

COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE

Thursday, 20th June, 2013 at 6:00pm

**VENUE – Easington Lane Community Access Point, Brick Garth,
Easington Lane, Houghton le Spring, DH5 0LE.**

Membership

Cllrs Anderson, Blackburn, Ellis, Heron, Lawson (Alternate Vice Chair of the Area Committee and Chair of the People Board), D. Richardson (Chair), Scott (Vice Chair of the Area Committee and Chair of the Place Board), D. Smith, Speding, Tate, Taylor, Wakefield.

	PAGE
1. (a) Chairman's Welcome	-
(b) Apologies for Absence	-
(c) Declarations of Interest	-
(d) Minutes of the last meeting held on 24th April, 2013 (copy attached).	1
2. Setting the Scene for 2013/14	-
3. Place Board Progress Report	6
(copy attached)	
4. People Board Progress Report	12
(copy attached).	

Contact: Christine Tilley, Governance Services Team Leader Tel: 561 1345
Email: Christine.tilley@sunderland.gov.uk
Pauline Hopper, Area Officer Tel: 561 7912
Email: Pauline.hopper@sunderland.gov.uk

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

5.* **Financial Statement and Proposals for further allocation of Resources** 19

(copy attached).

6. **Coalfield State of the Area Event** 24

(copy attached).

* Denotes an item relating to an executive function

ELAINE WAUGH

Head of Law and Governance

12th June, 2013

**At a Meeting of the COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE held at DUBMIRE
PRIMARY SCHOOL, Houghton-le-Spring on WEDNESDAY, 24TH APRIL, 2013
at 6.00 p.m.**

Present:-

Councillor D. Richardson in the Chair

Councillors, Blackburn, Lawson, Scott, D. Smith, Speding, and Tate

Also in Attendance:-

Jen Anderson	Youth Worker	SNCBC
Ron Barrass	Member of the Public	
Melanie Caldwell	Head of Operations, Houghton and Hetton	Gentoo
Les Clark	Head of Street Scene	Sunderland City Council
Wendy Cook	Youth and Community Co-ordinator	SNCBC
Stephen Dodds	Network Planning Officer	Nexus
Dave Ellison	Area Response Manager	Sunderland City Council
Claire Fisher	Community Relations Officer	Nexus
Pauline Hopper	Area Officer, Coalfield	Sunderland City Council
A. Laverick	Member of the Public	
Malcolm Page	Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services & Area Lead Executive	Sunderland City Council
Lisa Musgrove	Neighbourhood Inspector	Northumbria Police
Rachel Putz	Coalfields Locality Manager, Children's Services	Sunderland City Council
Kay Rowham	Member of the Public	
G. Taylor	Member of the Public	
Christine Tilley	Governance Services Team Leader	Sunderland City Council

Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. He invited all those present to introduce themselves. The Chairman advised that a note providing details of the contributions made and issues raised at the recent State of the Area Debate would be submitted to the next meeting of the Area Committee for consideration.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Anderson, Ellis, Heron and Wakefield, together with Councillor Julianna Heron, Hetton Town Council and Glen Wilson.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Tate made an open declaration in respect the 'Real Aid Project' included in item 5 on the agenda as he is a Local Authority appointed Member of the Board of Easington Lane Community Access Point and he took no part in any consideration of the project.

Minutes of the Last Meetings

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last Ordinary meeting of the Committee held on 23rd January together with those of the Extraordinary meeting held on 26th March, 2013 be confirmed and signed as correct records.

Annual Report 2012 – 2013

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which sought approval for the inclusion of the Coalfield Area Committee's Annual Report 2012 – 2013 in the combined Area Committees' report to be submitted to full Council.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chairman presented the Annual Report and highlighted the key achievements delivered in conjunction with partners, local groups and Officers with regard to the Committee's agreed local priorities which included organising events in local shopping centres to encourage people to shop locally, influencing services for children and young people and providing funding to make sure there were activities for young people of all ages, making improvements to allotments and neglected land as well as providing support for older people, vulnerable adults and their carers.

Members welcomed the Annual Report and thanked the Chairman for leading on the Committee's priorities, and it was:-

2. RESOLVED that the Coalfield Area Committee's Annual Report 2012 – 2013 be approved for inclusion in the combined Area Committees' Annual Report to Council.

Place Board Progress Report

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided the Committee with an end of year performance update on the 2012/13 Place Board Work Plan and requested the Area Committee's approval of the Board's proposed refresh of the Work Plan priorities for 2013/14.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chair of the Place Board, Councillor John Scott briefed the Committee on the work undertaken by the Place Board during the course of the year highlighting the achievements in respect of the work done on neglected land, the support provided to Local Traders in the local shopping centres of Hetton, Houghton and Shiney Row and the improvements made to allotment sites.

Ms Pauline Hopper, Area Community Officer, added in respect of the local shopping centres project that a number of independent traders had now signed up to become members of a traders' association which would mean they were able to apply for funding from various sources to support their businesses.

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

3. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the Annual Performance Update with regard to the Coalfield Area Place Board's Work Plan for 2012/13 be received and noted; and
- (ii) the Coalfield Area Place Board Work Plan for 2013/14 be approved.

People Board Progress Report

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided the Committee with an end of year performance update on the 2012/13 People Board Work Plan and requested the Area Committee's approval of the Board's proposed refresh of the Work Plan priorities for 2013/14.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor Anne Lawson briefed the Committee on the work undertaken by the People Board during the course of the year referring the Committee to the Annex to the report. She highlighted the work carried out in influencing the contract specification and provision of activities for young people in the area and the awards made to small scale projects to support older and vulnerable people.

Councillor Lawson thanked all partners and Officers involved in helping the Board achieve what it had done so far and referred the Committee to the proposed work plan for the Board detailed on Annex 2 to the report.

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

4. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the Annual Performance Update with regard to the Coalfield Area People Board's Work Plan for 2012/13 be received and noted; and
- (ii) the Coalfield Area People Board Work Plan for 2013/14 be approved.

Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB) Financial Statement and Proposals for Further Allocation of Resources

The Chief Executive submitted a report requesting the Area Committee's consideration of proposals for the allocation of Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB) to support initiatives that will benefit the area.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms Pauline Hopper, Area Community Officer briefed the Committee on the up to date position in respect of the Committee's allocation of SIB following the extraordinary meeting held in March, as detailed in paragraph 2.1 of the report, advising that a balance of £46,173 remained to be allocated from the 2012/13 budget.

Ms Hopper highlighted the projects detailed at paragraphs 2.2 and 2.3 which were detailed more fully in Annex 1, together with the project detailed at paragraph 2.4 in Annex 2 and those being submitted for approval from the SIP budget detailed at paragraph 4.2.

Full consideration having being given to the reports, it was:-

4. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the financial information set out in sections 2,3,4 and 5 and details of the Community Chest applications which have been approved as detailed at Annex 3 of the report of the Chief Executive, be received and noted;
- (ii) the SIB project applications listed in Annex 1 and as detailed below be approved:-

• Learn to play flat green bowls - New Herrington WM Bowling Club	£3,300
• Last of the Summer Wine on the Allotment – HRCAP	£5,040
• HOPE Social - Houghton Older People's Enterprise (HOPE)	£1,000
• Real Aid Project - Easington Lane Community Access Point (ELCAP)	£3,500
• New Dawn@Central Point - Hetton New Dawn Group	£5,000
• Houghton Feast Opening Ceremony	£9,000
• Kirklee Field – Access to Mobile Youth Activities (part funding)	£7,009
• Love Where You Live (LWYL)	£10,000

- (iii) the change of lead agent to the Area Community Officer, on the Houghton Feast project, working in partnership with Sunderland Live and the Houghton Feast Steering Group be approved;

(iv) approval be given to support the request for SIB funding of £4,231 from the Junior LDD Youth Club as detailed in paragraph 2.4 of the report and on Annex 2, subject to the project being fully appraised and consulted upon before the award is made; and

(v) approval be given to the SIP project applications listed in paragraph 4.2 (subject to final designs being agreed with ward Councillors) as follows:-

- Pedestrian Refuge on Hetton Road, Houghton le Spring £7,000
- Kirklee Field – Access to Mobile Youth Activities (part funding) £6,221
- Traffic calming at Fencehouses (Sedgeleth Rd/Station Ave North area). £14,000

The Chairman having thanked everyone for their attendance, then closed the meeting.

(Signed) D. RICHARDSON,
Chairman.

COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE

Item 3

20 June 2013

REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE PLACE BOARD**Place Board Progress Report****1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To provide an update of progress against the current year's (2013/14) Place Board Work Plan.

2. Background

- 2.1 Earlier this year the Local Area Plan's priorities associated with Place were referred to the Coalfield Place Board to action on behalf of the Area Committee. The Place Board has started to initiate action on those priorities and **Annex 1** outlines progress to date.

3. Area 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 local level; and
 (b) Identification of key priorities for their areas, in the context of supporting the delivery of the Council's Corporate Outcomes Framework at a local level and ensure maximum impact where necessary through utilising its own resources.

- 3.2 Each ward will have elected member representation, whose role will be to liaise with their ward colleagues in between meetings and feedback collective views into the Board meetings. 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. Elected member representation on the Place Board for this Area Committee is as follows:-

Cllr John Scott	(Chair)
Cllr Mel Speding	(Shiney Row)
Cllr David Tate	(Hetton)
Cllr Sheila Ellis	(Houghton)
Cllr Bob Heron	(Copt Hill)

- 3.3 Members are required to represent their ward and should liaise with ward colleagues on Place Board matters accordingly. Cllr Dennis Richardson attends Place Board as Chair of Area Committee to assist co-ordination between Place and People Boards.

4. Key Areas of Influence/Achievements up to 31 May 2013

- 4.1 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of influence / achievements of the Coalfield Place Board up to 31 May 2013.

Action Taken	Outcome
Responsive Local Services Streetscene	
Influence operational deployment of RLS Streetscene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RLS delivery/activity reports presented to May 2013 and June 2013 board for members to influence and target resources

Place Board members requested that by-laws be reviewed to include more specific enforcement regulations around the control of dogs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Dog Control policy with five separate Orders has been developed. The implementation of the policy was discussed at the June Place Board and members have been asked to identify specific locations of concern. This information will be collated and further discussed at the July Place Board meeting before being implemented.
Neglected Land	
A clean up of Council owned plots has now been completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The old Dubmire School site is now complete, with informal seating, new trees and shrubs and a footpath installed. Feedback from local residents and pupils/staff from the nearby school has been very positive • Children from Dubmire School, and young people from a local youth project have been involved in carrying out environmental improvements giving 'ownership' of the site to young people.
The Love Where You Live project has been carried out on a number of sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involvement of partners from the voluntary and community sector (VCS) has enabled more joint working to take place • Young people from Kepier School have been involved in litter picking, flower planting, grass cutting and street sweeping in and around the Houghton town centre area. The project has raised awareness of environmental issues amongst the young people • An environmental education programme is being developed with Houghton Kepier School to encourage young people to consider the consequences of negative behaviour on the environment
A partnership project to provide an improved youth facility at the Flatts Youth Centre was developed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External improvements including the laying of tarmac and pruning of overgrown shrubs has been carried out • A comprehensive programme of internal and external building improvements has taken place • The newly refurbished centre will be launched on 25 June 2013 and will be opened by the Mayor. All members will receive an official invitation
Local Shopping Centres	
Site visit carried out with shop owners, elected members at Shiney Row. A number of small scale issues were identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Railings, bollards and seats have been painted, weeds have been removed and floral displays have been reinstated • Positive feedback from elected members and traders in the area • Joint working has taken place with SNCBC to provide short term work placements for clients on the DWP Work Programme
Business specialists are working with traders in Hetton, Houghton and Shiney Row to offer tailored support depending on each individual business need	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specialist advice and mentoring support is being delivered to 7 businesses in Houghton, 7 in Hetton and 8 in Shiney Row. Early indications are that all of the businesses engaged are benefiting positively from the project • A traders association has been set up in Houghton. A constitution has been signed by 8 Committee members. Around 35 businesses have expressed an interest in joining
SIB support has allowed a comprehensive support package to be delivered in the three shopping centres. The project has gained great momentum and is due to end in September 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place Board discussed the need for extended intense support and recommend the consideration of a sum of £40,000 from 2013/14 budget to continue the project until March 2014 (see finance report)
Allotments	
Six sites with unlettable plots have been cleared and new fencing installed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 19 newly available plots created • Waiting lists reduced • Positive feedback from existing tenants
Enforcement action has	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ten tenancies have been terminated

