports people to identify and discuss their own support needs, giving them time to focus on 'what matters to them' and taking a holistic approach to their health and wellbeing.

Supporting residents to improve their health and wellbeing through self-help and connections to community-based support services, often provided by our VCS services, is vital to support our residents with the range of social issues which drive up health inequalities in our city. Key benefits can include improved social connections, improvement in the management of health and health status, improvement in mental health and wellbeing and life enrichment.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Social determinants of health (who.int)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> NHS England » Social prescribing as a way of tackling health inequalities in all health settings

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Bild, E and Pachana, N,A, Social prescribing: A narrative review on how community engagement can improve wellbeing in later life, Oct 2022.

#### LINKS FOR LIFE SUNDERLAND

To build on all the positive work that already happens in Sunderland, partners are working on developing a model, called Links for Life Sunderland, which will be launched in **April 2024**.

#### Links for Life Sunderland will bring together people within communities, supporting everyone to have healthy, happy lives, with no one left behind.

A video has been produced all about Links for Life Sunderland – see here Links for Life Sunderland - https://youtu.be/h8EizBukS40

What are the aims:

- Residents and partners will be able to easily find information, including community-based services, to make better informed choices to help their health and wellbeing.
- People will recognise Links for Life Sunderland and will associate it with quality, accessibility and connectiveness.
- Residents will be able to get support through more community-based partners, including VCS, through improved promotion, collaboration and demonstration of their impact.
- Links for Life Sunderland will be developed on evidence-based practice and evaluation.
- Investment will be targeted and driven by local data, intelligence and knowledge from the system.

#### What are we doing:

- Creating the Links for Life Sunderland brand, informed by the views of residents and making sure it is recognised and visible across the city.
- Developing a 'digital community support platform', to make sure people can find the information and help they need.
- Mapping our community buildings and services to understand and help address gaps, making sure we focus our efforts on people and places that can't access services.
- Supporting the voluntary sector to grow the Links for Life offer within community settings. Including the provision of Community grant schemes to support voluntary sector organisations in developing Links for Life delivery centres within communities and ensure the difference their work makes to the lives of residents, is recognised and supported by all partners.
- Creating a charter that makes sure we have shared behaviours and values and everyone receives a good quality service that meets expectations
- Working alongside the community wealth building strategy / social value initiatives in the city to financially support our voluntary sector as well as support much needed improvements within our community facilities.

## 10. HEALTH HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES: Housing Strategy/ Housing Development

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Empty Properties	This is not a specific project. The following wards show a high prevalence of empty properties: • Hetton • Copt Hill The service is generally responsive based on requests for service and the severity of empty property conditions. However, the Empty Homes Strategy identified the areas of the City where empty properties were most prevalent. Work to tackle empty properties is targeted in these areas.	Progressing	Initial presentation complete Future reports	A presentation on Empty Properties has been delivered to all Area Committees. This showed the data relating to area, Ward and across the City. An Empty Homes Report is being developed following the views and questions provided as part of the Area Committee discussions. This report will be presented to Area Committees quarterly

New Council homes	Housing Delivery and	Feb 2020	March 2026	Empty Homes - 15
	Investment Plan 2020-26			Bungalows - 5
	– approved to deliver 574			Supported – 1
	new Council owned			
	homes for letting, broken down into three			Due to the current financial and economic position with
	workstreams:			increased inflationary pressures, increasing borrowing
	Empty Homes - 210			rates, increasing build costs and no growth in Homes England grant, properties linked to Housing Revenue
	Bungalows - 193			Account (HRA) activities are suspended until the economic
	Supported – 171			climate changes to enable the viability of the HRA in the
				future. Some non-HRA activity including supported
	For Coalfield			accommodation which does not sit within the HRA will
	Empty Homes - 37			continue.
	Bungalows - 36			
	Supported – 34			

#### 11. HEALTH HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES: Welfare Reform Service and Business Development

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion by	Area Committee quarterly update
Foodbank Support	Council currently supporting range of foodbanks / food aid organisations in all area of the city – majority in East / West via fresh food and FareShare – will be refining offer / support during the year	N/a	N/A	Service is currently collating foodbank usage in each local area to understand gaps in provision and issues within communities. Service also supporting foodbanks to receive donations ahead of the Christmas period Information continues to be made available for residents to access via website and also voluntary sector and partners such as housing, health, etc.

#### 12. HEALTH HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES: Active Sunderland

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Parks Tennis Court Programme	Refurbish Tennis Courts in Hetton Park	5/23	7/23	Complete and operational from 25/8/23
Parks Tennis Court Programme	Develop Tennis activation programme	6/23	10/23	Complete - taking place
Swim Bike Run programme	Create new opportunities to participate in SBR and Go Tri – in HLCP	7/23	Ongoing	In progress
Swim Bike Run programme	Develop SBR Hubs from HLCP	7/23	Ongoing	In progress
Regular Physical Activity Opportunities	Work with HALO and to explore opportunities for partnership working	11/23	Ongoing	Ongoing
Regular Physical Activity Opportunities	Consultation and development of Bid for Playzone in Coalfield - location tbc	7/23	10/23	Place identified - Progressing with community consultation and engagement with stakeholders

#### 13. HEALTH HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES: Public Health and Integrated Commissioning – Living Well

Project/Programme	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Social prescribing physical hubs	To deliver a Social Prescribing 'hub' to allow for localised presence of the offer	4/23	3/25	Progressing model development

#### 14. TOGETHER FOR CHILDREN: Early Help Systems and Family Hubs

Project/Programm e	Project Detail	Start Date	Due for Completion/ Full expenditure by	Area Committee quarterly update
Family Hubs and Start for Life	The aim of Family Hubs is to join up and enhance services, ensuring all parents and carers can access the support they need when they need it. To bring services together and make them more accessible, improve the connections between families, professionals, services, and providers, and put relationships at the heart of family support. Sunderland will have 5 Family Hubs across the city offering services from conception up until the age of 18 or 25 for young people with special educational needs. Early Help targeted family support teams are co- located within the family hubs. These teams provide	2022	3/25	Coalfield was launched in May 2023 offering a number of groups for early years, a stay and play, play space and sensory room. Co-Delivery with ante-natal services is well underway. Early years CAMH's worker sits within the hubs. A SALT (speech and language therapist) will be working from the hubs in the new year. The health room for booking in pregnancies has recently been completed and is now functional for these appointments. Registrar service sits at Coalfield on a weekly basis, so parents are able to register their baby's birth within the hub. All of the hubs also deliver at least one session a week within other community organisations across the city. There are 5 peer support health workers across the hubs, aligned to support the delivery of services around peri-natal mental health and infant feeding. Ante-natal and breast-feeding classes are offered across the hubs. Young people's groups are delivered weekly from all of the Family Hubs. The groups are based on a social prescribing
	targeted support to families			model and aim to:-

