

## COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE

### AGENDA

**Meeting to be held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2022 at 6:00pm**

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

### Membership

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

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1.	(a) <b>Chairman's Welcome and Introductions;</b>	-
	(b) <b>Apologies for Absence;</b>	-
	(c) <b>Declarations of Interest; and</b>	-
	(d) <b>Minutes of the last ordinary meeting of the Committee held on 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2022 (copy attached).</b>	1
2.	<b>Neighbourhood and Community Board Report</b>	7
	(copy attached).	
3.	<b>Partner Reports</b>	
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	(copy attached).	

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 Pauline Hopper, Coalfield Area Community Development Lead  
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Information contained in this agenda can be made available in other languages and formats on request.

5. **For Information Only and Not Discussion - Current  
Planning Applications (Coalfield)**

55

(copy attached).

\* Denotes an item relating to an executive function

**ELAINE WAUGH**

**Assistant Director of Law and Governance**

**5<sup>th</sup> December, 2022**

**At a meeting of the COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE held in the Council Chamber at City Hall, Sunderland on WEDNESDAY 28<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2022 at 6.00 p.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor Blackburn in the Chair

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

**Also Present:-**

Chris Binding	Local Democracy Reporter	
Jill Colbert	Chief Executive	Together for Children
Wendy Cook	Area Network Representative	Sunderland North Community Business Centre
Bob Heron	Member of the Public	
Pauline Hopper	Area Community Development Lead, Coalfield	Sunderland City Council
Matthew Jackson	Principal Governance Services Officer	Sunderland City Council
Bill Little	Councillor	Hetton Town Council
Andrew Nelson	Station Manager	Tyne and Wear Fire Service
Steve Passey	Inspector	Northumbria Police
Sandra Stephenson	VCS Community Support Officer	
Amy Watson	Area Network Representative	
Beth Wilkie	Head of Neighbourhoods	Gentoo

**Chairman's Welcome and Introductions**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Coalfield Area Committee meeting and in particular Councillor Dodds who was attending her first meeting after being re-elected in the Copt Hill Ward By-Election. He also congratulated Jill Colbert on her receipt of her OBE.

The Houghton Brass Band were in attendance and played a short set to the Committee; they had received a grant from the Committee which had allowed them to take part in a

competition; following playing the band leader thanked the Committee for the grant, without it they would not have been able to compete in the competition.

### **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Rowntree and Speding.

### **Declarations of Interest**

The following declarations were received:-

Item 4 – Area Budgets Report

Councillor D. Snowdon declared that he was an employee of SHARP and withdrew from the meeting during the consideration of the applications for SHARP.

### **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2022 (copy circulated), be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

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

The Chair of the Coalfield Neighbourhood and Community Board submitted a report (copy circulated), which provided an update on the progress against the Area Priorities associated with the Delivery Plan, which would be the focus for the Coalfield Area Committee during 2022-23.

The report also provided an update on Neighbourhood and Community Board Governance Arrangements for 2022-2023.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chair of the Coalfield Neighbourhood and Community Board, Councillor Heron presented the report and highlighted the projects contained within the delivery plan. The Chair thanked all the Officers supporting the Area Committee.

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

2. RESOLVED that the progress and performance update regarding the Coalfield Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020/23 be noted and the proposals for future delivery as contained within Annex 1, be approved;

### **Northumbria Police Update**

Inspector Passey, Northumbria Police provided an update to the Committee (copy circulated), giving an overview of crime in the Coalfield area in relation to burglary, criminal damage, anti-social behaviour and motorcycle disorder.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Inspector Passey informed the Committee that ASB had increased 15% since the last Area Committee; an increase was expected during the summer months however this had been less than expected ASB was down 7% compared with last summer. ASB had formed part of the Summer Planning which had seen increased patrols. The hotspots were currently Easington Lane, Houghton and Shiney Row.

Motorcycle disorder had increased by 22% compared with the last reporting period. An increase was expected during the summer but was less than anticipated being down 14% compared with last summer. There had been bespoke operations which had resulted in the seizure of numerous motorcycles and the prosecution of several offenders.

