

COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE

Meeting to be held on Wednesday 24th June, 2020 at 6:00pm

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/DvTDn5OdcTs>

Membership

Cllrs Blackburn (Chairman), Cunningham, Heron (Vice Chairman), Johnston, Lawson, N. MacKnight, Rowntree, Speding, Thornton, Turner and G. Walker.

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1. (a) Chairman's Welcome;	-
(b) Apologies for Absence;	-
(c) Declarations of Interest; and	-
(d) Minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 18 th December, 2019 (copy attached).	1
2. Supporting Our Communities and Finalising Neighbourhood Investment Plans	11
(copy attached)	

ELAINE WAUGH

Assistant Director of Law and Governance

16th June, 2020

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

At a Meeting of the COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE held at ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH HALL, NEWBOTTLE on WEDNESDAY, 18TH DECEMBER, 2019 at 6.00 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor Lawson in the Chair

Councillors Blackburn, Heron, Johnston, N. MacKnight, Rowntree, Speding, Thornton, Turner and G. Walker

Also in Attendance:-

Chris Binding	Local Democracy Reporter	
Kevin Burns	Station Manager	Tyne and Wear Fire Service
Louise Butler	Area Co-ordinator	Sunderland City Council
Wendy Cook	Area Network Representative	Sunderland North Community Business Centre
Louise Garbutt		Member of the Public
Pauline Hopper	Area Community Development Lead, Coalfield	Sunderland City Council
Sam Humble	Head of Operations	Gentoo Group
Imogen Peck		Member of the Public
K. Rowham	Councillor	Hetton Town Council
Craig Sherriff	Sergeant	Northumbria Police
Christine Tilley	Community Governance Services Team Leader	Sunderland City Council

Chairman's Welcome and Introductions

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. She enquired if anyone intended to record the proceedings. No one indicated that they were intending to do so. Introductions were then made.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Cunningham, Ms Jill Colbert, Chief Executive of Together for Children and Director of Children's Services, Sunderland City Council, together with Ms Debbie Hall, Environmental Services Manager, Sunderland City Council and Mr Paul Finch, Ms Ellen Bewick and Ms Christine Willis, Area Network Representatives.

Declarations of Interest

Item 6 – Area Budgets Report

Councillor Blackburn made an open declaration as a member of the Friends of Hetton Lyons Country Park in respect of the application made from the organisation for funding from the Joint Health Funding. He left the meeting prior to any discussion on the project and took no part in any decision on funding.

Councillor Johnston made an open declaration as an employee at Houghton Sports Centre in respect of the Neighbourhood Fund applications for the Walking Football and Indoor Bowls projects detailed in Item 6. He left the meeting prior to any discussion on the projects and took no part in any decisions on funding.

Councillor Rowntree made an open declaration in relation to ELCAP Community Transport in respect of the Neighbourhood Fund application for Total Transport. Councillor Rowntree also made an open declaration in relation the Friends of Hetton Lyons Country Park in respect of the application for Joint Health Funding submitted by the organisation. She left the meeting prior to any discussion on the projects by these organisations and took no part in any decision on funding for the projects.

Councillor Speding made an open declaration as Chair of Durham County Football Association Ltd as a Partner organisation involved in the Walking Football Project. He left the meeting prior to any discussion on the project and took no part in any decision on funding for the project.

Councillor Thornton made an open declaration in relation to the Friends of Hetton Lyons Country Park in respect of the application for Joint Health Funding submitted by the organisation. She left the meeting prior to any discussion on the project by the organisation and took no part in any decision on funding for the project.

Councillor Turner made an open declaration in relation to Hetton New Dawn and as a member of the Friends of Hetton Lyons Country Park in respect of the applications for Joint Health Funding submitted by the organisations. She left the meeting prior to any discussion on the projects by these organisations and took no part in any decision on funding for the projects.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last ordinary meeting of the Committee held on 25th September, 2019 (copy circulated), be confirmed and signed as correct record.

Variation of Agenda

The Chairman proposed and it was agreed that the agenda be varied to allow the Gentoo Update to be provided to the Committee following the item on Resident Engagement and Neighbourhood Investment Plans as the Officer had another engagement and needed to leave the meeting.