been taken against those not using plots for cultivation purposes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plots are now being offered to new tenants
A 'masterplan' of Britannia Terrace Allotments, Fence Houses has been drafted and implementation has now commenced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tenants using plots inappropriately have now vacated site • A series of meetings with those keeping horses on site has taken place. A solution for future arrangements is being developed with tenants • Phase 1 of a long term improvement plan has been agreed by the Place Board. The first phase will include the clearance of all plots situated along the back lane of Britannia Terrace and remodelled, uniform, plots created with new perimeter fencing and internal demarcation. The work will be carried out under the previously approved SIB Allotments project and will commence at the beginning of August 2013

3. Recommendations

Members are requested to:

- Consider the progress and performance update with regard to Coalfield Place Board's Work Plan for 2013/14
- Consider the request for SIB funding under Item 5, Finance Report, to support the Local Shopping Centres priority
- Note the commencement of Phase 1 at Britannia Terrace allotment site

Contact Officer: Pauline Hopper, Coalfield Area Community Officer Tel: 0191 561 7912
 Email: pauline.hopper@sunderland.gov.uk

Annex 1: Workplan

OUTCOME	Role for Area Committee	ACTIONS	Lead Agent	Progress	RAG	
<p>1 CORPORATE An attractive modern city where people choose to invest, live, work and spend leisure time</p>	Strategic Influencing Role	Influence empty properties action plan/enforcement powers to reduce negative impact on the area	Alan Caddick (Liz McEvoy)	An update was given to the Place Board in March 2013 and reported that from 1 April 2012 to 31 December 2012, the Empty Property Assistant brought back to use 76 empty properties within the Coalfields area, of which Sunderland City Council are able to claim New Homes Bonus income for 45 of those properties. Members regularly provide information to inform the action plan.		
		Receive and monitor information relating to development of major projects in the area	Planning and Policy	To be developed		
	Area Priority: Influencing Core Services devolved to Area Committee	Influence operational deployment of RLS Streetscene	Les Clark	Members are provided with local intelligence at each meeting and can liaise via the Place Board or directly with Dave Ellison, Area Response Manager to discuss operational matters. The implementation of the policy on Dog Control Order will be influenced by the People Board. Members have been asked to identify specific locations of		
		Influence Highways Maintenance Programme	Les Clark	A proportion of the highways budget has been influenced by the People Board and recommendations approved by Area Committee for 2013/14. This will be further developed during the coming year to influence 2014/15 budget.		
		Further services/activity to be determined during 2013/14	Les Clark	Gill Wake has been appointed as the Area Co-ordinator for Coalfield and will develop future core service influencing with Area Committee and relevant service providers.		
	AREA: High quality built and natural environment in Coalfield: Influence investment across the area	Area Priority: Neglected Land,	Improve Council owned land	Dave Ellison	All of the smaller plots identified as neglected (26 in total) have now been cleared and are being monitored by Lead Agent and Ward Team Leaders. Of the four larger scale projects, two have been completed and plans for the remaining two are being developed.	
			Work with landowners to improve private sites	Dave Ellison	Over 70 of the 95 identified plots have been tidied up, brought into meaningful use or are in the process of being disposed of (either for sale or to let). The Lead Agent is working with private owners to improve remaining sites and maintain those already improved.	
	Area Priority: Local Shopping Centres	Improve physical appearance of local centres of Hetton, Houghton, Shiney Row	Dave Ellison	Following a site visit by local shop keepers and elected members, street scene works (painting of railings, bollards and seats, removal of weeds and planting of flowers) has taken place in Shiney Row with the help of Work Programme placements provided by SNCBC		

		Support local traders	Berni Whittaker	Business specialists engaged by the project are now providing specialist advice and mentoring support to 7 businesses in Houghton, 7 in Hetton and 8 in Shiney Row. Houghton has set up a Traders' Association with 8 committee members and around 35 businesses interested in joining the association. Also see main Report.
		Increase footfall and encourage new shoppers	Julie Heathcote	A number of traders have taken part in a discount scheme promoted by the Lead Agent. The newly formed Houghton Traders Association will help to develop events and campaigns to encourage people into the area.
	Area Priority: Allotments	Reduce number of derelict plots to increase the number of allotments available (reduce waiting lists)	Colin Curtis	Since the last report the six sites with unlettable plots have been cleared and new fencing installed. Waiting lists have now been reduced on all sites with a total of 19 newly cleared plots available for new tenants.
		Terminate tenancies of those using plots inappropriately	Colin Curtis	Ten tenancies have been terminated and tenants have vacated the plots. Plots are in the process of being offered to new tenants.
		Review the Council's arrangement regarding leasing of sites from Lambton estates	Colin Curtis	Enforcement action continues where necessary. Legal advice is being sought regarding the options to terminate the current arrangements.
		Support community gardens	Pauline Hopper/VCS Network	An opportunity to develop a community garden at Easington Lane is being explored with SNCBC. A gardening project at ELCAP can provide opportunities for local groups to participate on a smaller scale by taking responsibility for a large raised growing bed.
2 CORPORATE A responsible well looked after city that is adaptable to change AREA A Coalfield adaptable to change and with a strong sense of community: Continue to support the significant partnership working, influencing the redesign of services	Strategic Influencing Role	Flood Risk Planning	Les Clark/Dave Ellison	The Council, in our role as Lead Local Flood Authority are coordinating plans and actions with Northumbrian Water Limited and the Environment Agency to addressing flooding issues in Coalfields which cut across the responsibilities of the different agencies. Activities will include a range of short term physical measures to alleviate identified problems and longer term studies examining the sources of, and solutions to flooding problems which require further investigation. The Lead Agent will will feed back on progress
3 CORPORATE A well connected city	Strategic Influencing Role	Influence development of sustainable transport options and other local issues through consultation of the Core Strategy	Neil Cole/ David Laux	The consultation process will include Place Board, Area Committee

