

June 2025

Sunderland City Council Service Plans – North Area Priorities, for information purposes only.

ECONOMY AND PLACE: Economic Regeneration

Project/Programme	Project Details	Start Date	Completion/ full expenditure by
Low Carbon Framework and Action Plan	Range of city-wide low carbon programmes and projects across the seven strategic priority areas to include implementation within individual Area Committee areas		
Area Committee Quarterly Update			
<p>Additional green-infrastructure projects (over and above NE Community Forest activity) include 'Tiny Forests' schemes to be planted at Sandhill View Academy (West) and Hudson Road Primary (East) subject to feasibility and final approvals; Link Together Heritage Lottery bid for £915,000 has been submitted – if successful it will support greenspace uplift to 13 sites across the Coalfield.</p> <p>Sunderland City Council is working in partnership with energy suppliers Utilita and E.On on the current phase of Energy Company Obligation (ECO4), which requires energy suppliers to implement energy efficiency improvements in residents' homes. The scheme is aimed at lower income and/or vulnerable households and less energy efficient properties with the aims of tackling fuel poverty, reducing carbon emissions from the domestic sector and improving thermal comfort. The ECO4 scheme was launched in October and is available to residents in all areas of Sunderland (city-wide). Utilita will include a particular focus on engaging with residents in Southwick (North) and E.On with residents in Hendon (East) during Nov/Dec to raise awareness of the scheme and its benefits to residents. Eco-4 will run to 2026 across the city.</p>			

ECONOMY AND PLACE: Regulatory Services

Project/Programme	Project Details	Start Date	Completion/ full expenditure by
SARA (currently national lottery funded until end of August 2025)	Continue delivery, take forward findings from evaluation and explore opportunities for sustainability	Sept 20	Aug 25

(09/20 – 08/21 funded by VRU)			
Area Committee Quarterly Update			
<p>Project continues to deliver agreed aims and outcomes via the SARA Strategic Board.</p> <p>External Evaluation is about to complete the final year of the Independent Evaluation - awaiting final report from the independent evaluators.</p> <p>Development of the intelligence platform continues to progress and we are working towards a 'go-live' date of July 2025. The platform will hold overnight data from Police and Council with an overlay from the Fire Service in one central area.</p> <p>Since SARA began in Sept 2020; we have directly secured and / or supported to secure over £1.23 million additional investment into the Southwick Ward area via actual funding or donations.</p> <p>June Update - Sustainability of SARA (and HALO and SAIL) is a main priority and proposed funding will support the continuation of the successful operation of the SARA, HALO and SAIL projects. Adopting the best practice established in the pilot projects, a proposal to implement an additional 3 locality hubs across the City, focussing on multi agency problem solving and aimed at tackling local priority issues is also proposed.</p>			

SMART CITIES AND ENABLING SERVICES – Smart City Team

Project/Programme	Project Details	Start Date	Completion/ full expenditure by
Digital Inclusion	Delivery of a range of DI initiatives subject to interest/approval	04/23	04/26
Area Committee Quarterly Update			
<p>2 Databanks were launched, bringing the City total up to 39.</p> <p>189 digital devices deployed, overall total 536. (excludes City Hall/Libraries)</p> <p>15 VCS Organisation's received support, overall total 90.</p> <p>289 digital inclusion events and sessions delivered, overall total 1238.</p> <p>1145 people supported to build confidence, overall total 6686.</p> <p>31 volunteers recruited, overall total 145</p> <p>14,100 people connecting to Wi-Fi via Digital Health Hubs, overall 26,106 (*will include repeats)</p> <p>136,000 people counted entering digital health hubs, overall 272,000 (*will include repeats)</p>			

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Project/Programme	Project Details	Start Date	Completion/ full expenditure by
Smart Cities	Opportunities for a range of digital and data solutions e.g. interactive play, smart bins etc	04/23	
Area Committee Quarterly Update			
Significant work ongoing, further information can be found across our website and in the Innovation Challenges section: www.sunderlandoursmartcity.com . In addition, any specific briefings can be arranged as required.			

CORPORATE SERVICES - Property Services (Strategic)

Project/Programme	Project Details	Start Date	Completion/ full expenditure by
Roker Park Bandstand	Refurbished Bandstand	May 25	Oct 25
Area Committee Quarterly Update			
Proposal includes refurbishment of the park's Victorian bandstand.			

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES: Bereavement Services

Project/Programme	Project Details	Start Date	Completion/ full expenditure by
Cemetery Improvements	Prioritisation of improvement measures within area cemeteries according to an assessment of risk, need and local demand	June 22	ongoing
Area Committee Quarterly Update			
Future Meeting Format: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A discussion about the future format of meetings considered integrating the Cemetery Improvement Board into Neighbourhood and Community Board meetings for better governance. 			