Resident Engagement and Neighbourhood Investment Plans

The Assistant Director of Community Resilience submitted a report (copy circulated) to present to Elected Members an update on Resident Engagement 'Let's Talk Sunderland' and how the engagement was informing the development of the emerging Neighbourhood Investment Plans. The report also explained how the priorities within the Neighbourhood Investment Plans would be presented for approval by the Area Committee in March 2020.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms Pauline Hopper, Coalfield Area Community Development Lead, presented the report which informed of the activity to date in engaging residents under the 'Let's Talk Sunderland' campaign, the progress to date relating to the Neighbourhood Investment Plans and regarding development of the Area Committee priorities for 2020 and onwards.

Ms Hopper circulated an update detailing resident engagement and neighbourhood investment plan activities. She advised that the next step would be to discuss the Area Committee priorities, which would need to fit in with the City Plan priorities, at a joint meeting of the Coalfield Area People and Place Boards.

Ms Louise Butler, Area Co-ordinator, Sunderland City Council confirmed that the Area Committee priorities would need to be approved by Cabinet.

The Chairman thanked Ms Hopper and Ms Butler for all the work done on the Resident Engagement and commented that the Let's Talk event at the Bethany church had been very good. The Chairman also thanked Ms Cook for facilitating the event.

In response to Councillor Blackburn, Ms Hopper confirmed that there were 3 prizes of £50 available for participants in Let's Talk who were willing to provide their details and wanting to enter into the draw.

The Chairman having commented that it would be a good idea to have a joint meeting of the Coalfield Area People and Place Boards and full discussion having taken place on the report, it was:-

2. RESOLVED that:-

- i) the content of the report be received and noted; and
- ii) that the matter be referred to the Coalfield Area Place and People Boards for further discussions on how members would wish to support and monitor delivery of the Neighbourhood Investment Plan and arrangements be made for a joint meeting to take place in February 2020.

Partner Agency Reports – Gentoo Update

Ms Samantha Humble, Head of Operations, Gentoo provided an update for the Coalfield Area Committee from June 2019 to December 2019.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms Humble highlighted the change in opening hours of Gentoo local offices, the number of customers in receipt of Universal Credit and the impact of this on rent arrears and the anti-social behaviour taking place predominantly in the Hetton Road Estate and Penshaw areas.

Ms Humble also drew Members attention to the growing problem of fly tipping in the area.

In response to Councillors Speding and N. MacKnight, Ms Humble advised that Gentoo was linked in with the Council in terms of Equality procedures and that all of the characteristics were protected. Any tenants caught being racially abusive could end up being sanctioned or losing their tenancy.

In response to the Chairman, Ms Humble advised that tenants were informed when they were getting their windows replaced. They could also ring up Gentoo to check as there was a five year plan and staff would be able to advise when works were scheduled.

Ms Humble added that all boilers had been replaced and the next issue was replacement windows which were prioritised based on the survey and which would be undertaken over the next five years. Tenants were advised by letter of impending works and there was a Tenant Liaison Officer assigned to them.

The Chairman having thanked Ms Humble for her report it was:-

3. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

Place Board Progress Report

The Chair of the Place Board submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided an update of progress and performance against the current year's, 2019/20 Place Board Work Plan.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chair of the Place Board, Councillor Heron briefed the Committee on the report drawing attention to the work being carried out in relation to play areas and additional equipment or works such as inclusive equipment on some sites.

Councillor Heron drew attention to the next phase of My Space, Your Space underway with 15 primary schools across the Coalfield.

Councillor Heron also highlighted the project to improve road safety by the deployment of Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS). She advised that the signs would be located for three months at a time before being moved to another location.

Councillor Speding expressed concern that Councillors had suggested locations for the VAS based on local knowledge and yet if they did not meet the traffic survey criteria that they would not be located in these places, even though it was the Coalfield Area Committee which was paying for them from its budget. He commented that this would then have been a waste of his time in communicating and engaging with residents on the matter.

