

## WEST SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2021 at 5:30pm**

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

**The meeting will be livestreamed for the public to view on the Council's YouTube channel, 'sunderlandgov' at:-**  
<https://youtu.be/Nb2nmRqZI70>

### Membership

Cllrs P Gibson (Chair), Watson, (Vice Chair), Atkinson, Blackett, Crosby, D. Dixon, Greener, Haswell, Mc Donough, Mann, Mullen, Noble, O'Brien, G. Smith, P. Smith, Tye, Waller and A Wilson.

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For further information or assistance

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4. **West Area Budget Report**

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Report of the Assistant Director of Community Resilience  
(copy attached)

**ELAINE WAUGH**  
**Assistant Director of Law and Governance**

**8<sup>th</sup> March, 2021**

**At a meeting of the WEST SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE held remotely on WEDNESDAY 16 DECEMBER, 2020 at 5.30 p.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor P. Gibson in the Chair

Councillors, Atkinson, Blackett, Crosby, D. Dixon, Greener, Haswell, Mann, McDonough, Mullen, O'Brien, G. Smith, P. Smith, Tye, Waller, Watson and A. Wilson.

**Also Present:-**

Fiona Brown	Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Sunderland City Council
Alan Duffy	Head of Operations, Gentoo
Joanne Laverick	VCS Network Representative, Youth Almighty
Bill Leach	VCS Network Representative, Pennywell Com. Centre
David Noon	Principal Governance Services Officer, Sunderland City Council
Alison Patterson	Area Coordinator, Sunderland City Council
Helen Peverley	Area Arrangements Strategic Manager, Sunderland City Council
Gilly Stanley	Area Community Development Lead, Sunderland City Council

**Chairman's Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained the protocols in respect of holding the meeting remotely.

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors O'Brien and Wood and on behalf of Sam Rennison (Northumbria Police) and Kevin Burns (Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service).

**Declarations of Interest**

Item 4, West Area Budget Report – Holiday Hunger Projects

Councillors Tye and A. Wilson declared interests in the above matter as members of Youth Almighty and the Pallion Action Group respectively and withdrew from the meeting at the appropriate point on the agenda taking no part in any discussion or decision thereon.

**Minutes of the Last Meeting**

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2020 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

## **West Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020-2023**

Councillor Watson, Chair of West Area Neighbourhoods and Community Board, presented the report (copy circulated) which:-

- i) Presented the West Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020-2023 and;
- ii) Provided an update of progress against the Area Priorities associated with the Delivery Plan.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

The Chairman thanked Councillor Watson for her report and there being no questions or comments, it was:-

### **2. RESOLVED that:-**

- i) the progress and performance update with regard to West Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020/23 be noted, and
- ii) approval be given to the proposals for future delivery as contained within Annex 1 of the report.

## **Community Wealth Building Champions**

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

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Helen Peverley, Area Arrangements Strategic Manager, presented the report and provided the Committee with a Powerpoint presentation which detailed the Council's journey in growing the proposals around Community Wealth including the reasoning behind the nomination of the Chairman as the Community Wealth Building Champion for the West Area.

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

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

i) the Area Committee Call for Projects – eg supporting local organisations and supporting residents to gain employment, skills, training and grow resilience and continuing to build specific community wealth requirements into future proposals,

ii) Supporting local traders – eg Christmas Hampers; Switch-on events seasonal activities

iii) Land and Asset Management – eg developing community assets as well as improving green spaces

iv) Working with partners to ensure they consider 'community wealth

The Chairman thanked Ms Peverley for her presentation and before inviting questions, read out the following comments which he had received from Cllr K. Wood via email and which she had asked to be minuted:-

"I support all the reports and want my views around Community Wealth Champions to be minuted. I have seen first-hand the pressure and the increased workload the pandemic has had on the voluntary sector. I am pleased that Sunderland City Council have recognised the hard work and dedication that the VCS have displayed and facilitated during this long and hard year. Any support given by Sunderland City Council is welcomed by myself and I am happy to support this going forward and more than welcome being involved in the development to achieve the vision for Community Wealth."

"I would like to thank and commend Gilly Stanley for all the work she has done, particularly the adaptable approach she has shown and the flexibility in her work. I would also like to pass on my thanks to all the voluntary and community organisations who are working tirelessly to ensure our most vulnerable are taken care of and lastly I would like to thank Sandra Mitchell and Joan Reed Teams for all the support they have given this year."

The Chairman then invited questions and comments from Members on Ms Peverley's presentation.

Councillor Haswell stated that he supported the broad proposals in the report and his Group had been happy to support the concept of Community Wealth when the matter had been reported to and agreed by full Council. He was therefore happy to support recommendation 4.1 of the report but had concerns about recommendation 4.2 (Agree to support the Area Committee Chair to deliver their Community Wealth Champion role on behalf of the residents of Sunderland, demonstrating the commitment of West Area Committee to support growth.)

This concern centred on the composition of the Community Wealth Steering Group. Councillor Haswell stated that his comments were nothing personal against the Chairman of the Area Committee who he believed was a great advocate for the West area, however he was worried that because the Group was composed entirely of members of the ruling Labour Group, there was the potential for a lack of Scrutiny and a failure to report findings back to the Council's Area Committees.

Councillor Haswell acknowledged that following similar concerns raised at the meeting of the East Sunderland Area Committee, the Deputy Leader had reached out to the Opposition Groups who as a result, had nominated Councillor Michael Dixon to sit as an opposition member on the Steering Group. This however was not reflected in the report before Members. He stated therefore, that he could not support recommendation 4.2 and asked that it was the subject of a named recorded vote.

Having been invited by the Chairman to respond, Ms Peverley confirmed that Councillor Michael Dixon had accepted the nomination and was now sitting as a member of the Steering Group. Ms Peverley and the Deputy Leader were due to meet with Councillor Dixon on 7<sup>th</sup> January to brief him on the Community Wealth Delivery Plan.

Councillor Haswell replied that he appreciated Ms Peverley's comments, however it had not been confirmed in writing, either in the report before Members or in any other documentation with the exception of the email exchanges between the Deputy Leader and the Leaderships of the Opposition Groups. Until it was formally 'codified' he believed it would remain as an "arrangement" which could easily be broken.

The Chairman gave Councillor Haswell a personal assurance that the discussions of the Steering Group would be fed back to the Area Committee Members.

Councillor Mann then spoke in support of the comments made by Councillor Haswell.

In reply, with regard to the concerns that nothing had been put down in writing, Ms Peverley advised that her confirmation of Councillor Dixon's position and the debate around the issue would be recorded in the minutes becoming the formal record of proceedings once those minutes were agreed by the Area Committee at its next meeting. This position was confirmed by the Governance Services Officer.

The Chairman then invited Members to continue to consider the report. Councillor Crosby informed the Committee of a conference she had attended where Professor Chambers of Sunderland University had spoken on the economic benefit to Sunderland of its student population and the measures that could be taken to ensure the City benefitted from their spending power. She suggested that Prof. Chambers could be helpful in informing the delivery of the Community Wealth Strategy moving forward.

Councillor McDonough spoke in support of the comments made by Councillor Haswell. In addition he described the report as being 'a bit woolley around the edges' and 'lacking in detail'. He also requested details of the costings involved in the delivery of the Strategy to ensure it could be shown that its costs would not out-weigh its benefits.

Councillor Atkinson spoke to 'echo some positivity' about the report. She accepted that it may be seen as woolley and as a concept appear rather high-brow, however, in reality it was something that was happening in Sunderland already. She asked the Committee to positively embrace the proposals as in helping to keep the 'Sunderland Pound' circulating within Sunderland they would be doing right by their residents.

Councillor Mann confirmed that she and her group shared Councillor Atkinson's positivity and had witnessed the numerous good projects developed in the West and the city as a whole. She supported the report in general but believed there were a number of eyes to be dotted and tees to be crossed.

Councillor Haswell briefly reiterated his position that he could not support recommendation 4.2 as it currently stood, despite the assurances given by Ms Peverley and the Chairman, because they were not reflected in the written report in front of Members.

In reply Ms Peverley informed the Committee that the position with regard to Councillor Dixon's appointment to the Steering Group had only been confirmed the previous Friday. This was after the statutory publication date for the agenda and therefore could not be reflected in the report which had already been published.

Councillor Tye stated that he was struggling to understand Councillor Haswell's position on the matter. He queried if Councillor Haswell was implying that he did not trust that the assurances given by Officers would be minuted and stuck to. He stated that normally if it was felt that something was missing from a report, an amended would be moved to include it, and consideration would then be given to the amended in the usual way.

In response to an enquiry from the Chairman, Councillor Haswell clarified that he was just looking to split recommendations 4.1 and 4.2. He was more than happy to support recommendation 4.1 but was seeking a vote on recommendation 4.2 as he could not support it in the form it was written.

There being no further questions or comments, the Chairman put recommendation 4.1 to the Committee which was agreed by consensus.

The Chairman then put recommendation 4.2 to the Committee and a named vote was taken.

With 8 members voting in favour (namely Councillors Atkinson, D. Dixon, P. Gibson, P. Smith, Tye, Waller, Watson and A. Wilson), 8 members voting against (namely Councillors Blackett, Crosby, Greener, Haswell, Mann, McDonough, Mullen and G. Smith) and no abstentions, the Chairman exercised his casting vote in favour of the recommendation and it was:-

3. RESOLVED that:-

- i) the contents of the report be noted, the work undertaken to support the growth of Community Wealth across Sunderland be acknowledged and the Committee continue to support the delivery of the Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy, and
- ii) the Committee support the Chairman to deliver his Community Wealth Champion role on behalf of the residents of Sunderland, demonstrating the commitment of West Area Committee to support growth.