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES: Local Services

Project/Programme	Project Details	Start Date	Completion/ full expenditure by
Tree and Plantation Management	Progression of the Tree Management Strategy - Tree surveying and mapping. Continuation of plantation management programme. City wide tree planting scheme		Mar 26
Area Committee Quarterly Update			
Members now receive pre-notification on all tree works on a bi-monthly basis. - MAY 2025 UPDATE: next pre notification due 6th June 95,742 m2 of Plantation managed since March 2023 - MAY 2025 UPDATE: 195,186m2 now thinned The whole City's street & Green Flag Park tree population digitally mapped since May 2023 - MAY 2025 UPDATE: Second citywide cycle underway now picking up open space and cemeteries 28,396 Trees surveyed since June 2023 - MAY 2025 UPDATE: 46,232 trees surveyed			

STRATEGY & CORPORATE AFFAIRS: Area Arrangements

Project/Programme	Project Details	Start Date	Completion/ full expenditure by

<p>Ensure ongoing Delivery of Area Committee Area Plans to support the delivery of the City Plan and other significant strategies for the city. (year 2 of 3 year plans), Including commissioning activity to support the deliver of Area priorities and to improve local quality of life and public satisfaction in its areas.</p>	<p>Support all 5 Area Committees to develop, deliver and review Area Committee Area Plans. Working in partnership with all key local stakeholders, including local Members, residents, VCS, public and the private sector to maximise the local contribution to the delivery to the city's ambitions and priorities specifically in relation to Community Wealth Building, Health and Wellbeing, and any other strategies that would support the delivery of the City Plan at a neighbourhood level</p>	<p>Jun 23</p>	<p>Mar 26</p>
<p>Area Committee Quarterly Update</p>			
<p>Neighbourhood and Community Board reports and Area Plan progress updates provided at each Area Committee meeting. All Projects funded through Area Committee Resources monitored on a quarterly basis and performance update reports produced and provided to members. A combined Area Committee Annual Report to be presented to Full Council June 2025</p>			

Project/Programme	Project Details	Start Date	Completion/ full expenditure by
<p>Developing the community support offer, working closely with the voluntary sector to help maximise positive outcomes including those identified as priorities in Area</p>	<p>Continue to work in partnership with the Voluntary Sector Alliance to maximise resources into the sector via external funding and grow social value resources. Commission activity via Area VCS networks to support the delivery of Area Committee Area Plans.</p>	<p>April 24</p>	<p>March 26</p>

Committee Area Plans			
Area Committee Quarterly Update			
Updates to be provided to Area Committee through performance reporting arrangements noted above. Any additional updates will be provided through this reporting framework			

Project/Programme	Project Details	Start Date	Completion/ full expenditure by
Growing capacity of voluntary and community sector	Continue to work in partnership with the Voluntary Sector Alliance to maximise resources into the sector via external funding and grow social value resources. Continue to support and facilitate Area VCS Networks to develop the capacity and influence of the VCS across the city. Each Area Network is made up of over 100 local groups and strategic local/national/regional partners. The networks meet on a regular basis to share good practice, support one another and receive regular updates and information sharing.	April 24	March 26
Area Committee Quarterly Update			
Update report will be presented to Area Committees quarterly from Voluntary Sector Alliance. Area Network delegates will present a report to each Area Committee meeting informing Members of activity, progress, issues and concerns of the sector.			

PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLBEING - Housing Development

Project/Programme	Project Details	Start Date	Completion/ full expenditure by
HDIP	East: Empty Homes - 61, Bungalows - 60, Supported - 38 West: Empty Homes - 42, Bungalows - 38, Supported – 40 North: Empty Homes - 38, Bungalows - 40, Supported – 34 Coalfields: Empty Homes - 37, Bungalows - 36, Supported - 34 Washington: Empty Homes - 32, Bungalows - 19, Supported - 25	2020	March 2026
Area Committee Quarterly Update			

East: Empty Homes - 13, Bungalows - 23, Supported - 2
West: Empty Homes - 14, Bungalows - 18, Supported – 4
North: Empty Homes - 12, Bungalows - 23, Supported – 16
Coalfields: Empty Homes - 15, Bungalows - 5, Supported - 1
Washington: Empty Homes - 8, Bungalows - 4, Supported - 23

PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLBEING – Active Sunderland

Project/Programme	Project Details	Start Date	Completion/ full expenditure by
PlayZones	Construction of five safe and inclusive area-based sports Play Zones with investment from the Football Foundation and Sport England (CP)	2023	2026
Area Committee Quarterly Update			
(Southwick) Worked commenced March 25 expected completion June 25. Activation Group established. Officer opening planned for late summer			

Project/Programme	Project Details	Start Date	Completion/ full expenditure by
Change the Game	Change the Game-Southwick is a Football Foundation and Sport England 5-year funded project, to encourage residents to become more active and involved in their local community.	Sept 22	Sep 27
Area Committee Quarterly Update			
Over 14,928 attendances in the programme since it commenced. Funding proposal submitted to Football foundation for a potential Year 6 (27-28). New bootcamp session has been introduced in Thompson Park. CTG is involved in developing the PlayZone activation plan, ensuring the project has a regular and sustainable presence.			

PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLBEING - Public Health and Integrated Commissioning – Living Well

Project/Programme	Project Details	Start Date	Completion/ full expenditure by
Development of Social prescribing physical delivery hub	To deliver community level Social Prescribing 'activity to allow for localised presence of the offer	April 23	March 25

Area Committee Quarterly Update

33 local delivery partners have been funded through UKSPF to strengthen the range and breadth of community level activity. Activities running Jan- Dec 24. Claim involving the submitted April 24. Evaluation being undertaken by the University of Sunderland.

Links for Life exploring links to other geographical hubs (i.e. Family hubs / Community Mental Health hubs):

Area	Organisation
City Wide	Northern Engagement into Recovery from Addictions Foundation (NERAF)
City Wide	International Community Organisation of Sunderland (ICOS)
City Wide	Friends of Drop in (FODI)
City Wide	Veterans In Crisis
City Wide	Grace House
City Wide	Active Families @ Broadway Youth & Community Centre
City Wide	Sunderland and County Durham Royal Society for the Blind
North	Roker Life
North	Sunderland Community Action Group
North	North East Sport
North	Redby Community Association
North	Southwick Neighbourhood Youth Project
North	Community Opportunities

Project/Programme	Project Details	Start Date	Completion/ full expenditure by
Cycle scheme	Walking and Cycling activities for families in Southwick and Redhill	May 23	Mar 25

Area Committee Quarterly Update			
<p>July – Sept delivery started positively with good numbers of engagement.</p> <p>Sept to December focussing on more targeted work. Information has been shared with Links workers, TfC family hubs etc working in the north for referral routes.</p> <p>Engagement with residents carried out to identify barriers to engagement that will be used to inform the programme moving forward.</p>			

Project/Programme	Project Details	Start Date	Completion/ full expenditure by
Stop Smoking Clinics	To deliver stop smoking clinics in the wards with the highest smoking rates.	Ap 23	On going

Area Committee Quarterly Update			
<p>SSSS are actively investigating clinic/drop in sites within the high prevalence wards. The following clinics are either established, planned to start or in discussion:</p> <p>Hendon: Riverview Health Centre (established) Back on the Map (in discussion) Millfield: The Salvation Army (established) Pallion: Lambton Street Youth Centre (established) Redhill: Bunnyhill Centre (established) Castle: Bunnyhill Centre (established) Southwick: SNYP (established) Sandhill: Grindon Primary Care Centre (established) St Anne's: Grindon Primary Care Centre (established) Washington North: The Millenium Centre (established) Central Sunderland: Betsy Jenny Wellbeing Café (established).</p>			

PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLBEING – Starting Well and Health Protection

Project/Programme	Project Details	Start Date	Completion/ full expenditure by
Breastfeeding Friendly City	In Sunderland, we want to ensure that breastfeeding families are made to feel welcome wherever they choose to feed their babies. Through our Breastfeeding Friendly Sunderland Pledge, we are encouraging a range of public venues across the City to register and show support for breastfeeding, so families feel comfortable feeding their babies, anytime and anywhere. Information on how to be involved https://mybestlife.org.uk/Sunderland-Family-Hubs/resources/82	December 2024/Jan 2025	Ongoing
Area Committee Quarterly Update			
BFS was promoted via TfC's Baby Week on 14th November and was subsequently launched alongside The Big Latch in April 2025. Promotion continues to take place, with over 50 venues across the City signed up to the Pledge. Data for Sunderland (2023-24) shows baby's first feed breast milk is at 52.4% and breastfeeding continuation at 6-8 weeks continues an upward trend to 33.2%.			