The Chairman, Councillor Lawson advised that she had made strong representations at a meeting of the Chairs of Areas Committees and of Place Boards to the effect that if Area Committees were providing the funding that Councillors needed to influence where the VAS were going.

Councillor Johnston commented that he was delighted to see that the improvements to play parks were going ahead and congratulated the Place Board.

Members of the Committee having considered the report; it was:-

4. RESOLVED that the progress and performance update with regard to the Coalfield Area Place Board's Work Plan for 2019/20 be received and noted and that the proposals for future delivery be approved.

People Board Progress Report

The Chair of the People Board submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided an update of progress and performance against the current year's, 2019/20 People Board Work Plan.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chair of the People Board, Councillor N. MacKnight briefed the Committee on the report drawing attention to the applications for CANDO funding which had been approved for pupils at Kepier school and girls from Eppleton Cricket Club.

The Chairman commented that there had been a lot of interest on the Coalfield Facebook page about women's cricket as a result of the article on the girls from Eppleton Cricket Club.

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

5. RESOLVED that the progress and performance update with regard to the Coalfield Area People Board's Work Plan for 2019/20 be received and noted and that the proposals for future delivery be approved.

Partner Agency Reports – Coalfield Area Voluntary and Community Sector Network Update

Ms Wendy Cook, Mr Paul Finch, Ms Eileen Bewick and Ms Christine Willis, Area Network Representatives submitted a joint report (copy circulated), providing an update with regard to the Coalfield Area Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Network.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms Wendy Cook, Area Network Representative briefed the Committee on the report highlighting the Carers Centre project, the appointment of two new VCS representatives in Eileen and Christine and the briefing provided on the Neighbourhood Plans and Let's Talk Sunderland.

Ms Cook also drew Members' attention to the Food Bank Christmas Collection.

The Chairman asked that the thanks of the Area Committee be passed on to all Groups for their work in the Coalfield Area.

6. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

Partner Agency Reports – Northumbria Police Update

Sergeant Craig Sherriff, Northumbria Police reported that since 1st October there had been 59 reported burglaries in the Coalfield Area whereas in the previous year there had been 71 which was a decrease of 17%. There were no specific areas being targeted and there was now a dedicated burglary team. There had been prolific burglars charged and arrested hence the decrease in incidents.

There had been 258 incidents of Antisocial behaviour as opposed to 185 the previous year, Houghton Feast and Bonfire Night being specific events when these had occurred.

There had been pop up PACT meetings to address the incidents occurring in Hetton the last few months.

Sergeant Sherriff briefed the Committee on an operation where a special motorcycle theft task force had arrested 5 people and advised that people could call in incidents to the Neighbourhood Teams or use the dedicated email address.

Sergeant Sherriff advised that with regards to the Force Operating model, resourcing had been an issue for the last couple of years as there had been 1 team. However, since 4 November there were 2 strands and a second Neighbourhood Team had been set up and there was now 1 sergeant, 4 PCs and 3 CSOs. As a result, there had been a significant increase in Officers in the Houghton area using Houghton Police station as a base and they were starting to see positive results in the area. Response times in the area had also improved.

In response to Councillor MacKnight, Sergeant Sherriff confirmed that the Neighbourhood Teams operated from Houghton Police Station and that they had laptops and phones in the vehicles and that this was allowing more Officers to be on the street where they were needed. Sergeant Sherriff added that the Dog Patrol and Road Safety Team also operated out of Houghton Police Station.

In response to Councillor Rowham, Sergeant Sherriff advised that there were provisions around face covering in relation to riots. There was also provision to put in place a dispersal order if there was specific antisocial behaviour taking place to allow the Police to get in and ask people to leave an area. The minimum level of cover was 4 plus 3 in a team. At key times leave was stopped.

The Chairman thanked Sergeant Sherriff for his report and it was:-

7. RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Partner Agency Reports – Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service Update

Station Manager Kevin Burns, Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service (TWFRS) submitted a report (copy circulated), providing Performance Monitoring details in relation to the Local Indicators for the Coalfield Area Committee area from 1st September, 2019 to 30th November, 2019 compared with the same period in 2018.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr Burns presented the report and highlighted that there had been no deaths recorded during the reporting period. He drew Members attention to the figures set out relating to deliberate primary road vehicle fires which had increased from 9 to 24 and where Copt Hill and Hetton wards were the highest. Mr Burns also highlighted the number of deliberate fires incorporating secondary fires which had increased by 68% in the area.