### **Report of the West Area Voluntary and Community Sector Network**

The Network submitted a progress report (copy circulated) which briefed members on issues pertinent to the Committee and the Voluntary and Community Sector.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Consideration was given to the report presented by William Leach which highlighted the following VCS Network activity undertaken since its last report to the Committee:-

- i) The continued work undertaken by Pallion Action Group and Youth Almighty Project with the Council, CCG, Gentoo and volunteers to provide support for local residents in the West who were Clinically and Extremely Vulnerable in respect of shopping and prescriptions,
- ii) The receipt of presentations from Green Doctors and WEEE projects, both presentations were engaging and the network was provided with information on how to work together.
- iii) The operation of organisations from across the network throughout lockdown, often working with support bubbles of individuals or remotely, working within government guidelines to keep everyone safe by respecting social distancing and implementing rigorous hygiene procedures.
- iv) The support to deliver Christmas activities from the Sunderland City Council Winter Covid call for projects, to assist families and residents across the West

There being no questions or comments for Mr Leach, the Chairman thanked him for his report, and it was:-

4. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

### **Report of Gentoo**

Alan Duffy, Head of Operations, Gentoo Group presented a report (copy circulated) which briefed the Committee on:-

- i) the award to Gentoo of the G1 governance rating by the Regulator for Social Housing, the highest governance rating that could be issued and which sat alongside the V2 viability rating that Gentoo continued to maintain.
- ii) the 6 month suspension on all non-urgent transfer requests together with the appeals process
- iii) the investment and renewals process with particular reference to the delivery of the first phase of the Chester Gate development to provide 118 new homes and also the current position with the Prestbury Road site.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

In response to enquiries from Councillor Mann, Mr Duffy confirmed that the development of the Chester Gate site had historically been subject to a number of delays since the time it was first cleared in the 1990s. The latest had obviously been Covid related however work had now reconvened on the site following the September Gentoo Board meeting. The anticipated sales launch before Christmas had been postponed because it was felt its impact would be minimised by the impending renewed lockdown. Mr Duffy also confirmed that it was intended that social housing provision would be included in the later phases of the development.



Councillor Mann congratulated Mr Duffy on Gentoo regaining its G1 rating and for the excellence of its consultation on the Prestbury Road development.

Councillor P. Smith referred to the comment in paragraph 3.2 of the report that during the suspension period, Gentoo would carry out a review of the Allocations policy, including consulting with key partners and customers on the policy. She asked if this included consultation with elected members. Mr Duffy confirmed that it did. Councillor Tye informed the meeting that the new Gentoo Chief Executive and his fellow Board members were absolutely committed to the importance of consultation with elected members and the need to work alongside local councillors to take them on the journey with them. Councillor Waller echoed the sentiments expressed by Councillor Tye.

Councillor Haswell asked was the appeals process easily understandable for people? How many of the 22 appeals were successful? Could Mr Duffy provide a breakdown of the banding of the waiting list, ie how many of the 8,000 on the list fell into bands 1, 2 or 3 and did the criteria for 'Urgent Need' include issues of overcrowding and mental health?

Mr Duffy outlined that everyone received a letter or an email explaining the suspension of the transfers and which gave them 3 weeks should they wish to appeal. This could be done via a letter, email or direct contact with their local housing office. With regard to the 22 appeals, the majority had been successful with the original decisions being overturned following the submission of additional supporting information by the appellant regarding their circumstances which they had previously failed to make Gentoo aware of. With regard to the banding, the freeze on transfers only applied to people in band 3 (the general need band) which largely covered transfer requests that were based on want rather than need. There was no freeze on transfer requests in respect of tenants based in bands 1 and 2. Both overcrowding and mental health were band 2 considerations.

There being no further questions or comments, the Chairman thanked Mr Duffy for his report and it was :-

5. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

### **Report of the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service**

A report of the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service (TWFRS) (copy circulated) was submitted which provided the Committee with an update on the Service's performance indicators for the period ending 25<sup>th</sup> November 2020 with particular reference to the L133 Incidents (deliberate fires) broken down by property type.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

The Chair advised that in the absence of the presenting officer, the report was submitted for information only. If members had any questions on the report they should be emailed to Ms Stanley who would ensure that they received a reply in writing.

6. RESOLVED the report be received and noted

## **Report of Northumbria Police**

A report of the Northumbria Police Service (copy circulated) was submitted which provided the Committee with an update on and key performance information in relation to the Sunderland West area for the period September to November 2020

(For copy report – see original minutes)

The Chair advised that in the absence of the presenting officer, the report (copy circulated) was submitted for information only. If members had any questions on the report they should be emailed to Ms Stanley who would ensure that they received a reply in writing.

Councillor Tye expressed concern about the standard of the Police report which he described as ‘thin’ and ‘lacking meat on the bone’ given the distance between the last attendance of the Police at the Committee’s meetings. He believed the West area was being treated as ‘the poor relations’ when compared to areas such as the North, especially as the West was one of the Council’s biggest areas with some of its biggest problems. He stated that he would have expected an attendance from the Inspector or one of the two Sergeants to expand on the information in the report.

Councillors Crosby, Mann, P. Smith, and Haswell spoke in support of the comments made by Councillor Tye who asked the Chairman to raise the Committee’s concerns with the relevant Chief Superintendent. The Chairman having agreed to do so, it was:-

7. RESOLVED the report be received and noted.

## **West Area Budget Report**

The Assistant Director of Community Resilience submitted a report (copy circulated) in respect of the above matter.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Gilly Stanley Area Community Development Lead, presented the report highlighting the Committee’s financial statement, details of 13 projects approved under delegated powers for support from the 2020/21 Community Chest budget, together with details of proposals for the allocation of funds from the Neighbourhood Fund and the Neighbourhood Investment Capital Fund.

Consideration having been given to the report, it was:-

8. RESOLVED that:-
  - (i) the Area Committee’s funding statement as detailed in paragraphs 2.1 and 3.1 of the report be received and noted;

- (ii) approval be given to the granting of £6,000 from the Neighbourhood Fund to extend the Holiday Hunger project as detailed in paragraph 2.4 and Annex 1 of the report;
- (iii) approval be given to the alignment of £100,000 from the Neighbourhood Fund in respect of the Improve Access to ICT to reduce Social Isolation Programme Priority as detailed in paragraph 2.3 and Annex 1 of the report
- (iv) approval be given to the granting of £65,000 Neighbourhood Investment Capital funding and £87,000 Neighbourhood Funding – (Healthy Weight funding) to the Green Gyms project as detailed in paragraph 3.4 of the report;
- (v) the approval of the 13 Community Chest applications from the 2020/21 budget as detailed in Annex 2 of the report be noted.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting having thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions.

(Signed) P. GIBSON,  
Chairman.

16 March 2020

## REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF WEST SUNDERLAND NEIGHBOURHOODS AND COMMUNITY BOARD

### West Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020-2023

#### 1. Purpose of Report

##### 1.1 This report:-

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

#### 2. Background

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

#### 3. Area Committee and Neighbourhood Investment Plan Governance Arrangements

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### 4. Areas of Key Action/Progress

- 4.1 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of action/progress of the Board up to March 2020.

Priority/Issue	Update
Assistant Director Housing to present full update on Housing to West Neighbourhood and Community Board	The Assistant Director of Housing attended the February Neighbourhood and Community Board and updated on the developments within the service area.
Receive an update on bins installations and new locations identified with members including smart bin technology in key locations	Following the November Board meeting a proposal for replacement bins and new benches is being presented to the Area Committee. The Board are making a recommendation to approve £36,529 from the Neighbourhood Capital programme, details in Item 4 Annex 1
Develop a plan for Green gyms – consider locations and equipment across the West	The Area Committee approved the funding for the Outdoor gym equipment. The project is progressing and installation should begin in Summer 2021.
Support the voluntary and community sector to grow capacity to provide additional services	The VCS has continued to be supported by the Area Committee, the Community hubs receive daily on-going support and the VCS network continues to be supported to ensure they have access to all funding opportunities. Members receive weekly performance reports detailing the support, over 440 residents have been supported throughout the pandemic and over 250 volunteers have been recruited.
Improve walking routes and fitness trails- linked to improved cycle routes- signage, improved surfaces, maps.	The relevant services areas attended the February Board and provided an update on plans for the City. Members supported the plans and are also keen to enhance existing routes, further details to be discussed at a future Board meeting.
Update to be provided on amount of investment planned by Highways Services for highways, pavements and street lighting replacement programme	A report on proposed highways to include in the 2021 / 2022 programme is being considered by the Area Committee in March 2021- details in Item 2 Annex 2.
West Area Committee approved 120k to improvements to play areas in the West.	Area Committee agreed to fund a Play Improvement project. Following the approval, the project went out to tender, this is expected to be complete by the end of February. Work is expected to start on site in Spring 2021 and be complete by Summer 2021.
Consider improvements to the Stephenson Trail – working alongside other areas (Coalfield and East)	A multi area Task and Finish group met and an action plan has been developed to support this project. The Board are making a recommendation to Area Committee to align £50,000 towards this project, with full details to be developed and discussed at a future Board.
Consider the installation of the Silksworth Pit wheel	The Board discussed this proposal and following a subsequent meeting with Silksworth Councillors, the budget requested has reduced to £17,500 Neighbourhood Capital Funding, the Area Committee are being asked to consider this project request.
Improve access and knowledge of ICT to	The Board meeting discussed the application received and are making a recommendation to Area Committee to approve the

reduce social isolation	£100,000 to Media Savvy to deliver a 3 year project with approval conditions detailed in the Area Budget report.
Receive update on Holiday Hunger activities delivered 2019-2020 and consider delivery for 2020-2021.	The Area Committee is being asked to approve £48,000 to further extend the Holiday Hunger activities projects across the West. The 6 project leads will be asked to submit an application for £8000 per ward to deliver sessions across the May, Summer, October, Christmas, February and Easter 2022 holiday periods. The applications will be presented to the Neighbourhood and Community Board.
Invite Welfare rights service to submit proposals for West Support- consider a 3-year proposal.	The Board discussed the findings from the Task and Finish Group and are recommending to Area Committee to approve a 3 year proposal for £150,000 Neighbourhood Fund. Full details in the Area Budget report.