Project/Programme	Project Details	Start Date	Completion/ full expenditure by
Youth Health Summit Pilot	Utilised an opportunity to develop a method of engagement and participation that has potential to become an established event. Public Health worked with Sunderland Youth Council to deliver a Young People's Health Summit for Year 9 pupils. The aim of this Summit is to become part of the work plan of Sunderland Youth Council, to offer a cyclical programme of consultation and engagement involving the timeline of the Health Related Behaviour Survey, Make Your Mark and the State of the City Debate, culminating in the Youth Health Summit.	Oct 24	April 25
Area Committee Quarterly Update			
Seven schools participated in the pilot event held at City Hall. The 2024 State of the City Debate themes - National - General health & wellbeing Local - Culture, sport and media. Four partner providers Active Sunderland, Growing HEalthy Sunderland, Healthy Heads, Sexual Health Team delivered workshops to Y9 pupils. Inital feedback of the event was positive and an evaluation report is being prepared to recommend the Youth Summit is established as an event every 2 years.			

Project/Programme	Project Details	Start Date	Completion/ full expenditure by
Health Related Behaviour Survey	<p>The Health Related Behaviour Survey is a method of collecting information from Sunderland's children and young people. It is carried out every 2 years with Y4 and Y6 in primary schools and Y8 and Y10 in secondary schools. It is an incredibly useful resource to provide schools with invaluable data, which can inform curriculum content, methods of lesson delivery and empower schools to better meet the needs of their pupils. The results are also used to inform the Sunderland Healthy City Plan and work programmes, to improve health outcomes for children and young people.</p> <p>Survey topics include drugs and alcohol, smoking and vaping, emotional health and wellbeing, healthy eating, life at school, physical activity and staying safe and bullying.</p>	Jan 25	Oct 25
Area Committee Quarterly Update			
In 2023, 5,970 children and young people told us about their health and behaviours. The 2025 survey will be carried out over the summer term			

Project/Programme	Project Details	Start Date	Completion/ full expenditure by
Ageing Well Ambassadors	<p>An Ageing Well Ambassador is a voluntary role for an adult, aged 50+, who will take action to help raise awareness and spread the age-friendly message to others, so ageing well people's voices continue to be heard in communities across Sunderland.</p> <p>https://www.sunderland.gov.uk/ageingwell</p>	Already in place	ongoing

Area Committee Quarterly Update

The programme is delivered city wide: We have 253 ambassadors and we need more in Coalfields and Washington areas.
<https://www.linksforlifesusunderland.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/oce23407-Ageing-Well-Ambassadors-2-years-on-report-2023-24.pdf>

Project/Programme	Project Details	Start Date	Completion/ full expenditure by
Strength and Balance Programme	<p>Strength and Balance programme is an evidence based (OTAGO) exercise program, funded by Sunderland City Council for people who live in Sunderland. This exercise program targets vulnerable, mildly, and moderately frail over 50's who have a history of falls and/or fear of falling with the key aim of improving their independence and confidence and reduce falls, whilst promoting 'Healthy Ageing' and a lifelong participation in exercise and activity.</p> <p>https://www.healthwatchesunderland.com/sites/healthwatchesunderland.com/files/Sunderland%20Strength%20and%20Balance%20Programme%20September%202024.pdf</p>	Already in place	ongoing

Area Committee Quarterly Update

The programme is delivered from:

North - Downhill Centre, Fullwell Library, North East Sport @Monkwearmouth Academy, Grace House
West - St Chad's Church, Lambton Street Youth and Community Hub, Broadway Youth and Community Centre
East- St Michael's Community Centre, Sunderland Mind, Sunderland Bangladeshi International Centre
Washington -Arts Centre, Springwell Village Community Venue, Albany Village Centre
Coalfields - The Hut Low Moorsley, Penshaw Community Centre, Houghton Sports and Wellness Centre

Project/Programme	Project Details	Start Date	Completion/ full expenditure by
We'ar Shining the Light	<p>A Sunderland-wide news platform has been launched to shine the light on what it means to grow older in the city. Led by older people for older people, the We'ar Shining the Light news team – made up of community reporters aged 50 and above from across Sunderland – has joined forces to capture stories that break ageing stereotypes and gather positive stories of</p>	Already in place	ongoing

	later life. As well as reporting on arts and culture, sport and nostalgia stories, the team will also shine a light on the challenges faced by the ageing population.		
Area Committee Quarterly Update			
Currently have 15 community reporters who write articles for a newsletter that goes out monthly to all the ageing well ambassadors. We have reporters from all areas of the city. https://wellbeinginfo.org/wstl-news/			