Burglary rates had decreased by 20%; this was an 18% reduction in residential burglaries and 28% reduction in commercial burglaries.

The Halo Team was continuing to go from strength to strength and engagement with the project was better than ever. Safer Street funding in excess of £250,000 had been secured including £50,000 for a new CCTV network. The project had been nominated for a Pride in Policing Award for the problem solving work as part of Operation Tiama. Operation Ebony had been launched in Easington Lane which had taken inspiration from HALO; engagement with partners had been positive.

Councillor Scott welcomed the report; it was good to see the results of the HALO project and he understood that there had been successes around the theft of lead. Inspector Passey advised that he would get the figures relating to lead thefts. Operation Tiama had included lead thefts and the offenders were often the same as those who committed burglaries. There had been reductions seen in all types of thefts.

Councillor Burrell asked whether the increased cost of living was expected to lead to an increase in crime. Inspector Passey stated that there was an increase in acquisitive crime including burglaries however over the last two weeks there had been no recorded burglaries in the Hetton Ward.

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

3. RESOLVED that the update be received and noted.

### **Tyne and Wear Fire Service Update**

Station Manager Andrew Nelson, 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 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 to 16<sup>th</sup> September 2022 compared with the same period the previous year.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

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

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

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

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

(For copy report – see original minutes).

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

Ms Watson advised that meetings had been held in June, July and September and the report detailed the presentations received at these meetings. An update was also provided on the progress made in moving the VCS Alliance to be independent of the Council as a Charity or Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

In response to Councillor Burrell, Ms Watson advised that the situation with foodbanks was being monitored and it would be an issue if people could not afford to donate to the foodbanks.

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

5. RESOLVED that the update be received and noted.

### **Gentoo Update**

Gentoo submitted a report (copy circulated) providing an update on their work from March 2022 to June 2022.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

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

Councillor Heron commented that she had seen mention of developing community allotments; she advised that there were two in the Coalfield area in the Hetton and Houghton Wards.

Councillor Thornton asked whether information could be provided relating to when the Bread and Butter Thing would be available. Ms Wilkie agreed to provide this information.

Councillor Scott welcomed the work done on the Peabody report to ensure that such failings could not happen here. He also referred to the cost of living crisis and that there was a need to ensure that homes were up to standard; there were houses in the area which only had single glazed windows. Ms Wilkie advised that there was a programme of window replacements and that if there were specific residents who needed upgrades doing then Members could contact her with the details.

The Chair queried whether the Bread and Butter Thing was open only to gentoo residents or to all. Ms Wilkie advised that she would need to check but she believed that it was a referral system; Ms Hopper added that there had been a meeting with Gentoo on this and that the Council was looking to get involved, there was a need to expand the project.

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

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

### **Coalfield Area Budget Report**

The Assistant Director of Community Resilience, Neighbourhoods submitted a report (copy circulated), providing a financial statement as an updated position on progress in relation to allocating Area Committee Neighbourhood Funding, Neighbourhood Investment Plan Capital Programme and Community Chest and 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 current financial position of the Area Committee Neighbourhood Fund 2022/2023 as set out in paragraph 2.1, the Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme 2020 – 2023 in paragraph 3.1 and the Community Chest approvals in paragraph 4.1.

Ms Hopper briefed the Committee on the applications for funding set out in paragraphs 2.3 and 2.4 explaining the budgetary implications set out in paragraph 2.5. She also referred Members to paragraph 3.4 detailing two applications for funding from the Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme.

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

7. RESOLVED that:-
- (a) the financial statements set out in sections 2.1, 3.1 and 4.1, be noted;
  - (b) the two Neighbourhood Fund application from the 2022/23 budget set out in Section 2.3 and at Annex 1, be approved;
  - (c) Alignment of £200,000 Neighbourhood Fund (£50,000 per ward) to address the priority 'Support and Activities for Children and Young People' set out in Section 4 be approved;
  - (d) the two Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme applications set out in 3.4 and Annex 4, be approved; and

- (e) the Community Chest approvals supported from 2022/2023, as detailed in Annex 3, be noted.