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

- 5.1 Consider the progress and performance update with regard to West Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020/23 and agree proposals for future delivery as contained within Annex 1.
- 5.2 Consider and agree the recommendations of the Place Board regarding the Highways Maintenance Capital Programme for the West for 2020 / 2021, as set out in Annex 2
- 5.3 Note the Area Committee video update

Annex 1 West Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020/2023

Annex 2 Highways Maintenance Capital Programme

Contact Officer: [gilly.stanley@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:gilly.stanley@sunderland.gov.uk)  
Gilly Stanley, West Area Community Development Lead

## West Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020 / 2023

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



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

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

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Work with private landlords                  | 12. Drainage  |
| 2. Invest in street furniture                   | 13. Promote Heritage Assets and Deliver Heritage Activities |
| 3. Invest in green space                        | 14. Support Local Shopping Centres                          |
| 4. Love Where You Live and In Bloom             | 15. Digital   |
| 5. Transport Routes and Parking                 | 16. Job Clubs   |
| 6. Highways, pavements and street lighting      | 17. Healthy Eating  |
| 7. Parks, play, cycle and walking routes        | 18. Support Youth Clubs                                     |
| 8. Social Prescribing                           | 19. Welfare Rights Support                                  |
| 9. Support voluntary and community sector       |   |
| 10. Volunteer platform                          |   |
| 11. Support communities to deliver local events |   |

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

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

Neighbourhood Investment priority		
Action	Next Steps	Update
<b>1. Work with private landlords by ward and proactively deal with issues using all available enforcement powers</b>		
Assistant Director Housing to present full update on Housing to West Neighbourhood and Community Board	West Area Committee to consider update and how they can enhance and support the offer within the West area.	The Assistant Director of Housing attended the February Neighbourhood and Community Board and updated on the developments within the service area.
<b>2. Invest in Street Furniture including additional bins</b>		
Receive an update on bins installations and new locations identified with members including smart bin technology in key locations	List to be provided to West Area and costs to be established for capital spend.	Following the November Board meeting a proposal for replacement bins and new benches is being presented to the area Committee. The Board are making a recommendation to approve the Neighbourhood Capital project.
Removal or Painting of pedestrian barriers and other street furniture		The Assistant Director of Environmental Services discussed the current audit of street furniture and was asked to consider the needs in the West and return to a future board with an update on requirements.
<b>3. Enhance local green spaces and encourage wider use including sports equipment, refurbishment of existing equipment and delivery of activities which support health and wellbeing</b>		
Develop a plan for Green gyms – consider locations and equipment across the West	Area Committee Development Lead (ACDL) to coordinate and arrange a Task and Finish group and regular updates to be provided to the Neighbourhood and Community Board.	The Area Committee approved the funding for the Outdoor gym equipment. The project is progressing and installation should begin in Summer 2021.
Improve walking routes and fitness trails- linked to improved cycle routes- signage, improved surfaces, maps.	Promote View ranger and gather information from relevant service area to understand gaps in West and suggest improvements.	The relevant services areas attended the February Board and update on plans for the city. Members supported the plans and are also keen to enhance existing routes, further



		details to be discussed at a future Board meeting.
Continue to develop ward based projects that utilise the Walk and Talk budget	ACDL to continue to work with ward members to deliver projects following member walk arounds.	Ward members continue to allocate the Walk and Talk budgets in each ward.
<b>4. Launch 'Love where you live' campaign and In Bloom</b>		
Continue to receive updates from the Clean and Green Project and the Voluntary Community Sector on community litter picks and environmental projects and ensure they advertise opportunities for residents/schools etc to get involved.	Full application approved at September Area Committee for the extension.	Steering group meeting took place Mid November to discuss plans and progress to date. 12 volunteers are participating regularly, transport remains an issue due to COVID restrictions, activities have been adapted to be more localised to ensure regular participants.
Develop plans for a West wide in bloom delivery	To be considered at a future board meeting	
<b>5. Review transport routes in partnership with all providers in consultation with residents. Pick up localised parking issues – residential and shopping</b>		
Consider parking issues at St Luke's Terrace		The Asset and Network Manager attended the Neighbourhood and Community Board and discussed the issues faced around the area with regards to parking. The Neighbourhood and Community Board will discuss the matter at a future meeting once site visits have taken place.
<b>6. Invest in highways, pavements and street lighting</b>		
Update to be provided on amount of investment planned by Highways Services for highways,	Highways Maintenance Programme for 2021 - 2022 to be presented to Neighbourhood and Community Board	All West Councillors received notification to submit damaged or uneven highways in the wards and forward the information onto the

pavements and street lighting replacement programme	for discussion and recommendation to West Area Committee.	Highways Department by the end of November 2020.  A report on what proposed highways to include in the 2021 / 2022 Programme is being considered by the Area Committee in March 2021
Consider traffic calming measures on Silksworth Lane alongside parking restrictions		New traffic restrictions around the area have now been completed. Consideration to be made to future traffic calming measures.
<b>7. Invest in Parks, play areas, cycle and walking routes in consultation with residents and users</b>		
West Area Committee approved 120k to improvements to play areas in the West.		Area Committee agreed a Play Improvement project. Following the approval, the project went out to tender, this is expected to be complete end of February. Work expected to start on site in Spring 2021 and be complete by Summer 2021.
Consider improvements to existing cycle routes and improve digital routes	Request update from relevant service on City and Area Plans and then consider capital improvements to support Area improvements.	
Consider new cycle routes	Relevant Officers invited to a future board meeting, to discuss City plans and local proposals	The relevant services areas attended the February Board and updated on plans for the city. Members supported the plans and are also keen to enhance existing routes, further details to be discussed at a future Board meeting.
<b>8. Social Prescribing – develop local offer to improve health and wellbeing and access to services locally to reduce social isolation, improve mental health and support long-term health conditions, and ensure physical activity session are accessible and not cost or time prohibitive, in partnership with All Together Better</b>		

Ensure the West VCS continue to be supported to provide services and activities to local residents	ACDL to continue to provide updates to the Neighbourhood and Community Board.	Activities and services have continued to be delivered throughout 2020-2021 using Community Chest and Walk and Talk. Support has continued to be offered to ensure maximum external funding attracted.
West Area Committee in partnership with Public Health Funding to support health related projects in Sunderland West. Funding aligned- linking with Green Gym development	When green gym project delivered- ensure VCS are supported to maximise usage of equipment safely and effectively.	
<b>9. Support the voluntary and community sector to grow capacity to provide additional services and extend opening times within local community venues as well as host community events, activities and nurture family learning</b>		
Work with and support our VCS and community hubs and support and build capacity at a grassroots level.	Area Co-ordinator to provide update in line with the development of support and capacity building as a strategic approach.	<p>The VCS has continued to be supported by the Area Committee, the Community Hubs receive daily on-going support and the VCS network continues to be supported to ensure they have access to all internal and external funding opportunities. Members receive weekly performance reports detailing the support, over 440 residents have been supported throughout the pandemic and over 250 volunteers have been recruited.</p> <p>The VCS Support Task and Finish group have met and discussions are taking place with property services, with the aim of having an update for later in 2021 on capital improvements.</p>
<b>10. Launch a volunteer platform to support residents to get involved more within their communities</b>		
Co-ordinate volunteers from Covid 19 hub and link with our VCS.	Update volunteer platform to enable matching volunteers to future VCS volunteer requirements in the area.	Volunteers continue to be linked to residents and Voluntary groups who require support.

<b>11. Support communities to deliver local events</b>		
West Area Committee funded a large-scale event for 2021- delivered by Youth Almighty Project		Event postponed until 2022
Consider purchasing event equipment for communities		
Christmas lights	July West Area Committee agreed £10,000 capital funding to support festive lighting project- Decision to enhance existing schemes. Board to include Christmas 2021 as an agenda item.	
<b>12. Additional Drainage cleansing programme</b>		
Continue to support local traders and link in with flooding officers regarding local issues.		
<b>13. Communicate heritage assets and delivery heritage activities to improve health and wellbeing and improve community cohesion</b>		
Consider improvements to the Stephenson Trail – working alongside other areas (Coalfield and East)	July Neighbourhood and Community Board agreed to consider the Stephenson Trail and the heritage around the site. Need to understand the other areas interest and set up a Task and Finish group to consider.	A multi area Task and Finish group met and an action plan has been developed to support this project. The Board are making a recommendation to Area Committee to align £50,000 towards this project, with full details to be developed and discussed at a future Board.
Consider the installation of the Silksworth Pit wheel	Work with the heritage team to consider the installation of the Silksworth Pit wheel.	The Board discussed this proposal and following a subsequent meeting with Silksworth Councillors, the budget requested has reduced to £17,500 Neighbourhood Capital Funding, the Area Committee are been asked to consider this project request.

<b>14. Invest in local shopping centres and support local businesses to ensure they continue to thrive</b>		
Continue with the capital improvement projects from local shopping centre budgets - Budgets remain in Sandhill, St Chad's and Barnes)		
<b>15. Increase 5g access across all neighbourhoods and support people with digital resources</b>		
Improve access and knowledge of ICT to reduce social isolation	Neighbourhood and Community Board agreed the formation of a Task and Finish Group. ACDL to coordinate and arrange the group and regular updates to be provided to the Neighbourhood and Community Board.	The Board discussed the application received and are making a recommendation to Area Committee to approve £100,000 to Media Savvy for a 3 year project with approval conditions detailed in the Area Budget report.
<b>16. Create job clubs and education centres within local community venues including digital skill training and basic skills</b>		
West Area Committee Invited Pennywell Youth Project (PYP) to apply for an extension to the CLLD project	PYP invited to full application for CLLD extension utilising existing alignment of funding from previous years allocation.	At the September Area Committee the extension to the Pennywell Youth Project was approved.
Continue to receive updates on existing CLLD projects in the West and consider extensions to existing projects and consider new applications requiring match	Receive a performance update on existing projects.	<p>Call for projects – Round 4 of the Sunderland Community Led Local Development programme is now open and will close at 23:59 on Wednesday 30 June 2021.</p> <p>This call invites Expressions of Interest (EOI) which support the delivery of Strategic Objective 1: Enhancing employment and skills provision; Strategic Objective 2: Boosting enterprise and entrepreneurship; Strategic Objective 3: Improving community capacity, partnership working and social innovation.</p>
Continue to receive updates on West NEET project	Receive a performance update on existing project.	