	with children aged 0 to 19. The Early Help workers complete a robust assessment and plan , provide interventions and		enable young people to become Resilient, Inspired, Self- Assured & Empowered. R.I.S.E is focused on improving mental health and well- being, improving the life chances of children and young people. Our mission is to enable and provide young people with the skills, techniques, and tools they need to
	work alongside our partners to address the needs of		achieve healthy self- esteem/ self-concept and maintain it,
	children young people and their families.		which is the primary factor in the maintenance of social, emotional, and mental well-being, staying happy, healthy, safe and well connected" There are separate RISE groups for primary school aged children and secondary school children.
	https://www.togetherforchild ren.org.uk/article/27857/Sta rt-for-Life		There are 12 Family Champions trained so far across the hubs and two parent carer panels made up of 9 and 10 members.
			TfC have led on the development of the Northeast Parent Carer Panel information sharing network –Plan for TfC as part of National Volunteer week to host the networking event next year.
			The Parenting Team have co-produced a new parenting Course with Sunderland University and delivery has started of these courses within the hubs and there are new digital parenting seminars being launched.
Digital Family Hub		2023	Family Hub activities have been added to MBL.
– My Best Life	Sunderland Family Hubs offer is mirrored as a virtual offer to our children, young people and families, with		Co-production sessions have been carried out in November by the MBL team with;
	access to activities,		Young people
	services and resources.		Parent and Carer via Family Hub panels. Parent/Carer Forum
	MBL is not the finished article. The platform is		Professionals from Family Hubs, Health, Early Help, SEND, council, public health etc.
	being co-produced with		
	young people, parent/carers and		Communications around launch are currently in development with review of launching end of Nov 23.

	professionals across the city. MBL will also provide		The platform will be updated and added to over the coming months.
	families with information around childcare, SEND local offer, support for older children and young people in addition to interactive resources that families can		
Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) Programme	access at home Together for Children and Health, Housing and Communities have worked together to continue to extend HAF provision to the additional two holiday periods in 2023/2024 (Oct 23 and Feb 24) and extend the current HAF offer (Winter 23) to children in households on universal credit and struggling with the cost of living but not eligible for means tested free school meals.		HAF has been delivered over October half term funded fully by Public Health and will also fund Feb 2024.

Population Child Poverty 12072 566	Unemploy	Poverty	Older People Living Alone <b>32.5%</b>	Can not Speak English <b>0.3%</b>	IMD Ward Rank (/25) <b>12</b>	Appendix A IMD Score <b>30.60</b>
Income Deprivation 19.3% Ave. Download Speed 83.40	% of prem u	nable to receive 30Mbit/s	Digital Inclu Scoreboard		Copt	Hill
Existing Digital Provision		Challenges to Address	5	Potentia	l Opportunities for	Members
<ul> <li>Significantly influencing investment to install broads in all areas, to ensure no one and nowhere is left below Netomnia / You active in the Ward.</li> <li>Working with Schools on digital careers, work placer qualifications, and building links with VCS organisation wider support.</li> <li>Encouraging organisations to share activities to a cesupport social prescribing to raise awareness of support Newbottle, Gillas Lane, Eppleton and St Michaels RC of the National Computer Centre.</li> <li>UKSPF bid approved to develop a Community Digita Philadelphia Cricket and Community Club, which will connectivity, provide access to digital devices and up workforce and volunteers.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>No or little community based propaid resources to manage resources public Wi-Fi, digital devices or 1-People more at risk of digital exception people; older people, people with wages. Further consideration for people with disabilities.</li> <li>Local insights suggests that limit personal data allowances; lack of devices; along with low digital sk digital inclusion.</li> <li>Copt Hill has the highest levels of older who are unemployed and living it Listed in the top six wards registed Index, across demography, commeasures.</li> <li>Listed in the top 10 wards registed broadband, via the Digital Excluse Page 32</li> </ul>	rces that could provide acces 2-1 support. Ilusion are children and youn hout a job; people on low Veterans, single parents and ed digital connectivity; low f money and access to digital tills are common barriers to of children poverty in the r people living in poverty, per in income deprivation. ered on the Digital Exclusion ectivity and deprivation ered as having limited ion Risk Index.	ss to St Matthews Set up a Tech Encourage si data banks ( Deliver mark cost broadba Set up a Dig digitally excl Promote dig partners. Raise awarer Centre at Be	pace for people to access face at Newbottle. In Mates / Buddies Volunteerin ign up to the Digital Inclusion like a food bank but instead p eting campaigns to tackle dig and, being safe online, etc. ital Device Loan Scheme or Le uded households. ital skills and training to resid ness and encourage sign up to mard Gilplin. Ind deliver a project tailored to thin a physical location.	ng Scheme. In Network and operate provides free SIM cards). gital exclusion e.g. low ending Libraries for dents, volunteers and o the National Computer	

Population 12052	Child Poverty 537	Unemployed <b>3.0%</b>	Older People in Poverty <b>21.2%</b>		Older People Living Alone <b>36.6%</b>	Can not Spe English <b>0.2%</b>		Ward Rank (/25) <b>8</b>	IMD Score 36.70
Income Deprivation <b>21.5%</b>	Ave. Download Speed 67.92	% of prem unable <b>7.</b>	to receiv 5%	Digital Inclusion Scoreboard			Hetton		
Existing Digital P	rovision			Challenge	es to Address		Potential O	pportunities	s for Members
connectivity inside and outside the building, access to devices and upskilling the workforce/volunteers.Ide to to to building with Schools on digital careers, work placements, and T-qualifications, and building links with VCS organisations to provider wider support.PEncouraging organisations to share activities to a centralised hub to support social prescribing to raise awareness of support.PSignificantly influencing investment to install broadband provision in all areas, to ensure no one and no where is left behind i.e. Netomnia / You active in the Ward.PLasington Lane, Hetton Lyons Primary are members of the National Computer Centre Hetton New Dawn have carried out repairs and appointed a new Com Dev Worker in the last year, operate a Databank, and will shortly set up 1-2-1 support.ELasington to Children at the Hetton Centre provide support in the Family Hub.Lasing to raise the Hetton Centre provide support in the Family Hub.				low personal of to digital device barriers to dig People more a unemployed, p single parents. Hetton has the poverty and live contribute tow and higher lev Listed in the to Exclusion Risk connectivity m	t risk of digital exclusion are people with long term sick of highest levels of older peo- ving alone in the Coalfields, vards loneliness, and income els of children living in pove op six wards registered on t Index across income, demo	hey and access kills are common e older people, or disability and ople living in which may e deprivation, erty. he Digital ographics and aving limited	exclusion e.g. low Encourage sign u operate data ban free SIM cards) Explore funding of Wi-Fi into publich parks. i.e. Elemon Set up IT donation their old devices Co-design and de group of people Raise awareness Computer Centre Primary and East	w cost broadband, l up to the Digital Inc nks (like a food ban opportunities to int cly accessible buildin re on points and enco s which can be upcy deliver a project taile or within a physica and encourage sig e at Hetton Second t Rainton Schools.	lored to an 'at risk'
				Page 3	4 of 62				