Councillor Rowntree commented on the importance of keeping Councillors informed of the issues so as they were able to communicate with residents.

Y:\Governance\Committee\Holding files for email reports etc\Coalfields Area\2020-2021\20.06.24\Word Docs\Item 1d - Minutes of the Last Meeting.doc

Mr Burns advised that he would pick this up with the Coalfield Area Committee Area Officers.

Councillor Speding referred to the complaints he had received regarding the sporadic letting-off of fireworks, particularly from older people who were more concerned and enquired whether there was anything that could be done about this with the Christmas and New Year celebrations coming.

Sergeant Craig Sherriff, Northumbria Police advised that there were laws against setting fireworks off near roads and the times at night they could be set off. There were also offences in relation to throwing fireworks and the Police were available to speak to people about this and could be called if anyone was committing an offence.

Mr Burns added that retailers needed to be licensed to sell fireworks. If there was an issue as to where people had bought the fireworks from this could be followed up.

In response to the Chairman, Mr Burns confirmed that the Fire Service still carried out home safety inspections and targeted specific areas where there had been incidents. He confirmed that residents were able to give them a call and they would come out to anyone in the community but particularly those who were vulnerable and predominantly the elderly living on their own.

Councillor Thornton referred to wheelie bin fires and to the fact that residents had to pay to replace them and whether there was anything available which they could use to secure the wheelie bin.

Mr Burns reported that if residents secured the bin to their property it might cause problems as if it was set alight it would damage the property also. He therefore advised against this. Residents needed to keep the bin safe and secure and report any incidents.

The Chairman thanked Mr Burns for his report and it was:-

8. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

Area Budgets Report

The Assistant Director of Community Resilience, Neighbourhoods submitted a report (copy circulated), providing a financial statement as an update position on progress in relation to allocating Neighbourhood Fund and Community Chest and presenting proposals for further funding requests.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms Pauline Hopper, Coalfield Area Community Development Lead, presented the report drawing the Committee's attention to the financial position as set out in paragraph 2.1, which showed a Neighbourhood Fund balance of £154,832 for 2019/2020.

Ms Hopper referred to paragraph 2.2 which reported that there were 6 projects recommended for approval from the Neighbourhood Fund and that should all applications be approved the remaining balance of Neighbourhood Fund would be £108,231.

Ms Hopper referred the Committee to paragraph 2.3 of the report which advised that following allocation of Neighbourhood Fund budget at the September Area Committee meeting, the application for the Coalfield Youth Project had been reviewed by the People Board and recommended for approval.

Ms Hopper referred the Committee to the Joint Health Funding, set out in the table at paragraph 3, of £90,000 and to the 10 projects recommended for approval from this budget set out at paragraph 3.2. She advised that should all applications be approved the remaining balance of the Joint Health Budget would be £11,162.

Ms Hopper referred the Committee to the Community Chest Ward information set out in the table at paragraph 4.

Consideration having been given to the report it was:-

9. RESOLVED that:-

- a) the financial statements set out in sections 2.1, 3.1 and 4.1 of the report be noted;
- b) the 6 projects recommended for approval from the Neighbourhood Fund as set out below and detailed in Annex 1 be approved:-

Total Transport	ELCAP Community Transport	£12,376
Walking Football	Houghton Sports and Wellness	£4,998
Indoor Bowls	Houghton Sports and Wellness	£4,998
Grass Cutter	Eppleton Cricket Club	£14,280
Flowers in Homes Ph2	MBC Wellbeing CIC	£4,950
Great Gatherings	ShARP	£4,999

- c) the Coalfield Youth Project recommended for approval from previously allocated Neighbourhood Fund budget as detailed in Annex 2; be approved;
- d) the 10 projects recommended for approval from the Joint Health Funding budget, as set out below and detailed in Annex 3 be approved:-