<b>17. Eating healthy meals and learning to prepare and cook food, delivery sessions within local community.</b>		
Receive update on Holiday hunger activities deliver 2019-2020 and consider deliver for 2020-2021.	Receive a performance report from existing projects delivering holiday hunger activities and consider proposals for future need and delivery.	The Area Committee is being asked to approve £48,000 to further extend the Holiday Hunger activities projects across the West. The 6 project leads will be asked to submit an application for £8000 per ward to deliver sessions across the May, Summer, October, Christmas, February and Easter 2022 holiday periods. The applications will be presented to the Neighbourhood and Community Board.
<b>18. Support youth clubs and spaces for young people to be safe together</b>		
Receive updates from Sunderland All Together Consortium on project delivery and consider gaps when identified.		
Consider if facilities need capital improvements and or additional equipment for detached and outreach work.		A Task and Finish group has met and discussed the support required for the VCS. Discussions are taking place with other Council departments to understand the capital improvements required. A further Task and Finish group will discuss these findings and feedback to the Board.
<b>19. Support those who are struggling due to Universal Credit and other financial conditions</b>		
Invite Welfare rights service to submit proposals for West Support- consider a 3-year proposal.	Understand if other areas are considering this priority and invite proposal.	The Board discussed the findings from the Task and Finish Group and are recommending to Area Committee to approve a 3 year proposal for £150,000 Neighbourhood Fund. Full details in the Area Budget report.

## **WEST SUNDERLAND AREA NEIGHBOURHOOD AND COMMUNITY BOARD**

**22nd FEBRUARY 2021**

### **HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021-22**

#### **REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is for members to consider and recommend to Area Committee the list of streets for their area, to a value of £100,000 that should be included in the Highway Maintenance Capital Programme 2021-2022.

#### **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 At November's Neighbourhood and Community Board members were informed of the process for developing and approving the 2021-2022 Highway Maintenance Capital Programme for works on the adopted highway network.
- 2.2 At the meeting Board members were informed that a citywide programme of priority schemes would be prepared by officers to a value of 75% of the available Local Transport Plan (LTP) Highway Maintenance budget allocation and that 25% of the Highway Maintenance Capital Programme would be allocated to the members for spend from a recommended list of maintenance schemes.
- 2.3 Subject to Cabinet approval and Council ratification the amount of LTP capital allocation for Highway Maintenance will be in the region of £2m. Based on this amount £500,000 in total has been allocated to the Regeneration Areas.

#### **3.0 PROGRAMME**

- 3.1 In determining the candidate streets for the proposed Highway Maintenance Programme 2021-2022, information has been analysed and considered from the following sources:
  - Machine based and manual (driven and walked) condition surveys.
  - Councillors' input throughout the year, as well as the recent submissions following October's emailed invitation.
  - Reports from residents and businesses
  - Highway inspectors' reports and engineers' inspections.

Officers also examine accident claim locations and consider whether scheme work would be appropriate to mitigate future claims.
- 3.2 Appended to this report is a table, which contains the candidate streets for consideration. To assist members deliberations officers have prioritised a list of streets (shown in bold), which totals the £100,000 (or thereabouts) area allocation and takes in to account local priorities.
- 3.3 Members may wish to endorse this list or, following discussions with their Area colleagues, choose to replace some of those streets highlighted in the table with those that are not

highlighted. A set of A4 plans highlighting the limits of the works at each location will be distributed prior to the meeting and will be made available to the councillors to view online.

#### **4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

Neighbourhood and Community Board members are recommended to consider the streets listed in the table up to a value of £100,000 (or thereabouts), and confirm, the schemes to be recommended to the March West Area Committee for inclusion in the Highway Maintenance Capital Programme 2021-2022.



**WEST AREA NEIGHBOURHOOD AND COMMUNITY BOARD**  
**APPENDIX A**  
**Members Options to consider for inclusion in the Highway Maintenance**  
**Capital Programme 2021-2022**

<b>STREET NAME</b>	<b>WARD</b>	<b>Area (m2)</b>	<b>Treatment</b>	<b>Estimate Footway £</b>	<b>Estimate Road £</b>
<b>Colchester Terrace (part)</b>	<b>Barnes</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>Resurface carriageway</b>		<b>4600</b>
<b>Ettrick Road (part)</b>	<b>Barnes</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>Resurface carriageway</b>		<b>9650</b>
<b>Highside Drive (part)</b>	<b>Barnes</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>Localised carriageway resurfacing</b>		<b>4850</b>
Hipsburn Drive (part)	Barnes	550	Localised carriageway resurfacing		6500
Nesburn Road	Barnes	200	Localised carriageway resurfacing		5200
Ormonde Street	Barnes	300	Localised carriageway patching		12000
<b>Duncan Street</b>	<b>Pallion</b>	<b>680</b>	<b>Resurface carriageway</b>		<b>9800</b>
<b>Fordenbridge Road</b>	<b>Pallion</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>Resurface carriageway</b>		<b>4500</b>
<b>Lyndhurst Terrace (part)</b>	<b>Pallion</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>Resurface carriageway</b>		<b>3200</b>
North Hall Road	Pallion		Localised carriageway repairs		6000
Wareness Street	Pallion	555	Resurface carriageway		8000
Wilfred Street	Pallion	505	Resurface carriageway		7300
<b>Greenwood Road</b>	<b>Sandhill</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>Resurface carriageway</b>		<b>4500</b>
Sandalwood Square	Sandhill	1190	Resurface carriageway		14050
<b>Tay Road (part)</b>	<b>Sandhill</b>	<b>640</b>	<b>Resurface carriageway</b>		<b>11200</b>
Tilbury Road (part)	Sandhill	450	Resurface carriageway		8000
Thorndale Road (part)	Sandhill	1070	Resurface carriageway		18700
<b>Aline Street (part)</b>	<b>Silksworth</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>Localised carriageway resurfacing</b>		<b>3000</b>
<b>Barras Drive</b>	<b>Silksworth</b>	<b>680</b>	<b>Slurry footway</b>	<b>3400</b>	

STREET NAME	WARD	Area (m2)	Treatment	Estimate Footway £	Estimate Road £
<b>North Street (part)</b>	<b>Silksworth</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>Resurface carriageway</b>		<b>3700</b>
<b>Mary Street (part)</b>	<b>Silksworth</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>Localised carriageway patching</b>		<b>2000</b>
<b>Rutland Avenue (part)</b>	<b>Silksworth</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>Localised carriageway patching</b>		<b>2000</b>
Silksworth Road (part)	Silksworth	200	Localised Carriageway resurfacing		8000
<b>East Grove (part)</b>	<b>St. Anne's</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Localised carriageway patching</b>		<b>2125</b>
<b>Palmstead Road</b>	<b>St. Anne's</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>Localised carriageway repairs</b>		<b>5075</b>
<b>Peasemoor Road (part)</b>	<b>St. Anne's</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>Localised carriageway resurfacing</b>		<b>3075</b>
<b>Pitcairn Road</b>	<b>St. Anne's</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>Localised footway repairs</b>	<b>7200</b>	
West Grove	St. Anne's	490	Resurface carriageway		11200
<b>Aberdare Road (part)</b>	<b>St. Chad's</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>Resurface carriageway</b>		<b>6925</b>
<b>Charter Drive (part)</b>	<b>St. Chad's</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>Resurface carriageway</b>		<b>3325</b>
<b>Drumoyne Close</b>	<b>St. Chad's</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>Resurface carriageway</b>		<b>3775</b>
Steep Hill (parts)	St. Chad's	560	Resurface carriageway		8000
<b>Summerhill (part)</b>	<b>St. Chad's</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>Resurface and patch carriageway</b>		<b>2100</b>
			AREA TOTAL	10600	202150
			<b>SELECTION TOTAL</b>	<b>10600</b>	<b>89400</b>

**TOTAL = £100,000**

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

16 MARCH 2021

**REPORT OF WEST AREA VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR NETWORK****1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 The report provides an update with regards to the West 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 are in place 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 West 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 West VCS Network is made up of over 70 local groups, as well as strategic local/national/regional partners. The network meets in the West on a regular basis to share good practice and support one another. The network feeds into a virtual network and feed into and receives weekly updates as part of an information share.

**3. West Area Voluntary and Community Sector Network (AVCSN) Progress Report**

- 3.1 The West VCS Network has not had a virtual network meeting since December 2020, but have met as small groups to work together on specific topics.
- 3.2 West area groups who are involved in the Winter Covid 19 delivery set up a What's App group. This has proven to be a very successful method to share information with each other.
- 3.3 A collaboration of West Area VCS groups have come together to submit an application to Community Resilience for theme 2 of the Covid 19 Mental Health support.
- 3.4 Pallion Action Group and Youth Almighty Project continue to work with the Council, CCG, Gentoo and volunteers to provide support for shopping, prescriptions, to local residents in the West who are Clinically and Extremely Vulnerable.
- 3.5 Organisations from across the network have continued to operate throughout lockdown, often working with support bubbles of individuals or remotely. Activity programs have continued to look very different to ensure organisations are working within government guidelines to keep everyone safe by respecting social distancing and implementing rigorous hygiene procedures.
- 3.6 Community Chest and Walk and Talk budgets have supported the VCS to deliver activities and support to residents across the West.
- 3.7 Sunderland City Council in its continued commitment to support a thriving VCS in the city seeks to bring additional capacity to the sector through the recruitment of 5 Community Support Workers'

**4. Recommendation**

- 4.1 Members are requested to note the content of this report.

Contact: Bill Leach, Area Network Representative  
Joanne Laverick, Area Network Representative  
Kelly Brougham, Area Network Representative

Tel No: 0191 5348435  
Tel No: 0191 5238000  
Tel No: 07946269005

**16 March 2021**

**REPORT OF GENTOO**

**1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 The following report provides an update from Gentoo for the West Area Committee from December 2020 to March 2021.

**2 Background**

- 2.1 Area Committee agreed that regular updates from Gentoo would be presented to each Committee meeting to enable members to be up-to-date on current Gentoo developments, projects and priorities.

**3. Update on Neighbourhood Services**

- 3.1 Gentoo is to renew the intercom system at all multi-storey and sheltered blocks in the next 3 months, including the 7 tower blocks in Lakeside as well as High Grindon House and Tom Urwin House. This is an essential service which links up to our Concierge system and provides additional security benefits to residents in these blocks. The current system is outdated and difficult to maintain with many parts now obsolete.
- 3.2 All tenants and leaseholders will have the handset and screen replaced in their homes by the summer. The new intercom system will provide ease of access and increased security. It also has the facility to cascade messages to individuals and groups, for example advising residents of any change or temporary disruption to facilities at their block such as lifts and other essential services. There will be minimal disruption at each customer's home and the changeover is expected to take less than an hour.