13259 371	Unemploy	Poverty	Older People Living Alone <b>33.7%</b>	Can not Speak English <b>0.1%</b>	IMD Ward Rank (/25) <b>16</b>	IMD Score
Income Deprivation 15.2% Ave. Download Speed 91.56	% of prem u	unable to receive 30Mbit/s	Digital Inclu Scoreboard	sion	Hough	ton
Existing Digital Provision		Challenges to Address	5	Potential	Opportunities for N	Members
Houghton Library offer Wi-Fi access, along with a devices. Space4 host Springboard to deliver time to residents. The Old Rectory provide the above, operate a Data Bank. USKPF bid approved to develop one Community Hub at Space 4, improving connectivity, access to upskilling the workforce / volunteers. Working with Schools on digital careers, work pla qualifications, and building links with VCS organi wider support. Encouraging organisations to share activities to a to support social prescribing to raise awareness of available Significantly influencing investment to install bro in all areas, to ensure no one and nowhere is left Netomnia / You active in the Ward. Dubmire and Burnside Primary are members of t Computer Centre. Supporting residents with assistive technologies longer.	etabled sessions and in addition Digital Health devices and cements and T- sations to provide centralised hub of support adband provision behind i.e.	<ul> <li>Local insights suggests that limit personal data allowances; lack of devices; along with low digital sk digital inclusion.</li> <li>People more at risk of digital exceptople; people without a job; perconsideration for Veterans, single disabilities.</li> <li>Houghton has higher levels of ol older people living alone which reloneliness, and income deprivation.</li> <li>Listed in the top 10 wards registed broadband, via the Digital Exclusion demography and connectivity methods.</li> <li>Parts of the ward (Fencehouses in community based provision.</li> </ul>	f money and access to digital cills are common barriers to clusion are children and young ople on low wages. Further e parents and people with der people living in poverty a may contribute towards on. ered as having limited sion Risk Index across income, easures. n particular) have little or no	Deliver marketing campaigns to tackle digital exclusion e.g. loc cost broadband, being safe online, etc. Encourage sign up to the Digital Inclusion Network and opera data banks (like a food bank but instead provides free SIM ca Explore funding opportunities to introduce free friendly Wi-Fi publicly accessible buildings, open spaces and parks. i.e. Recto Park.		

Population 12291	Child Poverty 455	Unemploy 3.2%	Poverty	Older People Living Alone <b>35.0%</b>	E	not Speak Inglish	IMD Ward Rank (/25) 14	IMD Score
Income Deprivation <b>16.5%</b>	Ave. Download Speed 106.19	% of prem u	2.8% Digital Inclusion Scoreboard		on Shiney Row			
Existing Digital P	rovision		Challenges to Addres	S		Potential (	Opportunities for N	Nembers
<ul> <li>Residents can access 1-2-sessions</li> <li>ShARP also supports Univisupport residents with dig support young people with Club.</li> <li>USKPF bid approved to deat ShARP which will improdevices and upskill the working with Schools on qualifications, and buildin provider wider support.</li> <li>Encouraging orgs to share social prescribing to raise</li> <li>Significantly influencing in in all areas i.e. Netomnia J</li> </ul>	digital careers, work placen og links with VCS organisation e activities to centralised hu awareness of support avail nvestment to install broadb	ons or drop in St Johns ortunities ow CA Youth Health Hub cess to digital nents and T- ons to b supporting able and provision	Local insights suggests that limit personal data allowances; lack o devices; low level of digital skills inclusion in Shiney Row. People more at risk of digital exe people; people without a job; pe and people with disabilities. Listed in the top 10 wards regist broadband, via the Digital Exclus Shiney Row has higher levels of in poverty, income deprivation a which may contribute towards low Shiney Row has the highest level Residents/Groups report issues of Reports of children not being ab homework clubs etc.	f money; little access to digi are common barriers to dig clusion are children and you cople on low wages; older pe ered as having limited sion Risk Index. children and older people liv nd older people living alone oneliness. I of unemployment in the Ar with access to broadband.	ital gital ing eople ving e	<ul> <li>Potential Opportunities for Members</li> <li>Marketing campaigns to tackle digital exclusion e.g. low cost broadband, being safe online, etc.</li> <li>Set up a Tech Mates / Buddies Volunteering Scheme</li> <li>Encourage sign up to the Digital Inclusion Network and opera data banks (like a food bank but instead provides free SIM card banks (like a food bank but instead provides free</li></ul>		g Scheme Network and operate rovides free SIM cards) free friendly Wi-Fi into and parks. rt i.e. Penshaw CA, mmunity Centre. nding Libraries beople to gift their old an 'at risk' group of
	assistive technologies to li	ve at home	Page 3	6 of 62			d/expand the current NF fu by ShARP and Springboard	

# **COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE**

# 13 December 2023

#### **REPORT OF THE NORTHUMBRIA POLICE**

#### 1.0 Purpose of Report

The following report provides a community update and key performance information in relation to Coalfields area between the following 8-week period (27<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023)

# 2.0 Key Updates

# Overall crime Update

### Crime: 8-week period to 20-11-23

Crime numbers are tracking below data for two of the last 3 years which is a positive position we are however slightly above data for 2022 and this from review seems to have been an impact of a spike over a 24-hour period in mid-November. The most significant crimes recorded in Coalfields in this period are violence against the person with no injury, criminal damage, and violence against the person with injury. The area with the most crimes recorded is Houghton Town centre, Shiney Row and then Hetton. It is pleasing to note that Easington Lane does not feature in the top 3 locations in this reporting period which is a positive fact to report.

#### Burglary Dwelling.

Burglary Dwelling offences continue to track below the last 3 years as such the Coalfields area is performing very well in this crime category. However, it is important that we are continuing to focus efforts in this area and all my teams are fully aware of target locations and offenders. As a result, I have obtained tasking in the area to ensure that we stay on top of this crime type. The neighbourhood teams have also commenced a bespoke operation to proactively target offenders.

#### **Burglary Commercial**

Again, very low number of offences compared to other sectors and as such I would highlight the sector is not a hot spot for these types of offences. The teams do however continue to target and disrupt our offenders. We have however recorded a couple of recent commercial offences which the teams are looking at.

#### Vehicle crime

Although we experienced a significant spike at the beginning of this period taking us above previous years offence data some good work by the team (including HALO) has seen a sharp reduction in offences taking us below previous years reporting. (this bucks the force trend) Despite those figures this is still is a key focus area for me and the teams since these offences can impact on anti-social behaviour performance therefore the team with partners have several operations underway. The teams have also made several excellent arrests in the reporting period which have resulted in stolen vehicles being recovered.