Coalfield Community Wellbeing	MBC Wellbeing	£19,250
Social Activity Navigator	B Active N B Fit	£20,000
Fit and Active Lyons	Friends of Hetton Lyons CP	£7,348
All Weather Workout	Easington Lane Primary School	£4,900
Targets and Stands	Houghton Archers	£4,999
I Believe in Me	Positive Living Company	£4,999
Feel Good Friday Wellbeing	St Aidan's Community Group	£4,940
Our Park is Your Park	Groundwork North East	£3,555
Craftastic	Hetton New Dawn	£4,280
Down at the Pit	Springboard	£4,567

and

- e) the 11 Community Chest approvals supported from 2019/2020 Community Chest as set out in Annex 4, be approved.

Current Planning Applications (Coalfields Area)

A schedule (copy circulated) of current planning applications lodged during the period 1st and 30th November, 2019 was submitted for Members' information only.

(For copy schedule – see original minutes).

10. RESOLVED that the schedule be received and noted.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance, wished them the compliments of the season and closed the meeting.

(Signed) A. LAWSON,

Chairman.

24 June 2020

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOODS & CABINET MEMBER
COMMUNITIES AND CULTURE**

**SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITIES AND FINALISING NEIGHBOURHOOD INVESTMENT
PLANS**

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To advise Coalfield Area Committee of the next steps, following Cabinet Approval in March 2020 of the Article 10, area Neighbourhood Investment Plans, taking into consideration the additional priorities required to support Sunderland through to recovery post COVID-19.

2. Background – area Neighbourhood Investment Plans

- 2.1 The Council's constitution states that Area Committees will lead the delivery of local area plans (now known as Neighbourhood Investment Plans), which include the main priority themes for improvement of the area, following approval by the Cabinet. The five area Neighbourhood Investment Plans (North, Coalfield, East, West, Washington) are Article 10 plans.
- 2.2 The area Neighbourhood Investment Plans, were approved by Cabinet on 24th March 2020, and will now be directly aligned with the Area Committee priorities and delivery plans moving forward. The plans are also aligned to the City Plan. The plans focus on capital improvements and investments as well as service/neighbourhood solutions.
- 2.3 As previously agreed, residents, elected members and partners will be able to easily track progress via the Neighbourhood Investment Delivery Plan Activity Tracker, which will be available on the Council's website. This tracking facility will enable everyone to be aware of the action taken and developments / investments within their local neighbourhood.
- 2.4 Through the delivery of the Neighbourhood Investment Plans, alongside a bespoke and intensive communications campaign, Sunderland has a real opportunity to transform its Neighbourhoods, developing a joint pledge alongside communities and partners to regenerate and create more resilient communities and to influence and enable positive community behaviours. Area Committees will continue to be at the heart of this transformation journey.

3. COVID-19

- 3.1 As we commenced a new year, 2020, no-one could have anticipated the impact the Coronavirus (COVID-19) would have across the world. The COVID-19 pandemic was like no other ever experienced in our lifetime, however the British people came together as they always do during a crisis. On Monday 23rd March 2020, the Prime Minister declared to the nation that we must work together, stay at home to stay safe and protect the NHS.
- 3.2 From Tuesday 24th March onwards, our communities mobilised themselves like never before, looking out for each other and working together to support our most vulnerable.