**4. Investment & Renewal**

- 4.1 Chester Gate Site, Pennywell - Works on the first phase of Chester Gate delivering 118 new homes, has now recommenced on this scheme and it will deliver 2, 3 & 4 bed properties all for sale. The first plots were launched for sale in February and 5 reservations were taken during the opening weekend. The first plots are currently programmed to complete in August this year.
- 4.2 Prestbury Road Site, Pennywell – this scheme will deliver ten new homes (2 & 3 bed), all for Affordable rent. We are due to start service diversion work in March, with construction work likely to commence in May. We anticipate the first new homes will be ready towards the end of this year.

**5. Recommendations**

- 5.1 Note the content of this report.

**Contact Officer:** Alan Duffy, Head of Operations.  
Tel: 0191 525 5403  
Email: [alan.duffy@gentoogroup.com](mailto:alan.duffy@gentoogroup.com)

16 MARCH 2021

## 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 Sunderland West Committee area. The data is a direct comparison for January 2021 in relation to the same period 2020

### 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

No deaths were recorded during the reporting period.

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

There were 0 deliberate property fires a decrease of 3 from last year. TWFRS, Northumbria Police, Environmental Health and other Local Authority partners have been working in partnership to reduce these incidents with estate visits. An example of this is the partnership approach regarding Farringdon Police Station.

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

There were 3 incidents reported during this period compared to last year when there were 7. TWFRS continue working with Police to reduce incidents.

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

There have been 5 deliberate secondary fires in this area over the report period compared to 29 over the same period last year. This is a decrease of 83% over the same reporting period.

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

There were a total of 8 deliberate fires in this reporting period. This is a decrease of 79% on last Year (39). This is due to a decrease in most reporting areas, TWFRS will continue working with Northumbria Police concerning vehicle fires and partners carrying out estate and site visits to reduce the number of loose refuse incidents.

#### 3.6 Community Involvement

Due to Covid no community events have taken place

#### 3.7 On-going Issues

Service lighter nights campaign will be launching soon but work has started at Farringdon to reduce incidents as highlighted in the report. It is essential that any fire related issues are reported to myself, (Kevin Burns, Station Manager) or using Fire Stoppers 0800 169 5558, so I can action with my crews. Each of my watches have been given ward areas to create community links (similar to the Police). This is not just about ASB fires but all deliberate fires, ensuring proper stacking/ storage of items outside a premise that may have an impact on property and life.

Any questions please feel free to contact on the details below.

## 4. Recommendations

### 4.1 Note the content of this report.

**Contact Officer:** Kevin Burns, Tyne and Wear Fire Service,  
Tel: 0191 4441188, Email: [kevin.burns@twfire.gov.uk](mailto:kevin.burns@twfire.gov.uk)



## Sunderland - West CAF Report

**January 2021**

The following data set contains general information relating to fire incidents/ASB fires in this reporting area. This is for public information and sharing for the purposes of reducing ASB and fire crime.

**If in doubt about the level of security contact the D&I team SHQ.**

Primary fires include all fires in buildings, vehicles and outdoor structures or any fire involving casualties, rescues, or fires attended by five or more appliances.

Secondary fires include refuse, bin, derelict vehicle fires and grass fires. A secondary fire does not involve casualties or rescues.

Data and Information Audit	
Data compiled by:	TWFIRE Deborah.McTomney
Checked by:	
Data valid at:	22/02/2021
Approved for Publication	
Approved by:	
Date Approved by:	

### **LI33 Incidents**

Number of all deliberate fires:

January 2020	January 2021
39	8

### **LI14 Incidents**

Number of primary fires started deliberately excluding toad vehicles:

January 2020	January 2021
3	0

### **LI15 Incidents**

Number of deliberate primary roads vehicle fires:

January 2020	January 2021
7	3

### **LI16 Incidents**

Number of deliberate secondary fires:

January 2020	January 2021
29	5

### **LI33 Incidents - Ward Breakdown**

Ward	January 2020	January 2021
Barnes ward	4	1
Pallion ward	26	3
Sandhill ward	6	1
Silksworth ward	2	0
St Anne's ward	1	2
St Chad's ward	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>8</b>

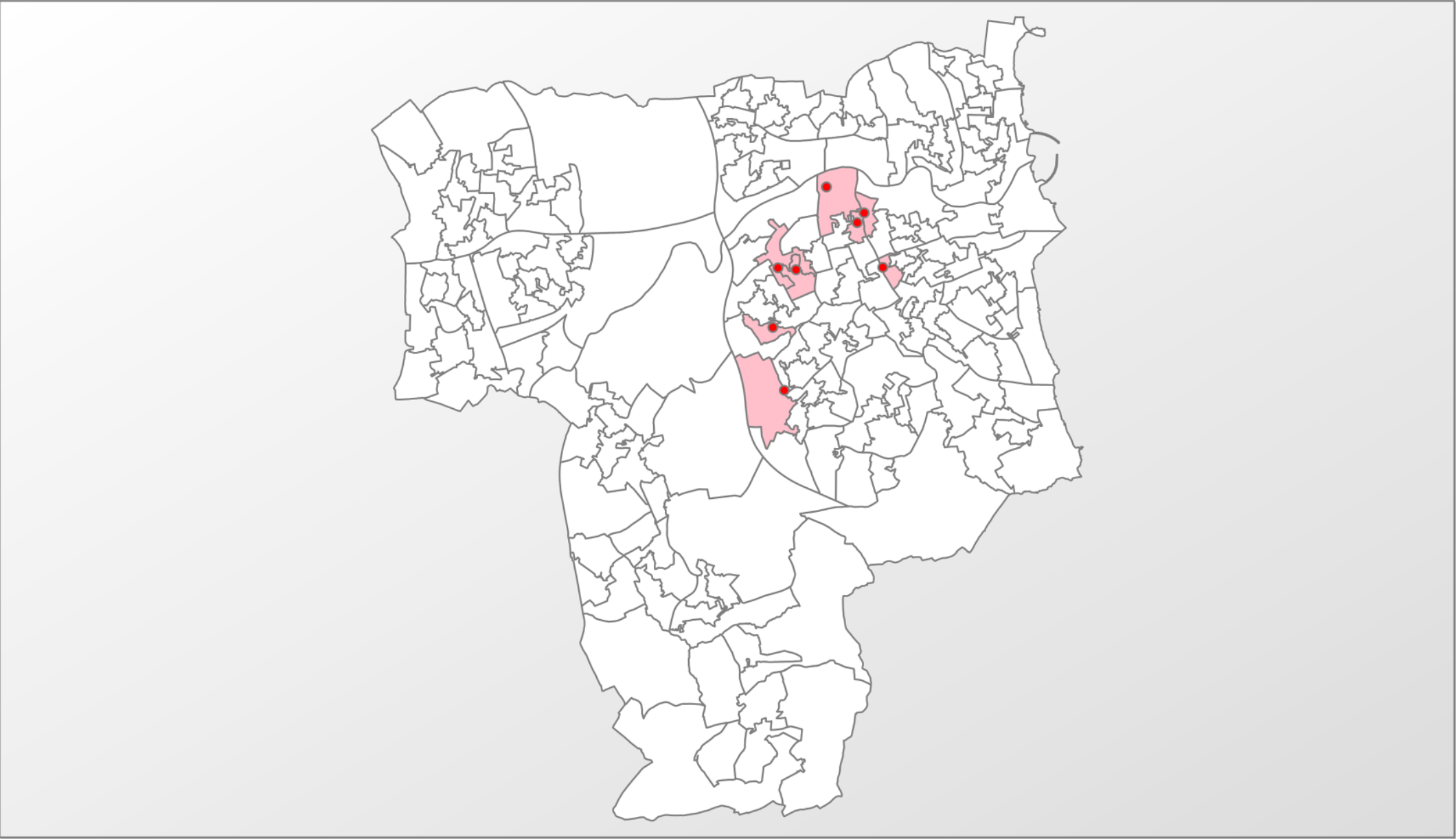
### **LI33 Incidents - Property Type Breakdown**

Property Type	January 2020	January 2021
Private garage	1	0
Fence	1	0
Other outdoor items including roadside furniture	1	0
Van	3	0
Industrial Manufacturing	4	0
Wheelie Bin	1	2
Car	4	3
Canal/riverbank vegetation	1	0
Large refuse/rubbish container (eg skip)	2	0
Other outdoor structures	1	0
Loose refuse (incl in garden)	18	2
Wasteland	0	1
Refuse/rubbish tip	2	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>8</b>



**LI33 Incidents - Map Breakdown**

There was **8** incidents in the Sunderland - West area during January 2021



### **LI33 Incidents - Detailed Breakdown**

There was **8** incidents in the Sunderland - West area during January 2021

<b>Incident Number</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Station</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Property Type</b>
49000402	08/01/2021	15:53:31	Sunderland Central (N)	Pallion ward	Wasteland
49000420	09/01/2021	01:05:22	Farringdon (Q)	St Anne's ward	Car
49000434	09/01/2021	06:55:29	Farringdon (Q)	Sandhill ward	Car
49000487	10/01/2021	03:58:08	Farringdon (Q)	St Anne's ward	Car
49000517	10/01/2021	16:32:10	Sunderland Central (N)	Pallion ward	Loose refuse (incl in garden)
49001146	22/01/2021	20:13:07	Sunderland Central (N)	Barnes ward	Wheelie Bin
49001191	23/01/2021	17:02:19	Sunderland Central (N)	Pallion ward	Wheelie Bin
49001424	27/01/2021	07:04:35	Farringdon (Q)	St Chad's ward	Loose refuse (incl in garden)

16 MARCH 2021

## REPORT OF REPORT OF THE NORTHUMBRIA POLICE

### 1.0 Purpose of Report

The following report provides a community update and key performance information in relation to Sunderland West area between the following period (Dec 2020 - Feb 2021)

### 2.0 Key Updates

#### Problem Solving:

#### 2.1 Targeted Offender Management:

We have been actively targeting offenders for different crime types and we are thankfully not seeing an overall increase in crime. An example of this is our partnership working with housing enforcement addressing problematic tenants including the Barnes and Thorney Close areas. We have served a number of community protection notices upon tenants and the housing partners are seeking possession in some of those cases. I hope that the tenants remedy their behaviours or we will progress to the next stage so it is hoped we will see an improvement to residents quality of life.

We have also followed up on your concerns around road use and fed this into Operation Modero to see if there is any further work that can be considered.