#### Anti-Social Behaviour

#### ASB: 8-week period to 20-11-23

We are currently tracking below reporting levels from the last 3 years which is positive news. In this 8-week period there have been 166 ASB incidents a reduction of 12 reports on the last period. The most prevalent reports of disorder are around motorcycle disorder, neighbour disputes, and nuisance. The ASB hot spots for the sector are Houghton Town Centre Shiney Row followed by Easington Lane. Within this period, we have had the National Op Sceptre week of action which is based around knife crime and Operation Impact which targeted Easington Lane and saw our Deputy Chief Constable and one of our assistant Chief Constables spending the day in the Coalfields area. This was a very successful day with some excellent results which have been documented in the media.

The team are continuing to work on our Autumn operations and will be focusing on our hotspots. We have several city-wide initiatives on going now which I am heavily involved in along with several varied partners.

Our focus will remain ASB along with acquisitive crime.

#### Autumn plan update

Operation Impact benefited the Autumn plan significantly in that it brought with it many resources into the Easington Lane area, I know that did not go unnoticed. We had significant support from several partners including the Local Authority, Environment Agency, Trading Standards and the DVLA. I would like to highlight FLATTS, ELCAP and Easington lane primary who were a real help (as always) on the day.

The Winter plan will soon be on the horizon, and I will update you in activity in relation to that.

### **REPORT AUTHOR Inspector 7011 Baker**

#### 13 December 2023

# REPORT OF THE TYNE AND WEAR FIRE SERVICE

#### 1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The following report gives Performance Monitoring details in relation to the Local Indicators for the Coalfield Committee area from 22<sup>th</sup> August 2023 – 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

#### 2 Background

**2.1** At its November 2011 meeting, Area Committee agreed that regular updates on Crime and Community Safety would be presented to each Committee meeting.

#### 3. Tyne and Wear Fire Service Update

#### 3.1 LI 02 Number of Deaths from all fires

0 deaths were recorded during the reporting period.

### 3.2 LI 14 All Deliberate Property Fires excluding Primary road vehicles

Ward Breakdov	vn	Property Type Breakdown			
Ward Name Incident Count		Property Level 4	Incident Count		
Copt Hill	1	Property Level 4			
Hetton	0	Retail	1		
Houghton	0	Netdii			
Shiney Row	0	Total	1		
Total	1				

1 deliberate property fires, compared to 2 in the same period last year (50% increase).

### 3.3 LI15 Number of primary road vehicle fires started deliberately

Ward I	Breakdown				
Ward Name	Incident Count	Property Type Breakdown			
		Property Level 3	Incident Count		
Copt Hill	8	Car	9		
Hetton	2	Motorcycle	2		
Houghton	1	Van	2		
Shiney Row	2	Total	13		
Total	13	Total	15		

13 vehicle fires reported during this period which is up from 7 last year (86% increase). Copt Hill ward has seen a 300% rise in vehicle fire, at 8 up from 2 last year, this is the reason for the rise in the Coalfield figures for L115. TWFRS continue to work with Northumbria Police and report all suspected malicious vehicle fires and shall continue to monitor any patterns identified. Hot Strikes have been conducted where appropriate to do so.



# Copt Hill - primary road vehicle fires - Spread across the ward

3.4 LI16 Number of secondary fires not involving property or road vehicles started deliberately

Ward Name	Incident Count
Copt Hill	15
Hetton	25
Houghton	9
Shiney Row	9
Total	58

Property Level 4	Incident Count
Hedge	1
Loose refuse (incl in garden)	29
Other outdoor items including roadside furniture	1
Private/Domestic garden/allotment (vegetation not equipment/building)	2
Refuse/rubbish tip	3
Scrub land	2
Small refuse/rubbish/recycle container (excluding wheelie bin)	5
Tree scrub (includes single trees not in garden)	10
Wasteland	1
Wheelie Bin	4
Total	58

There have been 58 deliberate secondary fires over this period compared to 85 in the same period last year, a decrease of 32%. Copt Hill and Hetton ward seeing a slight increase of 2 incidents more than last year. Large Improvements in Houghton and Shiney Row wards seeing a 30 and a 75% reduction respectively.

# 3.5 LI33 All deliberate Fires (combination of LI14, LI15 and LI16)

Ward Breakdov	vn				
Ward Name	Incident Count	Incidents	Same	% Change	
Copt Hill	24	In Time	Period Last		
Hetton	27	Frame	Year		
Houghton	10	<b>A</b>			
Shiney Row	11	72	94	-23.40 %	
Total	72	12	54	23,40 %	

There were a total of 72 deliberate fires in this reporting period, down from 94 last year, a decrease of 23%. Copt Hill ward has seen a 50% increase over last year's figures. Hetton ward, is a repeat of the Q2 report and has the same figures as last year in this reporting period. Houghton and Shiney Row wards have seen a large reduction of 30% and 75% respectively.

# Ward Breakdown and hotspot analysis

# Copt Hill ward 50% increase. 24 up from 16.



Out of 24 incidents, 9 were loose refuse and 8 were vehicle fires, which is a significant rise since last year. The main hotspot area over the reporting period is in the area around Elizabeth Street. Loose refuse is the main item on fire. WM Lane's W/W have increased ASB patrols in this area to uplift refuse via the Report it tool and have done a Fire Stoppers leaflet drop.

### Hetton ward 0% no change (27).



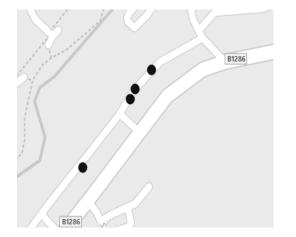
Out of 27 incidents, 12 were loose refuse. The main hotspot area over the reporting period is around the park / grassland north of Nidderdale Avenue. WM Sirey's G/W have done a Fire Stoppers leaflet drop and have visited this area to conduct youth engagement but have been unsuccessful following several visits. These incidents are generally occurring between 19:30hrs and 20:30hrs in the bushes.

# Houghton ward 33% reduction. 10 down from 15.



Out of the 10 incidents, there were no patterns on property types. The fires within this reporting period are spread over the ward area. WM Chris Pearson has recently been temporary promoted into Rainton Bridge and he is now responsible for this area.

### Shiney Row ward 69% reduction. 11 down from 36.



Out of 11 incidents, 6 were loose refuse. The main hotspot over the reporting area is identical to that in the Q2 report, South Burn Terrace. This area has been targeted with a S&W initiative in Q2 and a Fire Stoppers leaflet drop. WM Sarah Bromley has recently been promoted into Rainton Bridge and is now responsible for this area.

### 3.6 Community Involvement

Throughout the reporting period, operational crews have attended 5 events in the local area. This has included school visits and community engagements.