**Current Planning Applications (Coalfields Area)**

A schedule (copy circulated) of current planning applications lodged during the period 1<sup>st</sup> August and 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2022 was submitted for Members' information only.

(For copy schedule – see original minutes).

8. RESOLVED that the schedule be received and noted.

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

(Signed) J. BLACKBURN,  
Chairman.



**14 December 2022**

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

**Coalfield Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020-2023**

**1. Purpose of Report**

**1.1 This report:-**

- a. Provides an update of progress against the Area Priorities associated with the Delivery Plan, which will be the focus for the Coalfield Area Committee during 2022-2023.
- b. Provides an update on Neighbourhood and Community Board Governance Arrangements for 2022 -2023.

**2. Background**

- 2.1** Following the approval of the Neighbourhood Investment Plans in March 2020, the Coalfield Area Committee has worked together to finalise their Delivery Plans. All priorities have been determined following significant resident consultation via Let's Talk Sunderland.

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

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

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

- 3.2** The Article 10 Neighbourhood Investment Plans were approved at Cabinet in March 2020.

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

- 3.4** The Neighbourhood and Community Board will be Chaired by the Vice-Chair of the Area Committee. Neighbourhood and Community Board meetings will be held in July, November, February and April and dates are included in the council diary. If required, the Board may convene a further meeting(s) should there be a business need to do so and essential to ensuring delivery of the Area Neighbourhood Investment Plan Delivery Plan. All Committee members are invited to attend all board meetings.

- 3.5** Members will work alongside key officers in what will be practical action orientated groups. It should be noted that the Board is not a decision-making body, and the work / recommendations of the Board will be presented to the Area Committee for final endorsement. The Area Committee Chair and Vice-Chair were agreed at Annual Council in May 2022.

#### 4. Neighbourhood Investment Delivery Plan 2020-2023- Areas of Key Action/Progress

4.1 Outlined below is a summary of the key areas of action/progress of the Board up to November 2022. Further updates are contained in Annex 1, Coalfield Area Committee Delivery Plan

Priority/Issue	Update
Digital Learning Resources	<p>Following approval at the September 2022 Area Committee, two Neighbourhood Funded projects being delivered across the area will continue until March 2024. Springboard, in partnership with ShARP will provide a much needed Universal Credit (UC) support service to assist residents who are applying for, or managing, their Universal Credit benefit, including job searches and maximising of income.</p> <p>Springboard will also continue delivery of the 'Communities Connected' project in four local venues across the Coalfield area, supporting residents to get online and access services. Venues are being reviewed to ensure that the best reach across all wards is being made, and that services are accessible to people where they are most needed.</p>
Parks and Play Areas	<p>Further work has taken place at <b>Houghton Rectory Park</b> and a phased programme of work including installation of new seats and benches, improvements to the play area and new signage will be implemented between February and April 2023</p> <p>Following approval of £35,000 Neighbourhood Capital Investment Programme funding at the June 2022 Area Committee, match funding has now been identified to carry out a programme of works at Old Durham Road fixed play site. Work will be carried out in the Spring of 2023.</p>
Open spaces, walking and cycling routes	<p>The Stephenson Trail project continues to be delivered in two phases. The educational and cultural phase and the environmental improvements phase. Working with Councillors, Council Officers and partners, improvements to the trail are ongoing to encourage people to use and celebrate the Stephenson Trail which follows the route of the former Hetton Colliery Railway. A presentation from our Key Partners, Cultural Spring, will be given to identify some of the outcomes, to date, of the project.</p>
Provide Support to the Voluntary and Community Sector	<p>The <b>Voluntary and Community Sector Network</b>, Chaired by the Vice Chair of Area Committee, continues to meet monthly to share information and give support to local organisations across the area. The development of the <b>Voluntary Sector Alliance (VSA)</b> is progressing and continues to develop and grow. The VSA is now in the process of registering as an independent organisation and developing models of governance for its future operations. The Community Support Worker for the Coalfield area is available to support local groups with funding, governance, training etc...</p> <p>Additional funding via Public Health has been identified to provide grants to local VCS organisations who have buildings in the community which can be identified as '<b>warm spaces</b>' where</p>