Patrols continue across the Wards and there is a spike in vehicle ASB across the West in general however the main spikes are running through East Herrington, Doxford, Silksworth and Tunstall. There are larger spikes in the Sunderland North and Sunderland City locations so I have tasked my team to join up with the Hendon/Ryhope teams to improve deployment to key sites. My concern being that it is likely to be the same offenders and to prevent displacement. We have had several successes of late with persons arrested/ identified and motorbikes/quad bikes seized in the Herrington, Silksworth, Tunstall Hills locations as well as Thorney Close. We are using all means possible to identify offenders and take positive action.

Additionally we are using the covid enforcement when breaches are found. This could be in response to incidents reported to ourselves however we are also proactively identifying opportunities. A recent example of this is the issuing of fines whilst on ASB patrols in South Hylton riverside – this was to persons who had attended the area in company with others that put them in breach because they simply had no good reason for being there. Another example being the stopping of a vehicle whilst patrolling Pallion whereby three persons were issued with fines and following the search of the vehicle an offensive weapon was located, this led to positive action being taken against the offender, the weapon being recovered along with their vehicle being seized also.

We actively work alongside our high impact crime team to actively gather intelligence and pursue burglary offenders. We have had some very good successes in the Sunderland West area taking a number of active burglars off the streets particularly around the Silksworth and Farringdon area and the Hylton-Barnes-Pallion corridor. In addition any burglary victim is provided with support from Sunderland West Neighbourhood Team; the aim being to target

harden their properties, provide reassurance to burglary victims and to prevent repeat offences where possible.

We have had some good results with drug offences of late with some proactive stops of vehicles in Silksworth leading to arrests of persons and recoveries of drugs. This has led to positive action being taken against the offenders and the vehicle being seized also. A very successful result of drug production in that location also with a significant recovery made – removing 1000's of pills that would have effectively been planned for distribution across our streets. In addition we have identified and disrupted several cannabis farms in the West with some good recoveries and some arrests also.

## **2.2 Community Engagement:**

Again due to the current climate it has not been business as usual where we are afforded the opportunity to become involved in direct community engagement initiatives. We have been active in all Wards across Sunderland West and continue to engage with and support victims together with targeting offenders, making efforts to reduce crime and disorder.

We have arranged for the presence of the Community Engagement Van to be deployed across all wards. The deployment has already occurred in Pennywell, Thorney Close and Grindon. It is also booked in for Barnes ward and we are firming up dates for the remaining wards hopefully for March 2021. This facility cannot be utilised to its full capability and needs to be used in a covid compliant manner. Therefore we will be a visible presence in the community at locations where members of the public can access ourselves should they wish to seek advice in a covid compliant way.

High visibility foot patrols continue to be undertaken across the wards and we have also built in some covert patrols in areas suffering from ASB spikes. Numerous youths have been identified across Farringdon, Thorney Close, Grindon and Pennywell

Although we are placing updates on social media we are working on improving our visibility and engagement in this area of business. This should hopefully assist in providing reassurance to residents by highlighting some of our work in our communities.

Police virtual ward meetings have been held across all Wards in January and February. All Ward Councillors were invited to their respective ward meeting. A meet and greet with the new Police Sergeants took place along with a discussion around Neighbourhood Police Team changes, a review of key community hubs/locations; the purpose being to improve greater visibility and engagement when lockdown eases. Crime and ASB across Sunderland West was also discussed along with any current issues.

## **2.3 Protecting Vulnerable People:**

We continue to prioritise the safety of our most vulnerable people within the community and Sunderland West team will continue to safeguard the vulnerable in a variety of ways.

An example being the youth ASB matters around the Thorney Close estate. A significant amount of work has been undertaken and continues as we try to stop this problem. Numerous youths have been identified and visits to parents conducted. Some of the key offenders have been interviewed and are awaiting outcome along with Community Protection Warnings issued to their parents. Some parents have been very supportive and others require more intervention. We are working with partners to not only take positive action from a Police perspective but from a housing enforcement and education/diversionary perspective

also. This approach seems to be going in the right direction as there is less reporting and from engaging with the identified victims they are seeing great improvement and matters seem to be heading in the right direction in terms of improving their quality of life.

Likewise in South Hylton we have increased visibility to this location in response to youth ASB concerns. We have high visibility patrols in this location to identify problems, persons involved and to hopefully resolve this at the earliest opportunity.

With regard to more serious incidents across the wards but particularly Thorney Close, Grindon and St Anne's we have a number of harm plans in place. The purpose being to work with and support identified victims and protect them from harm. This includes visible patrols at key areas and safeguarding/target hardening having been addressed. Targeted disruption of identified suspects is also part of the response.

We have also issued a warning to a tenant at a property in Pallion whereby youths were frequenting. This is to deter youths from frequenting and congregating at this location.

### **3. Key Crime and Anti-social behaviour Performance:**

#### **Sunderland West(Sandhill/St Annes/Pallion/Barnes/Silksworth/St Chads)**

##### **Total Crime – Decreased by 5%**

Youth ASB has decreased slightly however overall ASB has increased. Again a significant part of this increase is due to the behavioural and environmental changes during lockdown and covid related incidents being recorded as ASB. The ASB is sporadic however there are smaller concentrations that we have needed to focus upon on the Pennywell & South Hylton estate, Thorney Close estate and in the vicinity of Silksworth Ski Slope Sporting complex. This includes a mixture of covid related reports and typical youth ASB, vehicle ASB and neighbour disputes and noise related incidents.

A more detailed overview was provided to Sunderland West councillors during the virtual ward catch up sessions.

**REPORT AUTHOR Inspector 7013 Pollock**

**WEST AREA COMMITTEE**  
**16 March 2021**  
**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I**

**Title of Report:**

West Area Budget Report

**Author(s):**

Assistant Director of Community Resilience

**Purpose of Report:**

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

**Description of Decision:**

Committee are requested to: -

- (a) Note the financial information detailed in sections 2.1, 3.1 and 4.1
- (b) Approve the 3 projects, detailed in section 2 and Annex 1, from the Neighbourhood Fund
- (c) Approve the 2 projects, detailed in section 3 and Annex 1, from the Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme
- (d) Align the 1 project from Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme
- (e) Note the approved Community Chest grants within section 4, from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 as detailed in Annex 2

Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework?

Yes

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

The Area Committee has an allocation of £451,887 (inc Youth allocation) for 2020/2021 from the Neighbourhood Fund and £500,000 from the Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme to deliver key priorities identified in the relevant Neighbourhood Investment Delivery Plan and to attract other funding into the area.

**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

Is it included in the Forward Plan? No

Relevant Scrutiny Committees:

## WEST AREA COMMITTEE

16 March 2021

### REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

#### West Area Budget Report

#### 1. Purpose of Report

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

#### 2. Area Committee Neighbourhood Fund

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

Project Name	Committee Date	Budget Returned	Budget Aligned	Budget Approved	Budget Remaining
<b>Starting Balance for 2020/2021 – (inc youth funding £20k)</b>					<b>£451,887</b>
Completed Projects returned funding		£27,688	-	-	£479,575
Improve Access to ICT to reduce Social Isolation Programme	16.12.20	-	£100,000	-	£379,575
Holiday Hunger & Activities	16.12.20	-	-	£6,000	£373,575

- 2.2 There are 3 funding proposals presented to Area Committee for consideration from the 2020/2021 Neighbourhood Fund, set out below and further detailed at **Item 2 Annex 1**

- Extension to the West Holiday Hunger Projects £48,000
- Welfare Rights £150,000
- Media Savvy £100,000

- 2.3 The total Neighbourhood Fund budget requested for approval is **£298,000**. If approved, the remaining balance will be **£175,575**

#### 3. Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme

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

Project Name	Committee Date	Budget Returned	Budget Aligned	Budget Approved	Budget Remaining
<b>Starting Balance for 2020/2023</b>					<b>£500,000</b>

Festive Lighting Project	14.07.20	-	-	£10,000	£490,000
Green Gym Project	16.12.20	-	-	£65,000	£425,000

- 3.2 There is 1 funding proposal recommended for approval presented to Area Committee for consideration from the 2020/2021 Neighbourhood Capital Investment Programme, set out below and further detailed at **Item 2 Annex 1**

- Environmental Services – Bins and Benches £36,529
- Silksworth and Albany Pit Wheel £17,500

- 3.3 There is 1 funding proposal recommended for alignment presented to Area Committee for consideration from the 2020/2021 Neighbourhood Capital Investment Programme, set out below and further detailed at **Item 2 Annex 1**

Stephenson Trail alignment £50,000

- 3.4 The total Neighbourhood Capital Investment Programme budget requested for approval/alignment is **£104,029**. If approved, the remaining balance will be **£320,971**

#### 4. Community Chest

- 4.1 The table below shows the financial position of the Area Committee, Community Chest Fund 2020/2021. Members are requested to note the Community Chest funding awards made from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020, detailed in **Item 4 Annex 2**,

Ward	2020/2021 Allocation	Budget Returned	Budget Approved	Budget Remaining
Barnes	£10,000	-	£3,640	£6,360
Pallion	£10,000	-	£6,786	£3,214
Sandhill	£10,000	-	£10,000	£0
Silksworth	£10,000	-	£5,437.50	£4,562.50
St Anne's	£10,000	-	£8,246	£1,754
St Chad's	£10,000	-	£3,648.50	£6,351.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>£60,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>£37,758</b>	<b>£22,242</b>

#### 5. Recommendations:

- 5.1 Note the financial information detailed in sections 2.1, 3.1 and 4.1
- 5.2 Approve the projects, detailed in section 2 and Annex 1, from the Neighbourhood Fund
- 5.3 Approve the 2 projects, detailed in section 3 and Annex 1, from the Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme
- 5.4 Align the 1 project, detailed in section 3 and Annex 1, from the Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme
- 5.5 Note the approved Community Chest grants from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020, as detailed in **Annex 2**

**Contact Officer:** Gilly Stanley, Area Community Development Lead  
[Gilly.Stanley@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:Gilly.Stanley@sunderland.gov.uk)



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

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Neighbourhood Fund</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Extension to Holiday Hunger</b>
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	Active Families NE CIC, Grindon Young People's Centre, Pennywell Community Centre, Farringdon Youth and Community Centre, Plains Farm Youth and Community Centre and Youth Almighty Project

<b>Total cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total NF Application</b>
£48,000		£48,000
<b>Project Duration</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
12 months	May 2021	End of April 2022

If Area Committee approve the £48,000 the current 6 leads will be invited to submit a full application for £8000 per ward to deliver 2 sessions per week throughout the following school holidays.