TWFRS continue to support partners involved in the HALO project. Over this period, crews from Rainton Bridge supported the police with Operation impact in the Easington Lane area on the 8<sup>th</sup> November, as part of the Clear Hold Build project. Crews attended morning, afternoon and evening to deliver S&Ws in the area and engage with community members whilst providing fire safety advice. The Operation was huge success for all partners involved.

Delivery has begun of the Shiney Row strand of the Phoenix projects in the Coalfields area. A SPARK programme for Year 5 & 6 students from Shiney Row primary and Barnwell Academy begins on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November for 3 days with an additional 3 day block of activity booked for February 2024. In between these times, Fire service staff will visit the young people in school to do some 1:1 mentoring to discuss how they are putting the personal skills and techniques they have learner into practice and to motivate them to behave positively ahead of returning for block 2.

With the summer IGNITE programmes being successfully delivered, the only remaining strand of the overall project to be completed is the Hetton Academy PHOENIX programme. This course had a successful start in June 2023, with a group of students working incredibly well with our team at Sunderland Central Fire Station. Unfortunately staff at the school have changed and it has not been possible to re-engage the school this academic year to complete the remaining 7 days for the programme.

To resolve this we have identified additional ways to contact the school with the help of Pauline Hopper, and have drafted a proposal for an alternative way to use the remaining delivery days with young people from the Coalfields area which will be brought to members if meaningful contact with the school cannot be re-established.

Rainton Bridge crews have completed 163 Safe and Wells visits in the reporting period under the new targeting system. Hot strikes continue following domestic premises fires and further support the delivery of fire safety in the home.

The bonfire period was relatively quiet compared to the last reporting period with regards to ASB. This is testament to the comprehensive partner planning that took place prior to the bonfire weekend, this was led by Louise Butler. No bonfire incidents of note to report in the Coalfields area.

TWFRS Recruitment is still open and positive action events have continued at the TWFRS headquarters to recruit underrepresented groups from the community.

### 3.7 On-going Issues

Collaboration with Northumbria police and local authority partner's continues to reduce hotspot incidents as highlighted in the report. It is essential that any fire related issues are reported to myself, (Scott Wilson, Station Manager) or using Fire Stoppers 0800 169 5558, so I can action/address with my crews. My watches continue to work close within their respective Ward areas to create links through community engagements. The watches continue to deliver ASB initiatives – uplifts, premises security, and educational interaction.

Over this reporting period there were 0 attacks on crews in the Coalfield area and 2 across the wider Sunderland area in this reporting period.

### 4. Recommendations

**4.1** Note the content of this report. Promote the Fire Stoppers reporting number in community groups to drive down deliberate fires.

Contact Officer:	Station Manager Scott Wilson,
	Tel: 0191 4441188,
	Email: <u>scott.wilson@twfire.gov.uk</u>
	Dawa 40 - £ 00

**Note:** Some incident data may be subject to change, some incidents may not appear in this report at the time of production due to incidents that may have been closed down late or still remain open.

Hetton Ward -Watch Manager Kevin Sirey - <u>kevin.sirey@twfire.gov.uk</u> Houghton Ward - Watch Manager Chris Pearson <u>chris.pearson@twfire.gov.uk</u> Shiney Row Ward - Watch Manager Sarah Bromley <u>sarah.bromley@twfire.gov.uk</u> Copt Hill Ward - Watch Manager Andrew Lane <u>andrew.lane@twfire.gov.uk</u>



# COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE

# 13 December 2023

# REPORT OF COALFIELD AREA VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR NETWORK

#### 1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 The report provides an update with regard to the Coalfield 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 Coalfield Area Network delegates will present a report to each Area Committee meeting informing Members of activity, progress, issues and concerns of the sector.
- 2.3 The Coalfield VCS Network is made up of over 100 local groups and strategic local/national/regional partners. The network meets on a regular basis to share good practice, support one another and receives regularly updates as part of an information share e bulletin distributed via the Sunderland VS Alliance.

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

- 3.1 The Coalfield VCS Network met in October, November and are scheduled to meet on the 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at Easington Lane Community Access Point (ELCAP)
- 3.2 The meetings have included the following agenda items:

### 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023

#### **Right Turn Service**

Right Turn offer support to clients who recognise their own behaviours and realise the impact this has on their own & others' lives. Victims of domestic abuse have a range of support options but it's found that often the perpetrator moves onto another relationship & the cycle continues. Support is available through 1-2-1- and groupwork to break this cycle. Referrals can be made by the individual themselves or by anyone who recognises these behaviours, the referral required consent from the individual seeking support. An assessment can take 4-6 weeks to allow the individual to receive bespoke intervention, suited to their needs. The Make A Change programme offers a 26 week model, with 10 weeks of education, 10 weeks of behaviour change and a further 6 weeks around the impact behaviours can have on Children.

The team can be contacted Monday-Friday, 9-5 at info@rightturn.org.uk or by calling 03001240466. <u>Right Turn | Perpetrator Services in Sunderland (wwin.org.uk)</u>

#### **Coalfield Can Do Project**

The VCS Network members were updated about the 'CAN DO' Fund available for groups of young people to design and deliver a small project up to the value of £750 to benefit themselves, other young people and their local community (wards of Copt Hill, Hetton, Houghton and Shiney Row only).

Applications were encouraged from the network members with details provided about organisations and groups that can apply.

# 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023

#### **Mackem Money**

Short presentation was given by Shaun Newton, ELCAP. £130,000 is available to small groups in the area. The Community Foundation (which serves Tyne & Wear) has allocated around £130k to be awarded to community organisations in Sunderland by a panel made up of local residents who have lived experience of the challenges faced by local groups.

Projects will be supported based on 3 themes:

- Supporting inclusive communities
- Creating opportunities for healthier and happier people
- Raising aspirations.

There is eligibility criteria to follow but Shaun expressed the importance that the fund is available for local groups and it is important for those eligible to consider applying. Mackem Money was described as being a similar criteria to Community Chest applications. An information sheet and the presentation slides were made available to the group for further reference, together with links to applying for the fund online.

#### Northumbria Police Connect

Sgt Tom Scott introduced himself to the group as he is relatively new to the area. He briefly explained how policing in the Coalfields works with the neighbourhood team, halo team & response team all in operation across the area. He noted that over the last few years lack of investment in policing in the area had affected neighbourhood policing, but this is something that has started to change and will hopefully continue to change with more officers being recruited in the area.

Local Priorities:

- Off road bikes
- Reduction in violence & knife crime
- Tackling anti-social behaviour
- Tackling organised crime.

He finished his presentation by encouraging people to sign up to Northumbria Connected, a new online tool to ensure the police are delivering on the issues that affect local communities. Once you sign up, you receive text or email alerts about issues of interest to that person signing up.