<p>AREA: A well connected Coalfield: Continue to promote accessibility across Coalfield and ensure transport networks meet local needs</p>		<p>Influence the provision of public and local transport networks and have input regarding the Metro Extension, and consultation with Nexus re Quality Contracts</p>	<p>David Laux</p>	<p>Nexus will carry out consultation once a decision has been reached by the ITA with regard to Quality Contracts.</p>
<p>4 CORPORATE: A city where cultural identity and vibrancy act as an attraction</p> <p>AREA: Coalfield's Cultural Identity: Continue to support activities and events which celebrate Coalfield's heritage, culture and identity.</p>	<p>Area Priority: Local Events and Celebrations</p>	<p>Continue to monitor and receive information relating to celebrations, events and activities taking place throughout 2013/14 and develop local projects via SII local celebrations project.</p>	<p>Pauline Hopper</p>	<p>The planning for Houghton Feast has commenced. The theme will be 'all the fun of the fair' and to date 7 schools are involved in workshops to develop acts for the opening ceremony on 4 October. A programme of local events will be developed with VCS Network partners.</p>

G

A

R

Progressing but behind schedule (with plans in place to action)

Not progressing

COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE

Item 4

20 June 2013

REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE PEOPLE BOARD**People Board Progress Report****1 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To provide an update of progress against the current year's (2013/14) People Board Work Plan.

2 Background

- 2.1 Earlier this year the Local Area Plan's priorities associated with People were referred to the Coalfield People Board to action on behalf of the Area Committee. The People Board has started to initiate action on those priorities and **Annex 1** outlines progress to date.

3 Area 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 local level; and
 - (b) Identification of key priorities for their areas, in the context of supporting the delivery of the Council's Corporate Outcomes Framework at a local level and ensure maximum impact where necessary through utilising its own resources.
- 3.2 Each ward will have elected member representation, whose role will be to liaise with their ward colleagues in between meetings and feedback collective views into the Board meetings. 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. Elected member representation on the People Board for this Area Committee is as follows:-

Councillor Anne Lawson (Chair and Shiney Row ward)
 Councillor Derrick Smith (Copt Hill)
 Councillor Colin Wakefield (Copt Hill)
 Councillor James Blackburn (Hetton)
 Councillor Florence Anderson (Hetton)
 Councillor Gemma Taylor (Houghton)

Members are required to represent their ward and should liaise with ward colleagues on Place Board matters accordingly. Cllr Dennis Richardson attends People Board as Chair of Area Committee to assist co-ordination between Place and People Boards.

4. Key Areas of Influence/Achievements up to 31 May 2013

- 4.1 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of influence / achievements of the Coalfield People Board up to 31 May 2013.

Action Taken	Outcome
Strategic Influencing Role: Influencing GP Clinical Commissioning Group	
Graham King and Glen Wilson provide the strategic link. Initial meetings have taken	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jackie Gillespie, GP Executive Link, Penny Davison, Locality Commissioning Manager and Julie Tumilty, Local Practice Manager will attend the July People Board to develop joint working

place to discuss links to the People Board	
Area Priority: Early Intervention and Locality Based Services	
Influencing of early intervention and locality services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The board now receive regular performance updates from the Locality Manager with regard to attendance, CAF, Children's Centres, Connexions and Risk and Resilience. Specific areas to note are highlighted for discussion
Review and influence the service specification of youth contracts to meet the need in the Coalfield area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contracts for youth commissioning have now been awarded 1 session per week for 8-10 year olds and 3 sessions per week for 11-19 year olds will be delivered in each ward Update report from Tracy Hassan – Annex 2
An opportunity to influence the location of three sets of Goalposts was offered to all elected members via the ward bulletin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three locations discussed by the June People Board and recommended to Area Committee for approval are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Collingwood Drive Hetton Lyons playing fields Success playing fields
Copt Hill ward SIP/SIB funding was awarded to create a hard standing surface at Kirklee Field play area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An access road and tarmac hard standing is now complete at the Kirklee Field site The contracted youth provider and XL mobile team will now develop opportunities to deliver positive activities for young people at the site
Area Priority: Transformation of Adult Social Care	
Raise awareness of services available for Older and vulnerable people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A directory is being developed using information and knowledge from HHAS, public health, elected members, VCS network partners and residents. Members are encouraged to provide further intelligence to assist in the collection of accurate information
People board have begun the development of a 'dementia friendly community'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work has begun with partners, including Age UK, HOPE and Bernard Gilpin School, to raise awareness and develop understanding of the challenges of those with dementia and their carers
Area Priority: Support for older people, vulnerable adults and carers	
People Board developed a mechanism to provide small SIB grants to local organisations to support older people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Five local groups were awarded funding to provide activities and social support to older people and vulnerable adults. All projects have now commenced and the Area Community Officer is in the process of visiting all projects to gain more understanding of the impact each project will have and how the activities can be promoted and co-ordinated. A report will be provided to the July People Board

5. Recommendations

- 5.1 Members are requested to consider the progress and performance update with regards to the Coalfield People Board Work Plan for 2013/2014
- 5.2 Agree the recommendations for the location of goalposts
- 5.2 Note youth contract delivery programme at Annex 2 and agree recommendations from People Board on page 3 of the report

Contact Officer: Pauline Hopper, Coalfield Area Community Officer Tel: 0191 561 7912
Email: pauline.hopper@sunderland.gov.uk