- ***May half term 2021***
- ***Summer 2021***
- ***October half term 2021***
- ***Christmas 2021 – Activities/hampers***
- ***February half term 2022***
- ***Easter 2022***
- ***Each session should last at least 2 hours and children should be provided with a healthy meal and activities.***

If approved the following condition is recommended: Full application presented to the April Neighbourhood and Community Board.

**Recommendation – Approve**

The Neighbourhood and Community Board (via correspondence) recommend approval of this project, which delivers to the West Area Investment Delivery Plan Priority - ***Eating healthy meal and learning to prepare and cook food, delivery sessions within local community***

## Application No. 2

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Neighbourhood Fund</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>West Welfare Rights</b>
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	Sunderland City Council

<b>Total cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total NF Application</b>
£150,000		£150,000
<b>Project Duration</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
36 Months	1.6.2021	31.5.2024

### ***ALL PROJECT DETAIL TAKEN VERBATIM FROM APPLICATIONS***

#### **Project Description:**

##### **Background**

A May 2020 ONS Report detailed just under 1 in 4 adults (23%) said Covid was affecting their household finances.

This impact also resulted in a doubling of people experiencing food insecurity with the FSA estimating this was experienced by 16% of adults in the UK (7.8 million people) during the Pandemic. Increasing fuel debt is also causing concern

Many current Government support measures are due to end within 2 months, this includes the additional £20 Universal Credit (UC) entitlement. The DWP will be resuming more vigorous assessment and potentially negative decision making

A surge in housing /rent arrears issues leading to potential evictions with residents is also anticipated. Other debts will also have increased, and others will have used existing savings to cover living costs, and / or have had to borrow money or use credit to survive.

Despite all the additional local support offers last, from Community Hubs and coordinated partner activities, many residents, families and communities have continued to struggle day-to-day, and with more difficulties to come.

Unfortunately, the in-work poor, the self-employed, and those just outside the benefit system, may have fared worse as they have faced loss of employment, reduction in hours / furlough – and without always being able to access government support.

##### **Data**

The most recent figures for UC claimants in SR2, SR3 and SR4 postcodes was 13,393 (January 2021) 2021

Overall the city has seen an increase of just over 12,600 UC claimants between March 2020 and January 2021 (12,566 to 31,313).

Despite this increase there are still significant numbers of legacy benefit claimants that need to migrate to UC -including complex claims from families receiving tax credits and from severely disabled people.

### **Impact on the West**

Given that West contains some of the most severely deprived postcode areas in the city the impact is likely to be that demand for first tier and specialist advice will remain high and increase. Both welfare reform and covid have been shown to disproportionately affect poorer areas

### **Project Description**

To increase capacity for first tier advice and financial resilience checks

To increase capacity for specialist case work support including complex case work and representation

### **Proposal:**

To fund 1 x P/T Specialist Welfare Rights Officer to add capacity in the West 3 years @ £30k =£90k

To increase capacity for first tier advice and financial resilience support in the west 3-year contract @ £20 =£60k

### **Key Objectives**

To support residents in the West to manage the financial impact of the pandemic by following the 3 key steps:

- 1.Know your rights
- 2.Assert your rights /Know where to get help and advice
- 3.Make your money go further

This includes working very closely with other services to improve residents' overall resilience e.g. Credit Union, Financial Resilience Programme, Crisis Support

### **Recommendation – Approve**

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to the West Area Investment Delivery Plan Priority of **Support those who are struggling due to Universal Credit and other financial conditions**

### Application No. 3

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Neighbourhood Fund</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	Improve Access to ICT to reduce Social Isolation Programme
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	Media Savvy CIC

<b>Total cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total NF Application</b>
£169,000	£69,000	£100,000
<b>Project Duration</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
36 months	April 2021	March 2024

#### **ALL PROJECT DETAIL TAKEN VERBATIM FROM APPLICATIONS**

##### **Project Description:**

The aim of this application is to demonstrate how *Media Savvy CIC (MS)* can best support the West Area Committee's (WAC) three-year project, which aims to 'Improve Access to ICT to reduce Social Isolation'. *MS* is able and optimised to meet all of the essential criteria as well as the desired project outcomes which are laid out in the full project brief. We also sent feedback and proactively signposted to the *Let's Talk* sessions last year which may have also partially influenced the project brief.

This project should integrate seamlessly within Sunderland's 2019-2030 City Plan. We know that this project has the potential to significantly contribute towards improvements in (physical and mental) health outcomes for residents and the project can clearly link into certain areas within the Plan's three key themes: a dynamic city, a health city and a vibrant city. For example, providing and signposting to better qualifications (leading to job opportunities), helping empower more independent people (via digital upskilling / confidence building) and facilitating opportunities so that more residents participate in their communities (as volunteers / digital champions).

##### **Track record -**

*MS* has a track record of delivering successful and high-standard interventions across Sunderland and beyond. This includes a previous, successful (WAC funded) project in 2018 in partnership with the *Carer's Centre* and delivered at *Parker Trust*, which involved the provision of appropriate devices (Inc. computers, desktop computers iPad and smart phones) and related digital

upskilling. Following that we successfully provided social media / web / IT support sessions for VCSE projects and Area Committee staff. In addition, we have recently concluded a three-year project in the East area relating to central IT support for organisations as well as 'ground level' training and support for local residents.

##### **Digital training –**

For several years *MS* has been the sole provider funded by SCC's FACL department for accredited digital skills courses and we have also been the largest provider of non-accredited (digital-focused) courses and workshops throughout the city. We have been previously judged by Ofsted as being 'Outstanding' for this delivery and we have the highest attainable levels of retention, achievement and success. Our provision is constantly evolving

based on new technologies and learner need and demand. Based on this demand we launched seven brand new digital taster courses for the start of the 2020-21 academic year (see attached flyer).

We have experience delivering workshops and courses specialising in ALL eight examples which have been bullet pointed in the project brief document. We have significant experience in the areas; computer basics, using the internet, staying safe online, managing money online (Inc. using price comparison sites) and completing forms.

We are open to creating new content, workshops and courses for the project, based upon West area demand. For example, setting up and optimising *YouTube* channels could be request and we already know video conferencing (*Zoom*, *Google Meet*, *Teams* etc.) training is now, not only beneficial, but essential.

### **Our approach –**

- We are mindful that this project will not be successful with a 'one size fits all' approach. We expect the needs and priorities to differ between wards, projects and individuals
- Work with projects to sign up to and/or update their provision on the Sunderland Information Point
- Create varied channels of communication (Inc. dedicated number, email, social media channels)
- Have a response time of (maximum) 48 working hours with a target of 90% receiving a same day response
- Target - resolving each query / issue within 5 working days. N.B. Smaller issues might be solved in minutes whereas complex issues may require multiple site visits
- IAG and signposting to be strategically implemented and embedded into the delivery of the wider project brief (see below)
- Commit to attending a minimum of 80% WAC network meetings (virtual or face-to-face)
- Commit to liaising with projects in each ward to offer drop-in 'stall-style' sessions. These would roll-out in response to demand, with a minimum of 1 per quarter. N.B. We would envisage virtual sessions, at least for the first quarter
- We would liaise with West area projects and encourage them to put forward and/or signpost us to suitable candidates to become digital champions (see below)
- The above three points would all contribute towards supporting the local communities to become digitally active and break down any barriers and misconceptions in this area
- Begin completing an information 'database' in the first quarter which will be added to, and amended throughout the lifespan of the project
- We are aware that many West area projects have been supported through Area Committee funding in the past couple of years, which has included the purchase of digital devices. We envisage working closely with the projects (and perhaps beyond) to establish them as main Hubs (at least one per ward, six in total). We also suggest establishing 'mini Hubs' in the larger wards. For example, *St. David's Church* or *Richard Avenue School* might be appropriate as a mini Hub, but not a main Hub for their respective Wards. N.B. We believe six main Hubs and twelve mini-Hubs is a reasonable and attainable target
- We would not only be very happy to work alongside SCC Area Arrangement Service to support the Cooperative Council Innovation Network Policy Lab, we would be very keen to be part of these discussions and happy to share experiences, perceptions as well as good/bad practise

## **WIFI –**

We would provide a point of contact for West residents to receive support to get online and remain confident operating ICT equipment and securing wi-fi coverage for ongoing use. This would involve signposting to appropriate local Hubs (offering free, safe and secure access) and in some cases, possibly offering IAG around securing a home broadband package. This would also link to the city-wide objectives to become a digital city with 5G connectivity.

## **IAG / Signposting –**

We have highly experienced IAG accredited staff members who would be part of the delivery. We have internal (digitally focused) pathways, which include up to five levels of progression and we separately source funding to deliver these courses. Therefore, we would be able to signpost and recruit learners (West area residents) to any appropriate further learning without any further cost impact to either the individual or WAC. N.B. Some of the accredited learning is valued at Government level over £700 per head.

We would be able to run courses for closed (West based) groups as well as inviting individuals to be part of open courses if there was not sufficient demand for a bespoke delivery.

In addition to our internal progression pathways, at MS, we are always keen to have a keen understanding on external opportunities and we are proactive to signpost to other opportunities, if it is a good fit for the individual.

## **Digital champions –**

We have a long and successful track record in developing 'digital champions'. In 2015 we supported a learner (PT) who was originally part of our services, via a referral through mental health secondary care services. PT went on to be a great success, and at one stage they went on to represent SCC as the Council's 'digital champion' within a regional collective of (six) local authorities. PT even facilitated and led workshops on behalf of the collective.

There are numerous examples of us helping to support on smaller scales, for example, upskilling volunteers to assist with social media content production and management for smaller projects and organisations.

We would aim to upskill enough digital champions across the West area during the three-year duration of the project so that once the funding was complete, there would be enough skilled champions / volunteers to ensure the ethos of the project left a legacy and was able to continue. This would be embedded into the delivery as part of an exit strategy.

## **Upcycled ICT –**

We have significant experience facilitating this, on a local and national level. We have positive relationships with national bodies (Inc. *Good Things Foundation*) due to our local leadership and work in the area of digital upskilling. Where possible we would be happy to prioritise leveraging any future opportunities (to receive new / upcycled digital devices) for equipment donations for the benefit of West area residents.