- 3.3 Elected Members, alongside officers from across the Council, key partners and our Voluntary and Community Sector quickly and pragmatically established Area Community Hubs. These hubs coordinated supported to our residents, ringing them to check on their welfare if they were shielded, knocking on their door if we were unable to contact them by phone. A leaflet was posted through the letter box of every household, advising residents how to ask for help and also how to offer their help and support.
- 3.4 Area Committees were kept up to date on delivery of the Community Hubs via a weekly briefing (Annex 1). The weekly performance monitoring enabled the Community Resilience service to ensure it was supporting residents most in need and mobilising resources as required. The partnership working within the community hubs between the Area Arrangements Service, Customer Service Network, Voluntary and Community Sector Network, GP Alliance, Sunderland Care and Support, Together for Children, Sunderland CCG, Sunderland Public Health, Gentoo, Northumbria Police, Pharmacy network and Foodbanks and Welfare Rights, enabled each of the partners to maximise their resources efficiently for the benefit of all residents.
- 3.5 Staff from within the hubs communicated every day using telephone conferencing facilities as well as email and Microsoft Teams. Volunteers were coordinated through the Council's Volunteer Platform; residents initial contact was managed through the Customer Service Network and resources allocated throughout the city by the Area Arrangements Team alongside their Voluntary and Community Sector network partners.
- 3.6 The majority of the Voluntary and Community Sector were pragmatic and dynamic, mobilising themselves immediately to support communities. Area Committee may wish to consider how it will show its gratitude to the sector as the city moves forward into recovery. The sector was supported with small grants from the Council both as part of the Council response and also through some Community Chest grants. Through the regular dialogue with the sector we are aware that many organisations are under financial pressure for a range of reasons including loss of income from activities. The Council introduced a Local Support Scheme to offer funding to those organisations who were unable to access support through national arrangements and will continue to maintain contact with organisations to understand their future position.

4. Resident Engagement

- 4.1 Understanding the views of residents was vital to inform the development of the Neighbourhood Investment Plans. In September 2019, Sunderland Council launched the Let's Talk Sunderland Engagement Strategy, demonstrating its commitment to strengthen, consistently, engagement with residents – the strategy has been adopted for all resident engagement undertaken by the Council moving forward. It was first used for the resident engagement required to develop the Neighbourhood Investment Plans.
- 4.2 The brand 'Let's Talk Sunderland' was used to promote the Neighbourhood Investment Plan consultation as widely as possible across the city, offering the opportunity for all residents to get involved and share their views. This was the first-time resident engagement of this magnitude had been arranged by the Council. The consultation was undertaken alongside focused and themed consultation in relation to health, housing, young people, neighbourhood solutions, investment, crime and anti-social behaviour.
- 4.3 The detailed breakdown of the resident consultation undertaken at an area / neighbourhood level, supported by partners including the voluntary and community sector and elected members directly informed the Neighbourhood Investment Plans.

- 4.4 It is proposed to undertake further resident engagement, as we move through the recovery phase for COVID-19. This resident engagement will enable the Council and its partners to speak with residents about how they are feeling, where they believe the key priorities now fit and how we can move forward as a city, at a neighbourhood level, to re-build Sunderland's resilient communities for the future. It is important to note that this will not be a lengthy consultation and will be completed using information and contacts we already have in place and through social media.
- 4.5 Each of the area Community Hubs has developed a significant resident database through its community delivery work and it is therefore possible to utilise this database to make further contact with residents. The staff, across all partners, including the voluntary and community sector aim to speak to all residents they have supported, to ask them the following four questions:
- What do you believe is the number one priority for Sunderland to support its residents, post COVID-19?
 - How can we enable residents to feel safe and to improve their overall health and wellbeing?
 - Prior to the pandemic Sunderland had engaged with residents to establish investment plans, those plans included cleaning up neighbourhoods, improving health and wellbeing and strengthening the voluntary and community sector – do you believe these priorities are still important?
 - Would you like to support your neighbourhood by volunteering (or continuing to volunteer)?
- 4.6 These questions will be asked during community hub resident telephone calls and door knocks which are taking place daily, therefore additional resources will not be required. They will also be asked directly to those residents who participated in the previous engagement and provided their contact details. The consultation will also be available on line via social media using both the Council and Area Facebook Pages and the Council's website. The consultation will continue to be branded Let's Talk Sunderland.

5. Coalfield Neighbourhood Investment Plan - Themes

- 5.1 Following approval of the Neighbourhood Investment Plans by Cabinet on 24th March 2020, the main themes for the Coalfield Neighbourhood Investment Plan are as follows, as requested by the residents from the area:
- People are struggling due to Universal Credit – food banks etc..digital skills support
 - Need to raise aspirations for the future
 - Limited access to technology and need better wi-fi access for all
 - Need to raise standards in homes and create more affordable homes
 - Too many empty properties and rogue landlords are bringing neighbourhoods down
 - ASB an issue in some neighbourhoods
 - Parking issues and speeding traffic within neighbourhoods
 - People are concerned about litter and waste – effects on environment
 - Residents value their parks but think they could be improved and used more