Annex 1 – workplan

Annex 2 – Youth Contract Report

OUTCOME	Role for Area Committee	ACTIONS	Lead Agent	Progress	R A G
1 CORPORATE A City where everyone is as healthy as they can be and enjoys a good standard of well being AREA: A Healthy Coalfield: Contribute to ensuring Coalfield has healthy outcomes and lifestyles	Strategic Influencing Role	Influence GP Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and ensure area representation to identify potential links to the People Board.	Graham King/Glen Wilson/ TPCT	Initial meetings have taken place between CCG members, commissioner and lead GP and People Board Officers. Jackie Gillespie, GP Executive Link, Penny Davison, Locality Commissioning Manager and Julie Tumilty, Locality Practice Manager will attend a future People Board meeting to develop joint working.	Yellow
		Area Priority. Healthy life choices for young people	Focus on young people and health, particularly around sexual and mental health in teenagers	Glen Wilson/ Rachel Putz	
	Focus on young people and health, particularly around healthy weight for children	Glen Wilson/ Rachel Putz	To be developed	Red	
2 CORPORATE A City with high levels of skills, educational attainment and participation AREA: Education and attainment in Coalfield: Support initiatives working to help local people	Strategic Influencing Role	Greater links with local schools and cross boundary working with Washington schools	Rachel Putz	To be developed	Yellow
		Through the People Board, ensure engagement of partners to improve residents' job and career prospects and ensure access to education and employment opportunities	Ian Williams/ Connexions/ Local providers	Andrew Carton, Connexions Manager has attended the People Board to discuss opportunities for young people. A comprehensive report specific to the Coalfield area was produced and made available to People Board members in June for their consideration. A future meeting will discuss this further,	
		Work with partners to deliver family, adult and community learning (FACL) in appropriate subjects and venues	Sandra Kenny/ VCS Network	A range of qualification based course are available to give local people the opportunity to develop the skills required by employers. Venues include Shiney Row Job Linkage, Houghton Library and YMCA Herrington Burn. A number of family learning courses to engage and support parents with their children's learning have been delivered at Hetton Primary School, Burnside Primary, and Barnwell Primary. Further courses will be developed by FACL.	
		Build on the successful heritage projects delivered in the area.	VCS Network/ Pauline Hopper	The Community Heritage education project is progressing well and has delivered a six week educational programme in local schools. Local volunteers and history groups are working within the community and to date 6 partners are involved in the project	
	Area Priority: Influencing Core Services devolved to Area Committee	Influence Early Years Intervention and Locality Services	Rachel Putz, Children Services	A performance report for all services in scope was presented to the June People Board.	Green
		Further services/activity to be determined during 2013/14	Charlotte Burnham, OCE	Gill Wake has been appointed as Coalfield Area Co-ordinator and will develop the influencing role of the Area Committee over the coming year.	
3 CORPORATE A City which is and feels even safer and more secure	Strategic Influencing Role	Through LMAPS, work to ensure local issues and problems are addressed	Pauline Hopper/Cllr J Scott	The Area Community Officer and Cllr John Scott provide representation at LMAPS. A brief update report will be provided to members after each meeting.	Green

<p>AREA: A Safer Coalfield: Continue to ensure key partnerships and collaboration maintains the good results achieved</p>		<p>Work with local partners to provide information and reassurance to reduce the fear of crime</p>	<p>Pauline Hopper/ People Board</p>	<p>To be developed</p>
<p>4 CORPORATE A City that ensures people are able to look after themselves</p>	<p>Strategic Influencing Role</p>	<p>Influencing via the Health and Well Being Board</p>	<p>Neil Revely/ Graham King</p>	<p>To be developed</p>
<p>AREA: Cared for in Coalfield: Contribute to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of Coalfield's most vulnerable</p>		<p>Understand the impact of Welfare Reform. Work with partners to increase awareness of, and response to, welfare reform</p>	<p>Fiona Brown/ VCS Network</p>	<p>A number of presentations have been made to members and partners to ensure information and best practice is shared. Sunderland City Council and Gentoo have attended the Coalfield VCS Network to keep local organisations informed of changes and support available within the locality.</p>
<p>Area Priority: Influencing Core Services devolved to Area Committee - Transforming Adult Social Care</p>		<p>Raise awareness of services available for older people by developing a 'directory' of local provision</p>	<p>Graham King/ Pauline Hopper</p>	<p>A directory is being developed using information and knowledge from HHAS, public health, elected members, VCS network partners and residents. An article in Community News will be used to gather further information.</p>
		<p>Promote and develop the Coalfield as a 'dementia friendly community'</p>	<p>Graham King/ Glen Wilson</p>	<p>Work with a number of partners such as Age UK, HOPE and Bernard Gilpin School has commenced. The People Board will develop this further and in partnership with the VCS Network will communicate and promote the work.</p>
		<p>Encourage information sharing via the Community Connectors model by identifying key individuals to act as a contact point in the neighbourhood</p>	<p>Graham King/ Pauline Hopper</p>	<p>Once the directory (above) is further developed, it will be shared with local community organisations and groups who can act as 'information points' for local residents who need to access activities and services.</p>
<p>Area Priority: Support for older people, vulnerable adults and carers</p>		<p>Continue to work with local and VCS organisations who provide support to reduce social isolation</p>	<p>Pauline Hopper/VCS Network</p>	<p>SIB funding was awarded to five local groups to provide activities and support to older people and vulnerable adults. The Area Community Officer is in the process of visiting all projects to gain a deeper understanding of the impact each project will have and how activities can be promoted and co-ordinated. A report will be provided to the next People Board in July.</p>

Coalfields activities for 8-10 year olds and Youth Provision for 11-19
Progress Report completed by Tracy Hassan Commissioning Lead June 2013

Background

- Completed review and consultation of commissioned youth provision May – November 2012
- Developed service specification incorporating a delivery model to meet local requirements
- Produced generic outcomes framework for universal delivery of activities for 8-10 and youth provision for 11-19 linked to key priorities of the council.
- Provided community profiles to support decision making

Coalfields specific

Activities for 8-10

The service provider must provide one session per ward per week 8-10 all year round but flexible days/hours within the holiday periods.

Youth provision 11-19

Service provider must provide the equivalent of three sessions per ward per week 11-19 all year round but flexible days/hours within the holiday periods. Based on information available from the contractor or Sunderland City Council (SCC) and within the local area to support service needs and local delivery

- In the Coalfields locality outcomes were developed as follows. These specific locality outcome areas will be expected to form at least 50% of the recorded outcome target for the contract area:
 - More young people are in education, training or (paid or unpaid) employment
 - Young people make informed choices about drug and alcohol use
 - Young people access positive activities.