Last summer we secured over 100 upcycled modern smart phones from a single organisation, to be redistributed to individuals with a learning disability. This was a national

project which was highly successful. The wider project was much bigger, and we were simultaneously using our expertise and knowhow to roll-out a similar initiative in the East area, mainly focusing on desktop computers.

We have internal safe systems or working, GDPR and Data Protection policies which we adhere to when undertaking such (digitally) sensitive tasks (available upon request).

We are confident in our ability to safely store equipment at our premises. We cannot be responsible when beneficiaries loan equipment, however, we have not previously had any issues, which grew significantly during the first national lockdown. This is likely helped by our requests for individuals to sign basic agreements or care and usage. All of the actions and practises help us to mitigate against damage / loss / theft or loaned equipment.

It is also key for us to ensure that upcycled ICT equipment is fit-for-purpose. We have previously had to scrap donated devices / computers as they have often been too old to be of use to beneficiaries.

### **Evidence and feedback –**

We plan to utilise short surveys for all individuals participating in the support related to the brief. Surveys would include questions relating to the six areas listed to form the overall project outcomes; from increased confidence amongst residents to use online services to improving mental health and wellbeing through being connected online.

We would target a minimum of an 80% rate of positive responses against all target outcomes, though we would anticipate 90-100% in most (relevant) areas. Charts would be created to help visualise the data at the end of the project, as well as possibly at some agreed milestones during the delivery.

### **COVID-19 -**

We have touched on the pandemic throughout this application as we believe it is key to why and how this project has emerged and evolved. *MS* did not furlough any staff in 2020, continuing to operate at ground level. We know that the pandemic has helped to highlight the huge need for digital equipment and knowledge within the city, particularly for the most vulnerable, who often are already facing multiple and complex barriers. Examples can range, including difficulties for parents and carers have had in home-schooling, and older / vulnerable people becoming more socially isolated.

We know there are five COVID Hubs throughout Sunderland and two are based in the West area; *PAG* and *Youth Almighty*. We believe these will be key projects for this project and both have the potential to be confirmed as the main Hubs for this project for their respective wards.

*MS* is a digitally focused organisation and we have been pushing for a greater level or significance and priority to be placed upon 'all things digital' since we were established in 2010. The circumstances for this push to escalate is extremely unfortunate, however we hope to contribute to the legacy of the longer-term benefits; this project being a perfect example.

If approved the following condition is recommended:

Yearly confirmation of match funding

Attendance at full induction meeting with ACDL

Full project reviews at 6, 12, 18 and 24 months to ensure the projects continues to deliver to the outcomes required and meets the needs in the community.

### **Recommendation – Approve**

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend approval of this project, which delivers to the West Area Investment Delivery Plan Priority of – ***Increase 5g access across all neighbourhoods and support people with digital resources*** and

***Social Prescribing – develop local offer to improve health and wellbeing and access to services locally to reduce social isolation, improve mental health and support long-term health conditions, and ensure physical activity sessions are accessible and not cost or time prohibitive, in partnership with All Together Better***



## **Applications for West Neighbourhood Capital Fund**

### **Application No. 1**

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Neighbourhood Capital Fund</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Environmental Improvements – Phase 1 Bins and Benches</b>
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	Sunderland City Council

<b>Total cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total NCF Application</b>
£36,529		£36,529
<b>Project Duration</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
7months	April 2021	October 2021

### ***ALL PROJECT DETAIL TAKEN VERBATIM FROM APPLICATIONS***

#### **Project Description:**

Project to replace bins across the west which are either poor quality/damaged or not the correct size for the demands.

The full list was presented to the Neighbourhood and Community Board.

Benches and bins in the sandhill extension and ski slope area will be located throughout to enable residents to be able to freely walk around without having to worry about resting points. The bins will be placed around the area at key points to ensure less litter in the areas.

- 48 x 110ltr Freestanding bins
- 6 x benches for Sandhills extension and Silksworth Ski slope
- 4 x Dog bins
- 2 x liners
- 19 x postmounted bins
- 1 x shorud

#### **Recommendation – Approve**

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to the West Area Investment Delivery Plan Priority of **Invest in Street Furniture including additional bins**

## Application No. 2

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Neighbourhood Capital Fund</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Silksworth and Albany Pit Wheel</b>
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	Sunderland City Council

<b>Total cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total NCF Application</b>
£26,625	£9125	£17,500
<b>Project Duration</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
8 months	April 2021	November 2021

### ***Project Description***

#### **Silksworth and Albany Pit Wheel Relocation Project**

##### **Project Description**

Remove existing pit wheel from Albany Village Centre and relocate to Silksworth Miners Hall, 12 Blind Lane, Silksworth

Refurbish pit wheel located at Washington F Pit and once refurbished, transport and install at Albany Village Centre, Washington.

Project will require the appointment of an Architect to lead on the design, planning permissions and oversee the installation of the pit wheels in both locations.

##### F PIT WHEEL Washington to Albany

Visit site and undertake detailed survey of the wheel Provide scaled drawing Visit Albany site and undertake survey of current wheel location Review proposed fixing installation & support structure with Structural Engineer Prepare proposed layout drawing and 3d visualisation Make planning application (in conjunction with Albany wheel re-location)

##### ALBANY WHEEL Albany to Silksworth

- Visit site and undertake detailed survey of the wheel Provide scaled drawing Visit Silksworth site and undertake survey of wheel location and adjoining building Review proposed fixing installation & support structure with Structural Engineer.

##### **Albany & Silksworth**

- Prepare proposed layout drawing and 3d visualisation
- Make planning application (in conjunction with F Pit wheel re-location)
- Provide all necessary detailed drawings, calculations and specifications to form a complete set of tender documents.
- Provide Principal Designer duties including Pre-Construction Information
- Invite competitive tenders from approved contractors OR utilise SCC procurement route
- Tender review and contractor selection
- Chairing pre-start meeting
- Formalising Building Contract HSE F10 notification
- Reviewing works on site during construction Authorising interim payments
- Undertaking snagging inspection
- Issuing Completion Certificate

Agreeing final account Review and issue of Building Manual , Undertaking Rectification Period inspection Contract close-out

Following discussions at the board and subsequent meetings, the project will work with local schools and encourage a school from Washington and Sunderland West to be mining friends and encourage involvement in the Mining Heritage of Sunderland

### **Recommendation – Approve**

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend giving further consideration this project, which delivers to the West Area Investment Delivery Plan Priority of -  
**Communicate heritage assets and delivery heritage activities to improve health and wellbeing and improve community cohesion**

Item 4, Annex 2

West Sunderland Area Committee

16 March 2021

Community Chest Awards April 2020 to March 2021

<b>Barnes Ward Budget</b>	<b>£10,000</b>		<b>Approvals</b>
<b>Project</b>	<b>Approval Date</b>	<b>Returned</b>	<b>Approvals</b>
Plains Farm Academy	13.08.2020	-	£1,000.00
SCC – Environmental Services	03.11.2020	-	£1,490.00
Active Families NE	03.11.2020	-	£1,150.00
<b>Remaining balance</b>			<b>£6,360.00</b>
<b>Pallion Ward Budget</b>	<b>£10,000</b>		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Approval Date</b>	<b>Returned</b>	<b>Approvals</b>
Pallion Action Group	14.04.2020	-	£1,000.00
Pallion Traders Group	07.10.2020	-	£1,820.00
SCC – Highways Services	17.11.2020	-	£1,100.00
Lambton Street Youth and Community Hub	20.01.2021	-	£320.00
St Luke's Neighbourhood Trust	20.01.2021	-	£1,446.00
Bowes Railway Company Limited	20.01.2021	-	£1,100.00
<b>Remaining balance</b>			<b>£3,214.00</b>
<b>Sandhill Ward Budget</b>	<b>£10,000</b>		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Approval Date</b>	<b>Returned</b>	<b>Approvals</b>
Thorney Close Inn FC	10.06.2020	-	£800.00
Northern Karate Association	08.07.2020	-	£1,000.00
Grindon Over 40's FC	08.07.2020	-	£800.00
Sunderland Rangers	11.08.2020	-	£797.00
Sunderland United Juniors FC	26.11.2020	-	£1,665.00
Grindon Church Community Project	26.11.2020	-	£989.00
Pallion Action Group	26.11.2020	-	£1,500.00
Pallion Action Group	24.02.2021	-	£2,449.00
<b>Remaining balance</b>			<b>£0.00</b>
<b>Silksworth Ward Budget</b>	<b>£10,000</b>		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Approval Date</b>	<b>Returned</b>	<b>Approvals</b>
Silksworth Residents Group	20.10.2020	-	£1,029.00
Silksworth Colliery Welfare FC	20.10.2020	-	£1,000.00

Crow Lane Art Club (Multi Ward)	20.10.2020	-	£392.50
The Cultural Spring	20.10.2020	-	£1,700.00
Venerable Bede Academy (Multi Ward)	07.12.2020	-	£166.00
SCC – Environmental Services	23.02.2021	-	£1,150.00
<b>Remaining balance</b>			<b>£4,562.50</b>
<b>St Anne's Ward Budget</b>	<b>£10,000</b>		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Approval Date</b>	<b>Returned</b>	<b>Approvals</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> South Hylton Brownies	04.06.2020	-	£1,011.00
Pennywell Youth Project	25.06.2020	-	£980.00
St Anne's RC Primary School	23.11.2020	-	£1,000.00
Sunderland Training and Education Farm	10.12.2020	-	£974.00
Pallion Action Group	24.02.2021	-	£1,052.00
St Thomas' Church – Hope 4 All	24.02.2021	-	£1,081.00
The Jolly Potter FC	24.02.2021	-	£898.00
SCC – Property Services	03.03.2021	-	£1,250.00
<b>Remaining balance</b>			<b>£1,754.00</b>
<b>St Chad's Ward Budget</b>	<b>£10,000</b>		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Approval Date</b>	<b>Returned</b>	<b>Approvals</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Herrington Scouts	19.05.2020	-	£1,009.00
Farrington Youth and Detached Club	19.05.2020	-	£750.00
Sunderland Rangers FC	18.08.2020	-	£797.00
Crow Lane Art Club (Multi Ward)	20.10.2020	-	£392.50
Lakeside Community Association	04.02.2021	-	£700.00
<b>Remaining balance</b>			<b>£6,351.50</b>