### 4. Sunderland VCSA Update

- 4.1 Members of the Network received information on the Free membership scheme with Sunderland Voluntary Sector Alliance (SVSA) and were also invited to attend 'Lets Communicate' online event with SVSA in November 2023.
- 4.2 The Network received an update on progress made on the staff recruitment for the SVSA, they also received information on the support offered to the sector, including the support offered to the sector on funding applications. Information was also received on the Social Value opportunities and the volunteering support offered.

The Network representatives regularly consult with the Network to ensure that the agenda items reflect their requirements.

#### 5 Recommendations

- 5.1 Members are requested
  - To note the contents of the report and consider the opportunities and issues raised by the Coalfield VCSN.
- Contact: Amy Swan, Coalfield Area Network Representative. Email: <u>amy@activefamiliesne.co.uk</u>

Eileen Bewick, Coalfield Area Network Representative Email: <u>e.bewick@shineyadvive.org.uk</u>

Wendy Cook, Coalfield Area Network Representative Email: <u>wendycook@communityopportunities,co,uk</u>

#### 13 December 2023

### **REPORT OF GENTOO**

#### 1 Purpose of Report

1.1 The following report provides an update from Gentoo for the Coalfields Area Committee for the period September to December 2023.

#### 2 Background

2.1 Area Committee agreed that regular updates from Gentoo would be provided to each Committee meeting to enable members to be up to date on current Gentoo developments, projects, and priorities and to ensure members are fully aware of their opportunities to work collaboratively with Gentoo.

#### 3 Update on Neighbourhood Services

3.1 **Allocations,** Gentoo is the largest social landlord within the City and responsible for the management of almost 30,000 properties. We work closely with Sunderland City Council, who have statutory (or legal) duties for housing in Sunderland, for example, the responsibility for the prevention of homelessness and assistance for those who are homeless. We recognise that the way in which homes are allocated is a matter of real importance to people. The demand for social housing in Sunderland far outstrips supply and therefore we seek to allocate homes in a way which primarily houses people with the greatest need.

Gentoo operates a banding system for letting their empty homes. Customers will be placed in a band, which is appropriate to their current circumstances.

### Band 1+ Applicants living in renewal area

**Band 1 Statutory or Urgent Social Housing Need** - applicants who have an immediate need to move, some examples include homeless applicants, applicants with severe mobility issues, Gentoo customers who are experiencing severe harassment and assessed as being at risk if not rehoused (included victims of domestic abuse).

**Band 2 High Housing need** - applicants who have a priority housing need, some examples include applicants at risk of homelessness, applicants needing to move on from supported accommodation, Gentoo customers who are under or over occupying their current home, Gentoo customers who have children in flats, Gentoo customers who need to move for financial hardship, or applicants who have a mobility or disability and rehousing would support them.

#### Band 3 General Need - Open to all applicants

Our register on 31 October 2023 shows the current banding position of applicants:

There are 30,519 live applicants registered for housing on our allocations register. Of these 148 applicants are Band 1 (urgent housing need), 304 applicants are Band 2 (high housing need), and 30,067 applicants are in Band 3 (general needs).

We have allocated 1203 new homes since April 2023, 493 were applicants with a priority need.

- 3.2 **Estate walks**, invites will be sent during December for the quarterly estate walks that are due to take place in January 2024, these are a great opportunity to identify estate improvements, gather feedback from partners, and for the residents in the area to see collaborative working across the agencies.
- 3.3 **Bonfire Night,** over the weekend of 5 November 2023, our Grounds Maintenance Team worked in partnership with Sunderland City Council to help keep our communities safe by patrolling the city to identify any illegal bonfires. The team successfully removed **15 tonnes of rubbish** that was destined for a bonfire.
- 3.4 **Gentoo Christmas Campaign** (1) (1), to help support customers and families who may struggle over the festive period, we've launched our annual Christmas campaign with three themes that include, a Christmas dinner (delivered on 22 December), a Christmas gift from a secret Santa or a Theatre visit to see the pantomime (Saturday 9 December).

# 4. Investment & Renewal (yearly plan attached)

4.1 External Decoration Program - Work to the Villa site at Houghton le Spring (including Jubilee Cottages) is now complete as is Easington Lane. At East Rainton all the joinery and painting is complete, but works to Eskdale are still ongoing due to inclement weather. Feedback from customers continues to be very good.

### 5. Recommendations

5.1 Note the content of this report.

# **Contact Officer**

Vicky Gamblin, Head of Neighbourhoods. Tel: 0191 525 5004 Email: <u>vicky.gamblin@gentoogroup.com</u>

# Property Investment Programme 2023/24 - Houghton & Hetton Area

<u>Programme Type</u> External Decoration		<u>Estate</u> East Rainton Rainton Bridge Peat Carr	Properties 174 6 30	Low Rise Blocks / Pairs of Flats	<u>Medium</u> <u>Rise</u> <u>Blocks</u>	<u>High</u> <u>Rise</u> <u>Blocks</u>	<u>Sheltered</u> <u>Blocks /</u> <u>Supported</u> <u>Living</u>	Tenants Benefitting From Works 174 6 30
		Totals						210
Internals (Kitchen/Bathroom/Full Rewire - as required)	CONSTRUCTION		152 4					152 4
		Totals						156
Windows	SEKURA	Burnside Colliery Row Easington Lane	3 1 2					3 1 2
		East Rainton	1	_				1
		Fencehouses	11	2				23
		Hetton Hetton Road Estate	2 2					2 2
		New Herrington	1					1
		Newbottle	1					1
		Peat Carr	1					1
		Penshaw	4					4
		Racecourse	2					2
		Shiney Row	3					3
		Sunniside	9					9
		Villa 🗕 🗸 I	7	•				7
		Totals		2				62
Environmentals - Garage Demolitions		East Rainton Hetton	5 27					5 27
	<b>I</b> CONSTRUCTION	Hetton Road Estate	10					10
		Houghton	6					6
		Shiney Row	6					6
		Totals	54					54
Fire Alarm Removal Scheme	ISOLER	Penshaw		2				10
	ISOLEK	Totals		2				10

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#### COALFIELD SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE 13 DECEMBER 2023 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I

#### Title of Report:

Coalfield Sunderland Area Budget Report

#### Author(s):

Assistant Director of Housing and Communities

#### **Purpose of Report:**

Area Committee has delegated budgets to allocate to specific strategic priorities identified in the Area Plan, with the overall aim to respond to the needs of residents and ensure the delivery of activities and projects to support matters which affect residents and enable them to be resilient. The report provides a financial statement as an updated position on progress in relation to allocating Area Committee Neighbourhood Funding and Community Chest and presents proposals for further funding requests.

#### **Description of Decision:**

Committee are requested to:-

- a) Note the financial statements set out in section 2.1 and 3.1;
- b) Approve 2 Neighbourhood Fund proposals set out in 2.3, and Annex 1;
- c) Approve alignment of Neighbourhood Fund set out in 2.4 and Annex 2; and
- d) Note the Community Chest approvals supported from 2023 / 2024, as detailed in Annex 3.

Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework?

Yes

#### Suggested reason(s) for Decision:

The Area Committee has an allocation of £357,946 (inc Youth allocation) for 2023/2024 from the Neighbourhood Fund to deliver key priorities identified in the relevant Area Plan and to attract other funding into the area.

#### Alternative options to be considered and recommended to be rejected:

The circumstances are such that there are no realistic alternatives that could be considered.

Is this a "Key Decision" as defined in the Constitution? No	Relevant Scrutiny Committees:
Is it included in the Forward Plan? No	

# COALFIELD SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE

# **REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF HOUSING and COMMUNITIES**

### Coalfield 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 Plan, with the overall aim to respond to the needs of residents and ensure the delivery of activities and projects to support matters which affect residents and enable them to be resilient. The report provides a financial statement as an update position on progress in relation to allocating Area Committee Neighbourhood Funds 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 Area Committee Neighbourhood Fund for 2023/ 2024:

Project Name	Committee Date	Returned	Aligned	Approved	Remaining
Starting Balance for 2023 /	£357,946				
Elemore Park Music Event	07.06.23			£10,000	£347,946
Holiday Activities	07.06.23			£13,554	£334,392
Houghton Feast	27.09.21			£5,000	£329,392
Local Events and Celebrations	27.09.21			£20,000	£309,392
Coalfield Christmas	27.09.21			£41,910	£267,482
Christmas Cheer	27.09.21			£5,000	£262,482
Balance					£262,482

Table One: Neighbourhood Fund Statement 2023 / 2024

- 2.2 Coalfield Sunderland Area Committee has been allocated £357,946 Neighbourhood Funding for capital and revenue projects for 2023/2024.
- 2.3 There are 2 new applications to the Neighbourhood Fund presented to Area Committee for consideration for approval detailed at **Annex 1**.

•	Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS)	£23,342
•	Tackling Motorcycle Disorder	£25,000

The total Neighbourhood Fund budget requested for approval is  $\pounds 48,342$ . If approved, the remaining balance will be  $\pounds 214,140$ .

- 2.4 There is one proposal presented for consideration to align funds, pending applications being presented to the March 2024 Area Committee for approval, as below and in Annex 2:
  - Supporting Community Assets £75,000.

If alignment is approved the remaining balance will be £139,140. Further project proposals are under development and will be discussed by the Neighbourhood and Community Board at their meeting in February 2024, with recommendations being presented to the March Area Committee.

# 3. Community Chest

- 3.1 Each ward has been allocated a ward budget of £10,000, to support projects which complement the Area Plan. Ward Councillors lead on seeking suitable project proposals and making decisions on applications received. Where it is difficult to make a majority decision and discussions cannot be resolved at a ward level, the outcome will be escalated to Area Committee for a final decision.
- 3.2 The Table below details the Community Chest starting balance, awards and remaining balance for 2023/2024. Annex 2 shows the approvals, supported to date for 2023/2024.

Ward	2023/2024 Allocation	Returned	Approved	Remaining
Copt Hill	£10,000	£600	£9,558.30	£1,041.70
Hetton	£10,000	-	£5,848	£4,152
Houghton	£10,000	-	£8,026	£1,974
Shiney Row	£10,000	£3,000	£6,379	£6,621
Total	£40,000	£3,600	£26,211.30	£13,788.70

Table Two: Community Chest Funding Statement 2023 / 2024

### 4. Recommendations

- a) Note the financial statements set out in section 2.1 and 3.1;
- b) Approve 2 Neighbourhood Fund proposals set out in 2.3, and Annex 1;
- c) Approve alignment of Neighbourhood Fund set out in 2.4 and Annex 2; and
- d) Note the Community Chest approvals supported from 2023 / 2024, as detailed in Annex 3.

### **Contact Officer**: Pauline Hopper, Partnership and Community Resilience Manager, Email <u>pauline.hopper@sunderland.gov.uk</u> Mobile: 07435754043

# Applications for Coalfield Neighbourhood Fund

Application No. 1			
Funding Source         Neighbourhood Fund			
Name of Project	Tackling Motorcycle Disorder		
Lead Organisation	Sunderland City Council		

Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total NF Application
Awaiting final costs	Awaiting final costs	£25,000 Coalfield
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
12 months	December 2023	November 2024

#### **Project Description:**

The Council in partnership with Northumbria Police will pilot a motorcycle disorder taskforce commencing in the autumn to provide a dedicated response to any antisocial or criminal use of motorcycles or e-bikes across South Tyneside and Sunderland. The Motorcycle Disorder Taskforce Pilot seek agreement from all 5 Area Committee's to jointly fund the ASB Officer dedicated to this new team, at £10,000 per area.

The dedicated ASB Officer will be a pivotal role in the team. The officer will support Northumbria Police on enforcement tactics utilising all powers available but will also drive forward the education and prevention strand of the Partnership action plan. ASB officer duties include:

- Target those young people that are disengaged who in the main are carrying out the motorcycle disorder by going out to areas where young people congregate and linking with youth projects.
- Develop a hard-hitting education package for delivery in schools/colleges and • universities.
- Proactive visits to both primary and secondary schools to educate children on the • importance of road safety and the consequences of riding off road vehicles illegally (work with families who have been impacted negatively by the illegal use of motorbikes and get permission to share their story)
- Devise, Manage and monitor relevant parts of Partnership Action Plan •
- Liaise with fuel stations and put something in place for them to be able to report off • road/suspicious vehicles being fuelled up to try get perpetrators identified off their CCTV footage alongside limiting where bikes can be fuelled.
- Train allotment teams and any other agencies on intelligence submissions and • information on how to report re storage of bikes etc
- Become an admin on all the Sunderland City Councils Local area Facebook pages to be • proactively posting about what the team is doing and how the public can help us tackle the issues.
- Speak with other local authorities to discuss what powers they use to help tackle • motorcycle disorder.
- Victims follow up and feedback. •
- Issue ABA's, CPW's CPN's where applicable.
- Prepare case files for Injunctions/CBO's were appropriate.
- Community Engagement days raising awareness of the laws around Motorcycles/Quads/Electric scooters to both adults and children.