Locality Based Requirements as identified within the consultation and review process:

- The service provider will consider using detached and outreach, as these are important to engage young people who do not access centre based provision
 - The service provider must ensure delivery is based on what young people want
 - The service provider should consider travel and transport in providing accessible provision
 - The service provider will ensure a range of facilities and resources available in the area (including parks and outdoor spaces) are utilised to provide choice and best value for money
 - The service provider will ensure the sessions are staffed at all times/cover for holidays, sickness etc. in response to paragraph 7.2 on the document circulated and that the individual providers have the required qualifications.
- Contracts were initially advertised 18th January however as a result of a number of non-compliant submissions a decision was made to re-advertise the contract on 20th February, evaluations were completed March and new contracts were awarded with a 10th April start date (with the exception of 8-10 BME provision start date 29th).

Sessions/times/delivery method

Service delivery will include a combination of service delivery methods which include the following:

- **Centre based** sessions are delivered from a static centre in the community
- **Outreach work** which involves reaching out with a view to encouraging young people to use a service or provision. Sometimes a mobile facility like a bus is used to support outreach.
- **Detached youth work** which takes place where young people meet, such as streets, cafes and parks at times that are appropriate to them and in ways that are agreed with them.

Commissioning officers have received information in relation to future service delivery and evidence to support proposals and meetings are planned with service providers to discuss proposals.

1 provider was successful across the Coalfields 8-10 and 11-19 provision as below:

Age	Locality	Ward	Provider	Times & Venues
08-10 Years	Coalfields	Copt Hill	SNCBC	Kirklee Playing Fields - Friday 4.30 – 6.30pm
08 - 10 Years	Coalfields	Houghton	SNCBC	Bungalow - Thursday 4 – 6pm
08 - 10 Years	Coalfields	Hetton	SNCBC	Flatts - Friday 4 – 6pm
08 - 10 Years	Coalfields	Shiney Row	SNCBC	Herrington Country Park - Wednesday 4 – 6pm

11 - 19 Years	Coalfields	Copt Hill	SNCBC	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. HRCAP - Tuesday 6 – 8pm 2. Copt Hill Detached - Thursday 6.30 – 8.30pm 3. Kirklee Playing Field Sessions - Saturday 2.30 – 4.30pm
11 - 19 Years	Coalfields	Houghton	SNCBC	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Underground - Tuesday 6 – 8pm 2. Underground - Thursday 6 – 8pm 3. Bungalow - Monday 6 – 8pm 4. Houghton Kepier - Friday 7 – 9pm
11 - 19 Years	Coalfields	Hetton	SNCBC	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Flatts - Tuesday 6.30 – 8.30pm 2. Hetton - Wednesday 6 – 8pm 3. Flatts - Saturday 12 – 2pm
11 - 19 Years	Coalfields	Shiney Row	SNCBC	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shiney Row Detached - Tuesday 6.30 – 8.30pm 2. Shiney Row muga - Wednesday 6.15 – 8.15pm 3. Penshaw CA - Friday 6.00 – 8.00pm

Citywide provider for the **BME** contract is Hendon Young Peoples project for 8-10 and 11-19

Additional information on delivery methods and needs analysis is available for each delivery session this information is held by commissioners as part of the performance monitoring arrangements for the contracts.

Moving forward

- All new contracts are now in place
- Initial contact has been made with the provider and contract reviews dates are being set for the whole year
- Commissioning officers have been aligned to YouthLeads and been allocated to localities
- Karen Lightfoot Gencli is the Commissioning Officer and Dave Murray the Youth Lead in the Coalfields
- Delivery throughout April has been a continuation of old contracts with a move to new arrangements

- Performance Monitoring Framework has been updated to ensure information is captured accurately and in a format for contract management and reporting to People Board
- Documents for quarterly contract monitoring meetings have been prepared by commissioning officers and will include:
 - Numbers of users
 - Impact of service
 - Elected member involvement
 - Contract compliance
 - Delivery against targets
- The IT System has been updated to include new service outcomes and target outputs

Recommendations from People Board

- It is recommended that elected members feed all information via the Area Community Officer who will make direct contact with the Commissioning Officer (Karen Lightfoot Gencli) and Youth lead (Dave Murray). This process will support sharing information to make informed decisions about service delivery specifically around flexible delivery.
- Commissioning will provide performance monitoring information to the Coalfields Locality Manager (Rachel Putz) who will share the performance report with the Youth Operational Group and Coalfields People Board on a quarterly basis.

Outstanding issues

Action

- Commissioning Lead to arrange a meeting to include all People Board Chairs, Hendon Young Peoples Project, Head of Scrutiny and Area arrangements, Youth Lead (BME) and Commissioning Officer (West) to discuss the BME provision, crossover between areas and how we can improve joint working for the benefit of the children and young people across the city.

Timescale to complete by end of June

COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE 20 JUNE 2013 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I					
Title of Report: Strategic Initiative Budget (SIB), Community Chest and Healthy Cities Investment Fund (HCIF) – Financial Statement and proposals for further allocation of resources					
Author(s): Chief Executive					
Purpose of Report: This report provides a financial statement as an update position on progress in relation to allocating SIB, HCIF and Community Chest and presents proposals for further funding requests.					
Description of Decision: The Area Committee is requested to:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note the financial information set out in sections 2, 3 and 4 and Annex 2 • Approve the SIB project applications listed in 2.2 and Annex 1 <table style="margin-left: 20px; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">1. Business Support Project</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding-left: 20px;">£40,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">2. Lighting for footpath at Ross Lea, Shiney Row</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding-left: 20px;">£2,000</td> </tr> </table> • Approve the one Community Chest application for Houghton ward based on a majority decision as identified in 4.2 		1. Business Support Project	£40,000	2. Lighting for footpath at Ross Lea, Shiney Row	£2,000
1. Business Support Project	£40,000				
2. Lighting for footpath at Ross Lea, Shiney Row	£2,000				
Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework? Yes					
Suggested reason(s) for Decision: SIB and SIP are budgets delegated to Area Committee in order to commission activity that delivers actions against the key strategic priorities identified in the Coalfield Work Plan.					
Alternative options to be considered and recommended to be rejected: The circumstances are such that there are no realistic alternatives that could be considered.					
Is this a “Key Decision” as defined in the Constitution? No	Relevant Scrutiny Committees:				
Is it included in the Forward Plan?					