- Love where you live campaign – led by children and young people
- Deep clean areas specifically within Neighbourhoods including removal of graffiti improving feelings of safety
- Support for Mental Health issues
- More activities and spaces for young people to be together and feel safe
- More local events and activities
- Neighbourhood Watch type schemes should be explored
- People want to get involved and help in neighbourhoods – make volunteering more accessible
- Protect our heritage and use heritage to bring communities together
- Support local community centres and voluntary organisations

5.2 Delivery of the priorities and tracking achievement of outcomes, informing residents and partners, over the coming years, will be crucial to maintain the momentum secured through the resident engagement undertaken to develop the plans.

5.3 However, it is vital that first we take the opportunity to engage with residents, as highlighted within item 4 within this report, to ensure these priorities are still fit for purpose moving forward and that the Neighbourhood Investment Plans strengthen communities and the sector and make our residents even more resilient.

6. Neighbourhood Investment – Detailed Delivery Plans and Activity Tracker

6.1 Following the additional resident consultation throughout May/June, Neighbourhood Investment Delivery Plans will be finalised. The delivery plans will include the following and will be presented at an extraordinary Area Committee in early July 2020:

- Investments (capital & revenue) to address issues raised through resident consultation
- Service solutions to address issues raised through resident consultation
- Large-scale investments including leisure and housing
- External funding opportunities
- Cultural services and activities
- Highways Infrastructure
- Environmental Services and low carbon commitments
- Community offer and capacity
- Health and Wellbeing
- Digital Neighbourhoods
- Jobs and skills growth
- Financial wellbeing

6.2 Residents clearly stated during the Let's Talk consultation that they wanted to know more about what the Council was doing within neighbourhoods on a day to day basis. The Neighbourhood Investment Delivery Plans must therefore be available to view via the Council's website. Residents will be able to track delivery of priorities as well as investment within the neighbourhoods from across Council services. This tracking facility will not only keep residents informed but also enable them to see where they could also get involved to support community efforts or projects.

7. Area Community Hubs

7.1 As identified earlier the Area Community Hubs have been hugely successful in delivering the response to COVID-19 and particularly in relation to working with partners

and more specifically working with VCS. We will ensure we capture the positives of this approach and strengthen this in our future delivery arrangements to enable the Neighbourhood Investment Plan Delivery Plans to be delivered efficiently for the benefit of all partners and residents.

- 7.2 The residents of Sunderland must also play their part – just as they have done over the last few months. The community spirit across our neighbourhoods, which kept the city going during the pandemic's darkest days, will strengthen the outcomes of the Neighbourhood Investment plans - residents must be able to support as well as inform delivery.

8. Recommendations

- 8.1 Note the contents of the report and acknowledge the work undertaken through the Area Community Hubs to support residents during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 8.2 Agree to support further resident consultation to finalise the detailed priorities for the Coalfield Neighbourhood Investment Delivery Plan, which will be presented to Community / Neighbourhood Boards prior to early July 2020 extraordinary Area Committee.

Coalfield

Covid 19 - Area Community Virtual Hub Weekly Partner Performance report

25-31 May 2020



Partners working collaboratively:

Sunderland City Council – Area Arrangements, Customer Service Network, Welfare Rights and Foodbanks, Council Tax, Enforcement and Environmental Services; GP Alliance, Northumbria Police, Gentoo, Voluntary and Community Sector Network



409

Number of calls received into the Covid 19 Campaign Line
FROM SUNDERLAND RESIDENTS
(including referrals from partners including GP Alliance, Gentoo etc)



2

Number of contacts received into the Covid 19 hubs via the Council website and online form,
FROM COALFIELD RESIDENTS
(including referrals from partners including GP Alliance, Gentoo etc)



172

Number of volunteers registered on Covid 19 Volunteer Platform for **COALFIELD**. All Volunteers received a thank you email from the Council, thanking them for their continued hard work and efforts. The email was well received with many volunteers keen to support in their community longer-term.