- Attend resident meetings.
- Be actively involved in the "Back on Track" programme running in the primary schools in the coalfields and explore how this can be rolled out across the city
- Identify hotspot areas by reports made to the council ASB team.
- Organise site visits to problematic locations and consider the installation of preventative measures for identified areas such as A frames, boulders, gates and CCTV.
- Manage area budgets and prepare reports to Councillors.
- Review customer journey for reports to the council and develop new mechanism dedicated to this issue.
- SPOC for links to all council departments such as highways, planning, environmental services.
- Makes links and work closely with commissioned youth services and voluntary and community sector agencies in identified areas.
- Working closely with wardens and review BWC footage, download stills, engagement with schools for ID, social media etc.
- Proactive patrols to hotspot areas to gather information and intelligence.
- Leaflet drops in hotspot areas to inform residents how to report vehicle ASB.
- Support/assist in applications by completion of appropriate statements or required paperwork in support of an application for a search Warrant requested by Police on evidence obtained.
- Engage with local Councillors to promote the team and encourage reporting. Obtain dates of appropriate resident meetings and encourage social media post sharing via Councillors.
- Collate all actions on a daily/weekly basis for required Area Committee reports.

Reporting measures (list not exhaustive):

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

The proposed initial resourcing for the taskforce is  $1 \times Sgt$ ,  $8 \times PCs \& 1 PCSO$  and  $1 \times ASB$ Officer from Sunderland and  $1 \times ASB$  from South Tyneside. The team will be co-located at Washington Police Station. The team will work both proactively and reactively on a range of preventative, educational, disruption and enforcement tactics.

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

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

Coalfield area Neighbourhood and Community Board has considered allocation of £15,000 additional funding for design out/ preventative measures, including boulders etc..

Output	Target
Number of safety measures installed/delivered to improve neighbourhoods	tbc
Number of Enforcement actions	tbc

### Recommendation – Approve

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to the Coalfield Sunderland Area Plan Priority – Tackling Motorcycle Anti-Social Behaviour.

Application No. 2				
Funding Source Neighbourhood Fund				
Name of Project	Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS)			
Lead Organisation Sunderland City Council				

Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total NF Application
£23,342	£0	£23,342
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
2 years 3 months	January 2024	March 2026

### **Project Description:**

As part of the Coalfield Area Committee commitment to supporting the reduction of speeding vehicles within the community, the priority 'Vehicle Activated Signs' is included in the 2023-26 Area Plan.

There are currently 13 VAS in the Coalfield which are rotated around each ward every quarter, being installed in a different location each time. The moving of the signs is undertaken by Aurora/Balfour Beatty. This project will continue to fund rotational costs until the end of 2025/26. Data is collected from each sign at the end of the rotation and used to produce a

report which is circulated to elected members and used by highways colleagues to monitor traffic speeds.

Itemised list of all costs	Cost	NF Contribution
10 x rotations of 13 signs	£22,842	£22,842
1 x infrastructure for additional sign	£500	£500
	£23,342	£23,342
How much match funding has been/will be sources)	e secured? (please in	nclude funding

Output	Target
Safety measures installed to improve neighbourhoods	13

# **Recommendation –** Approve

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to the Coalfield Sunderland Area Plan Priority – Road Safety – Vehicle Activated Signs.

# Alignment of Coalfield Neighbourhood Fund

As part of the Coalfield Area Committee commitment to supporting local organisations and groups to deliver activities, services and projects within the community, the priority 'Improving Community Assets' is included in the 2023-26 Area Plan. This will focus on buildings within each of the wards that could benefit from improvements, additional maintenance and decorating in order to provide a greater offer within the community, including Links for Life social prescribed activities.

It is proposed that a sum of £75,000 Neighbourhood Fund is aligned to this priority and a Call for Projects made via the VCS Network. Individual applications of up to £7,500 will be invited. The N&C Board will review applications and the relevant levels of funding at their meeting in February 2024. Recommendations will be presented to Area Committee in March 2024.

#### **Recommendation –** Approve

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of alignment of an initial amount of £75,000 Neighbourhood Fund. This delivers to the Coalfield Sunderland Area Plan Priority – Improving Community Assets.



# **Coalfield Area Committee**

# 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023

# Community Chest Awards April 2023 – December 2023

Copt Hill Ward Budget	£10,000		Approvals
Droject	Approval		
Project	Date	Returned	Approvals
St Matthews Youth & Community Centre (£4083			
approved in March 23 with £2738.70 paid from 22-23	17.03.23		£1344.30
and the remaining £1344.30 from 23-24 allocation)			
Houghton-Le-Spring Golf Club	05.04.23		£320
Gravel Walks Community Association	20.06.23		£800
Hetton Juniors FC (joint with Hetton)	20.06.23		£297
Bethany Church	17.07.23	£600	-
1 <sup>st</sup> Houghton Scouts (joint with Houghton)	17.07.23		£750
2 <sup>nd</sup> Houghton Rangers	25.08.23		£625
Gillas Lane Primary School	25.08.23		£1000
Houghton Town FC (joint with Houghton)	25.08.23		£550
Studio V	25.08.23		£500
Eppleton Cricket Club	23.10.23		£588
Houghton U3A	23.10.23		£200
Houghton Brass (joint with Hetton & Houghton)	23.10.23		£470
Space4 (joint with Houghton)	23.10.23		£514
1 <sup>st</sup> Eppleton Scouts	14.11.23		£1,000
Remaining balance - £1,041.70		£600	£8,958.30
Hetton Ward Budget	£10,000		
	Approval		
Project	Date	Returned	Approvals
HCR200	24.04.23		£720
Hetton Lyons Primary School	24.04.23		£750
Hetton Jrs FC (joint with Copt Hill)	20.06.23		£298
Hetton & Eppleton Community Hall	11.08.23		£556
Hetton Buddies	23.10.23		£997
Houghton Brass (joint with Copt Hill &	00.40.00		0.470
Houghton)	23.10.23		£470
Community Opportunities	14.11.23		£1377
Springboard Adventure	14.11.23		£680
Remaining balance - £4,152		-	£5,848
Houghton Ward Budget	£10,000		

Project	Approval Date	Returned	Approvals
Lambton & Houghton Banner Group	16.06.23		£650
2 <sup>nd</sup> Houghton Guides	16.06.23		£810
1 <sup>st</sup> Houghton Scouts (joint with Copt Hill)	17.07.23		£750
Burnside Academy	17.07.23		£1,000
HOPE	17.07.23		£437
2 <sup>nd</sup> Houghton Rangers	25.08.23		£625
Houghton Town FC	25.08.23		£550
Red Sky Foundation	25.08.23		£1,220
Houghton Methodist Church	23.10.23		£1,000
Houghton Brass (joint with Copt Hill & Hetton)	23.10.23		£470
Space4 (joint with Copt Hill)	23.10.23		£514
Remaining balance - £1,974	-	-	£8,026
Shiney Row Ward Budget	£10,000		
Project	Approval Date	Returned	Approvals
Together For Children	10.05.23		£450
TWFRS	10.05.23	£3,000	-
1 <sup>st</sup> Herrington Scouts	24.05.23		£500
New Penshaw Academy	24.05.23		£994
Friends Of West Herrington	16.06.23		£50
Gilwood Residents Association	16.06.23		£997
Trinity Methodist Church	12.10.23		£388
Remaining balance - £6,621		-	£3,379