20 JUNE 2013

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Strategic Initiative Budget (SIB), Community Chest and Healthy Cities Investment Fund (HCIF) – Financial Statement and proposals for further allocation of resources**1. Purpose of Report**

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

2 Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB)

2.1 The table below shows the financial position of SIB following the April 2013 meeting of Area Committee. The opening balance is £252,626.

Project Name	Committee Date	Allocated (not yet assessed)	Approvals	Balance
The allocation for 2013/14 is £236,693. A balance of £15,933 is carried over from 2012/13, giving a total opening balance of £252,626				£252,626
Balance	-		-	£252,626

2.2 The following projects (further details in Annex 1) are recommended by the Place Board for **approval**.

- Business Support Project £40,000
- Lighting for footpath at Ross Lea, Shiney Row £2,000

The total of projects listed is £42,000 and should Committee approve the projects a balance of £210,626 will remain.

3 Healthy City Investment Fund: Financial statement and proposals

3.1 The table below show the position following the April 2013 meeting.

Project Name	Date	Allocated	Approvals	Balance
Healthy City Investment Fund	31.03.12			£31,413
Coalfield Healthy Men Partnership	19.09.12		£31,000	£413
Balance			£31,000	£413

4 Community Chest

4.1 The table below details the balances remaining following the last meeting in April 2013 and includes project approvals from the April and May 2013 community chest panel meetings as detailed in **Annex 2** for information only. This includes £10,000 allocation per ward for 2013/14.

Ward	Budget Remaining	Project Approvals	Balance
Copt Hill	£10,628	£1,050	£9,578
Hetton	£14,486	£280	£14,206
Houghton	£13,856	£2,094	£11,762
Shiney Row	£11,436	£1,000	£10,436
Total	£50,406	£4,424	£45,982

4.2 An application from Herrington Burn YMCA for £500 towards the cost of a trip to Prague to take part in the YMCA International Festival was presented to the Houghton ward panel. However a unanimous decision could not be reached, with two members approving the funding and one member rejecting the application. Therefore, it is presented to Area Committee for a final decision. Should the project be approved the balance for Houghton ward will be £11,262.

Recommendations:

Committee is requested to:

- Note the financial information set out in sections 2, 3 and 4 and Annex 2
- Approve the SIB project applications listed in 2.2 and Annex 1
- Approve the one Community Chest application for Houghton ward based on a majority decision as identified in 4.2 above

Contact Officer: Pauline Hopper, Coalfield Area Community Officer
561 7912, pauline.hopper@sunderland.gov.uk

Annex 1 SIB Applications recommended for approval
Annex 2 Community Chest approvals

Requests for SIB funding

Support for Local Shopping Centres

To continue the successful work of the Business Support project it is requested that the project is extended until March 2014 with a target of a further 31 businesses supported on a one to one basis. A small grant (e.g. for internal/external improvements, marketing, website development etc...) will be available to individual traders who are fully engaged with the project. It is proposed that the establishment of Traders' Associations is progressed in all three centres and that a small grant is made to each to one to assist with start up costs and support sustainability in the longer term. Outline costs are:

Intensive business support until March 2014 reaching an additional 31 businesses	£26,500
Grants available for those fully engaged with the project (£500 x 20)	£10,000
Support to Traders Associations	£3,500

The total funding requested is **£40,000**

Recommendation from Place Board: **Approve**

Lighting at Ross Lea, Shiney Row

The proposal is to install street lighting to an unlit footpath. The unit will be incorporated into the Street Lighting and Highway Signs PFI to ensure future maintenance. The project will improve the area for residents and visitors and reduce fear of crime.

City Council PFI Contractor, Aurora, have designed the proposal to meet national standards. The installation will take place once funding has been secured

The total requested is **£2,000**

Recommendation from Place and People Board: **Approve**

COMMUNITY CHEST 2013/2014 COALFIELD AREA - PROJECTS APPROVED

Copt Hil Ward	Project	Amount	Balance at April 2013	Project approvals	Balance Remaining
	Kepier Hall Trust (Split with Houghton 50%) for heating installation and redecoration	£1,050			
	Total	£1,050	£10,628	£1,050	£9,578
Hetton Ward	Project	Amount	Balance at April 2013	Project approvals	Balance Remaining
	Hetton and Eppleton Community Hall for a Fish and chip supper for elderly residents	£280			
	Total	£280	£14,486	£280	£14,206
Houghton Ward	Project	Amount	Balance at April 2013	Project approvals	Balance Remaining
	Lambton and Houghton Banner Group for music by Felling band for Miners Gala	£400		£400	
	Houghton and District Rambling club for the purchase of a computer printer and laminator	£644		£644	
	Kepier Hall Trust (Split with Copt Hill 50%) for heating installation and redecoration	£1,050		£1,050	
	Total	£2,094	£13,856	£2,094	£11,762
Shiney Row Ward	Project	Amount	Balance at April 2013	Project approvals	Balance Remaining
	The Friends of Herrington County Park for the costs of spray paint for graffiti artists	£500			
	New Herrington Miners Banner Group for brass band and transport costs for the Durham Miners Gala	£500			
	Total	£1,000	£11,436	£1,000	£10,436
Overall Totals					£45,982

COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE

Item 6

20 JUNE 2013

REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF AREA COMMITTEE**Coalfield State of the Area Event****1. Purpose of Report**

To present Area Committee with the issues collated from questions raised at the recent State of the Area Event, and agree how to progress the issues through the Place and People Boards.

2. Background

- 2.1 Following on from the success of the 'State of the Area' events, held for the first time in 2012, a further event was arranged to take place on 18 April 2013 at the Bethany Christian Centre, Houghton le Spring
- 2.2 The event provided an opportunity to engage with residents who were able to come along to talk to their local councillors and have their say about the key issues that affect them in the area in which they live and ask questions of decision makers at a local level. In turn we were able to share with them Area Committee achievements over this last year and discuss our plans for action for the year ahead.