227

Number of residents receiving support from volunteers within **COALFIELD** via the Covid 19 volunteer platform



5,490

Number of residents receiving Council Tax support across **COALFIELD**



0

Vulnerable people in **COALFIELD** required additional Adult Social Care support as routine contact effective



2

Adult Social Care Parcels required on out of hours across **COALFIELD**



394

residents across **COALFIELD**, have received a door knock (welfare or shielded residents) as we were unable to contact them via telephone

Number of Community and Voluntary Organisations supporting Covid 19 activities across COALFIELD

- ELCAP
- B Active N B Fit
- ShARP
- St John's, Shiney Row
- Space 4
- Hetton New Dawn
- Loaves and Fishes
- Bethany Centre
- SNCBC
- Age UK
- Gentoo
- Houghton MDT (GP Alliance)
- Big Local
- Fencehouses Residents' Group
- Wearside Women in Need
- Springboard

Summary of support delivery across the COALFIELD area

- A total of 227 residents are registered for support
- Keep in touch calls to check all is going ok and any further support required have been made to 61 people being supported, and 24 volunteers
- There are 172 volunteers from the Coalfield area registered – 71 of these residents are actively volunteering
- This week 70 local people have received shopping support. 15 residents previously receiving this support are now managing without the support either via online shopping or by going out themselves

Crisis support referrals and welfare rights activity: council services

Our Customer Service Network (CSN) are taking calls for Crisis Support and where possible they are referring customers to a range of local foodbanks – based on where the customer lives.

The majority of CSN referrals though are made to Sunderland Foodbank (SFB) and their 8 distribution points.

Referrals to Foodbanks are made for people in financial crisis and who lack the money to buy food rather than

for those that are self-isolating etc.

CSN stopped issuing food cards and started to refer eligible customers to the foodbanks from 27 March 2020, when the CSN office closed to the public. For people unable to leave their homes to shop/use a foodbank voucher (and in financial crisis) food parcels are delivered by council staff. However, food cards can still be issued where appropriate.



0

Number of Food Cards issued between 26 May and 29 May (value of £0)



25

Number of Food Parcels issued between 26 May and 29 May which have fed over 35 people – this also includes some shielded cases



20

Number of CSN referrals between 26 May and 31 May to our partner foodbanks



29

Number of people referred between 26 May and 29 May to the Welfare Rights Service for a full welfare check

Foodbank referrals and usage

As reported previously the council has received detailed information from Sunderland Foodbank (SFB) for about 2 years in terms of demand and activity, SFB includes 8 separate distribution points.

Both SFB and Salvation Army normally provide the majority of their help in North, East and West areas although SFB do cover all wards.

There were 8 less parcels and 1 less people fed compared to the week before (across all the foodbanks that provide figures).

- Salvation Army have moved to new recording/reporting system and are still finding it difficult to confirm figures accurately -including quantifying the number of people being fed by the parcels they have supplied

The situation is being closely monitored however and the council is still heavily involved in providing (if required) additional support to foodbanks to enable them to continue to help people in financial crisis as well as those who are self-isolating. This support has ranged from significant volunteer support at Sunderland Foodbank and assisting with stock issues for a number of other foodbanks

Area	Number of parcels	Number of people fed
Coalfield	39	92
Sunderland East, North and West combined	123	187
Washington	18	32

Public Protection and Regulatory Services city-wide update 29 May 2020

51	Total no of requests	8	No of referrals to other agencies (inc other councils and HSE)
40	No of complaints from the public		
0	No of complaints from employees of businesses	0	No of premises are being monitored
46	No of businesses have been advised on business closure/social distancing requirements	0	No of prohibition notices
11	No of visits to premises have been made		

Enforcement Actions taken across Sunderland for the period 25-31 May 2020

To date the following investigations/actions have been undertaken by the Community Resilience Team.		5	Section 46 Notices issued in relation to mis-presentation of residual waste
49	ASB/Noise new cases	1	Written warning
197	Request for service relating to dumping of waste (quantity of a small van loads and above), which have all been investigated and removed	2	Fixed Penalty Notices
		7	High risk victims supported
12	Fly-tipping incidents in which evidence/ witness information was retrieved and referred for investigation	1	Wellbeing referral