Project/Programme	Project Details	Start Date	Completion/ full expenditure by
Dementia and Ageism training	The aim of the training is to co-produce using the two topics dementia awareness including ageism and prevention working with local people. Then after designed and delivery of the training, it will provide a range of resources that will raise awareness, dispel the myths around ageism and raise awareness of dementia to equip the local community to offer initial support and signpost to other appropriate services where needed. This will be achieved by developing skills, confidence and discussing techniques that can promote healthy lifestyles.	Already in place	2025/2026
Area Committee Quarterly Update			
The training has been funded by the city council and the award was to AgeUK Sunderland. They have delivered 6 months of the programme and the feedback and attendance at the training is very positive. There has also been a signposting booklet designed by healthwatch collaboratively with other partners. https://www.healthwatchesunderland.com/advice-and-information/2025-04-03/support-people-memory-difficulties-or-dementia			

PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLBEING - Public Health – Integrated Commissioning

Project/Programme	Project Details	Start Date	Completion/ full expenditure by
DA safe accommodation redevelopment	Capital project to redevelop DA safe accommodation provision	April 24	March 26
Area Committee Quarterly Update			

A 'pre-mortem' risk planning exercise is scheduled for the 26/11, in order to test assumptions/biases within the existing scheme. This will be followed by the commissioning of a feasibility and options appraisal to agree the preferred design and operating model for the scheme before continuing.

TOGETHER FOR CHILDREN: Early Help Systems and Family Hubs

Project/Programme	Project Details	Start Date	Completion/ full expenditure by
Family Hubs & Family Support	<p>The Family Hubs and Start for Life programme helps meet commitments in The best start for life: a vision for the 1,001 critical days, published as government policy in March 2021. This programme is jointly led by the Department for Education (DfE) and Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC).</p> <p>The aim of Family Hubs is to join up and enhance services, ensuring all parents and carers can access the support they need when they need it. To bring services together and make them more accessible, improve the connections between families, professionals, services, and providers, and put relationships at the heart of family support.</p> <p>Following a competitive bidding process, 14 trailblazers were selected and awarded additional funding to go further and faster in delivering some or all of the Start for Life services funded by the Family Hubs and Start for Life programme – peri-natal mental health and parent-infant relationships, infant feeding, and parenting support. Sunderland were one of the 14 local authority areas who were awarded trailblazer status.</p> <p>https://www.togetherforchildren.org.uk/article/27857/Start-for-Life</p> <p>Sunderland will have 5 Family Hubs across the city offering services from conception up until the age of 18 or 25 for young people with special educational needs. The face to face offer Sunderland Family Hubs offer is mirrored as a virtual offer to our children, young people and families, with access to activities, services and resources on a new digital platform called My Best Life. MBL will also provide families with information around childcare, SEND local offer, support for older children and young people in addition to interactive resources that families can access at home.</p> <p>Our Family hubs sits in line with the national vision of building an Early Help System offering support to children and families across universal services, community support and targeted services which will all be available in our family hubs.</p>	2022	2025

Early Help targeted family support teams are co-located within the family hubs. These teams provide targeted support to families with children aged 0 to 19. The Early Help workers complete a robust assessment and plan, provide interventions and work alongside our partners to address the needs of children young people and their families.

HAF continues to be available across all localities of the city during school holidays.

Area Committee Quarterly Update

Maternity services now have a presence in each Family Hub across Sunderland. Maternity and TfC continue to work together to increase the number of appointments families can access within the hubs.

Family Hub now have a presence at antenatal clinics at Sunderland Royal

Sunderland's first Baby Week launched 14th November. Families with babies and young children, stakeholders from several local and national services, elected members are attending a wide range of exciting and informative citywide events. The week has also been used to promote Sunderland's Family Hubs.

Summer HAF was funded by national DfE funding, local Household Support Fund Grant Funding and a number of additional smaller funding bodies. In total 5,118 children and young people attended sessions across the city, filling 37,740 places. Of those attending 2,494 children and young people were eligible for Free School Meals and 994 have SEND. Many other children were considered vulnerable and / or were impacted by cost of living.

A pilot project delivered in conjunction with The Children's Foundation to deliver Baby Boxes to 232 families will be launched by the end of December 2024.

MMR clinics delivered over 400 MMR vaccines across Sunderland, South Tyneside and Durham area. Sunderland had the highest rate of uptake and all taking place in the hubs.

65 active volunteers are supporting a wide range of family hub and community activities.

5 Community Voice Panels have been set up across the city (one in each locality) to support and drive improvement of services within the Family Hubs and other TfC services.

ECONOMY AND PLACE: Residential Development – Land and Investment

Project/Programme	Project Details	Start Date	Completion/ full expenditure by
New Wear Pedestrian Footbridge	Open the New Wear Footbridge linking Vaux and Sheepfolds		Aug 25
Area Committee Quarterly Update			
On Track			