3 Issues Raised

- 3.1 A list of issues raised is attached at Annex 1 and captures the key points raised at the event. Each issue has an update and/or suggested action listed against it for consideration. Committee are requested to consider the issues and agree which are able to be actioned or influenced by Area Committee and its Place and People Boards

Recommendations:

Committee is requested to:

- Note the issues outlined in Annex 1
- Note the updates and actions against each issue
- Agree next steps against each issue
- Consider point 6 at Annex 1 and agree next steps

Contact Officer: Pauline Hopper, Coalfield Area Community Officer
561 7912, pauline.hopper@sunderland.gov.uk

Annex 1 Issues log from Coalfield Area Event

MEETING: COALFIELD STATE OF THE AREA EVENT**HELD ON: 18TH APRIL 2013 5.30 P.M. – 8.30 P.M.****BETHANY CHRISTIAN CENTRE, HETTON ROAD, HOUGHTON LE SPRING, DH5 8PF****Issue Log**

1	Tenants of Grasswell allotments driving across the grassed play area. Play area needs improving	
	Response/ Action	Improvement work to be completed by RLS as part of a mini makeover of play sites. To be monitored and reported back to Area Committee
	Response/ Action	Allotments officers have spoken with tenants to discourage driving over the grass. To be monitored and reported back to Area Committee
2	Hawthorn Street play areas, allotments and problems from youths driving across and around the play areas. The young people are abusing the area and a gate and lock was put on to keep them out but this has been vandalised.	
	Response/ Action	To be reported back to Area Committee
3	Potential for increased fly tipping due to charging for bulk waste collection	
	Response/ Action	Assistant Head of Street Scene to monitor the situation. Will be monitored via RLS Street Scene priority at Place Board
4	Public toilets in Houghton le Spring	
	Response/ Action	Toilets are available in some of the shops and other services which public can use. No action to be taken. The City Council do not have any funding to invest into public toilets. No further action to be taken
5	Horses tethered and exercised at grassed playing area Balfour Street/Stanley Street/Houghton le Spring. Children cannot now use the grass and are playing on the street and causing disturbance. Increased anti social behaviour has led to calls to the Police.	
	Response/ Action	Due to the number of factors to consider the issue will be taken to LMAPS to agree a multi agency solution.
	Update	Officers are looking into developing a policy based on the Clean Neighbourhood act to tackle the nuisance horse grazing on open land. To be reported back via Place Board
6	Insufficient focus on environmental objectives within Area Committee priorities. Request that Area Committee consider adopting environmental priorities as submitted	
	Response/ Action	The issues submitted by the resident will be considered by Area Committee
	Update	Suggested for inclusion in the Committee Work Plan: <i>(i) to increase awareness, value and usage of the natural environment in the Coalfield Area</i> <i>(ii) to initiate and support activities aimed at enhancing and protecting the natural environment and the wildlife it supports;</i> <i>(iii) to work with the community and appropriate groups, agencies and statutory bodies to improve and protect the environment and wildlife;</i> <i>(iv) to ensure access to and enjoyment of the countryside in the Coalfield Area by all sections of the community.</i>

		Through the Place Board Neglected Land priority and Love Where You Live project a number of small scale environmental projects to protect the natural environment have been developed and delivered. The VCS Network encourages local community groups to become involved with the work of Area Committee. Area Committee to consider at the June 2013 meeting.
7	Increase in housing developments in the Coalfield area. Consideration to be given to type of houses required including social and affordable housing.	
	Response/ Action	15,000 new homes will be built in the City over the next 20 years. 20% will be in the Coalfield area. Planning policy documents are currently being developed and residents will be consulted and have the opportunity to give their views from June 2013. Area Committee structures will promote the consultation process.
8	Water flowing near Tyre Spot at Houghton le Spring	
	Response/ Action	Water appears to be coming from Biffa Waste Disposal site. Northumbrian Water is to undertake a survey to determine the problem.
9	Concerns about the future of the school mini bus service taking pupils to St Mary's Church School	
	Response/ Action	Due to financial cuts, there are difficult choices to make regarding service provision. There is a formal consultation process taking place and the parents of the school will be part of this exercise. No further action for Area Committee
10	Flooding and overflowing drains during heavy rain at Simpson Grove resulting in raw sewage in gardens and drives. The system can't cope now and there are proposals for more housing developments which will exacerbate this situation and other infrastructure issues. The same issues were raised about Easington Lane and other areas. Can residents have a plan which shows the drainage system.	
	Response/ Action	The Council are aware of the problems and are working with Northumbrian Water and the Environment Agency who have responsibility to resolve the back sewage which is not acceptable. The issue of drainage and correct infrastructure is a priority. With any new proposal for housing a referral is sent to the Highways Authority and a detailed study of the area is taken into account regarding access points and safety. Senior officers spoke to residents individually after the meeting and will keep them updated with regard to actions and timescales. Flood Risk Planning has been selected by Area Committee as a Place Board Priority
11	Biffa Waste Disposal Services have been challenged on a number of occasions and residents are concerned about the Houghton Quarry landfill site. Thousands of people signed the petition for the site to be closed but it seems to still be operating without a current licence. Why was an application for blasting approved?	
	Response/ Action	There are two applications from Biffa Waste Disposal Services pending consideration and will be forwarded to the Planning and Highways Committee. Any approval to carry out blasting is not yet valid as the discharge conditions need to be met. Information is provided on the Council's website.

12	Is there any plan to develop the land on the Kentmere House site which has been derelict for sometime?	
	Response/ Action	There are no firm plans at present but a housing developer has shown an interest in the land. Further updates will be given when available
13	Over 3 years ago the Council agreed that every estate would be given a 20 mile per hour speed limit. Speeding is an ongoing issue – is there a plan to implement the speed limit.	
	Response/ Action	A survey identified that the priority areas are Silksworth and Downhill which had the highest evidenced need. When funding allows the priority list will be worked through but there are no immediate plans for this area.
14	Proposed open cast mine in Pittington will have a negative impact on residents at Moorsley and nearby area	
	Response/ Action	The application will be made to Durham Council as the local planning authority for this location. Sunderland Council can only respond when an application has been received by Durham Council and they consult with Sunderland as a neighbouring authority. However Strategic Planning and Highways will look at the application and request that Durham Council to consult with Sunderland residents.
15	The cross roads at Newbottle is unsafe. The traffic lights get knocked down at least once a month	
	Response/ Action	This issue is being investigated by Network Management, Street Scene
16	In percentage terms how many private developers have been refused permission to build and which developers are they	
	Response/ Action	There are no figures to hand but the public access planning website will give these details