	<p>residents can go to socialise and obtain advice and support during the winter period. There are now 15 warm spaces across the Coalfield area, each providing a range of activities and support to local residents. Coalfield Sunderland Councillors have offered to provide further funding to these 15 organisations via Community Chest.</p>
Improve Local Greenspaces	<p>The Neighbourhood Funded Clean it Green it project delivered by Springboard is implementing a series of clean up events and educational programmes across each ward in the Coalfield area. The project manager is now in post and will be developing an action plan to tackle priority areas in each ward. Working with Local Services colleagues, the project is designed to support and complement mainstream environmental works by carrying out community engagement and activity in identified areas.</p>
Support for children and young people	<p><b>The Coalfield Youthie Project</b>, funded via Neighbourhood Fund, currently delivered by Community Opportunities in each of the four wards, provides at least two youth sessions per ward per week at a variety of indoor and outdoor venues, appropriate to the needs of the young people.</p> <p>During the last quarter July – September 2022, 338 individual young people accessed youth services/activities in the Coalfields locality area, with an engagement of 1020 engagements in this quarter. During the summer period, one session of youth work was delivered per week in each ward through HAF funds matched into the wider Coalfields Youth delivery.</p> <p>All sessions provide young people with a safe space to meet, and all sessions delivered have appropriate measures in place to minimize exposure to Covid-19. Young people have been provided with a small card detailing how to contact the youth staff if they are struggling and need someone to talk to and they know that they can contact a member of the youth team through private message on social media (Facebook and Messenger), What's App and telephone.</p> <p>Community Opportunities youth staff continue to deliver informal education through issue-based workshops in sessions on a range of topics including – how to keep yourself safe, family relationships, school, bullying, friendships, peer pressure, health and well-being, risk taking behaviour etc.</p> <p>With the above project due to end in March 2023, a call for projects has been made to deliver ward based programmes from April 2023, further information is contained in <b>Item 4 Area Budget report</b>.</p> <p>The <b>CHAT</b> programme was designed to provide physical activity opportunities to teenage young people. The programme delivered by 5 organisations has delivered over 250 sessions and engaged with around 800 different individuals over the course of the past 12 months. Some elements of project delivery are now complete, with the remaining sessions currently being delivered during this quarter.</p>

	<p><b>Holiday Activities</b> funded via Neighbourhood Fund were provided by 10 organisations during the summer and October 2022 holidays. Neighbourhood Fund provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over 50 sessions delivered</li> <li>• Engaged 300 children and young people in activities ranging from cooking, crafts, sports and environmental projects.</li> <li>• Snacks and refreshments for over 300 young people</li> <li>• Trips and days away</li> <li>• Support to parents/carers</li> </ul> <p>The project is due to run until May 2023.</p>
Improve highways, pavements and street lighting	<p>Colleagues from Highways attended the November 2022 Neighbourhood and Community Board meeting to consult with members regarding the development of the Coalfield highways maintenance programme. A report on what proposed highways to include in the 2022 /2023 Programme was considered by the Area Committee in March 2022 and agreed. Further updates have been received and Members have put forward areas for consideration in the 2023/2024 programme. The suggested locations will be assessed, and further discussion will take place at the February Board meeting, with a recommendation being brought to March 2023 Area Committee.</p>
Local Events and Celebrations	<p>Neighbourhood Fund and Community Chest from all Coalfield wards, supported the Community Programme, Ox Roasting and Feast Programmes for the 2022 Jubilee Houghton Feast. The successful event commenced on Friday 7 October with a host of entertainment from local groups and schools.</p> <p>Hetton Colliery Railway 200 project has delivered a series of lectures, events and celebrations, including a gala dinner held in late November. The Neighbourhood Funded Community Loco was unveiled at the dinner.</p> <p>A programme of Christmas events and lights switch on celebrations have been held during November and December, with support from Community Chest and Neighbourhood Funding. Events in Easington Lane and Shiney Row, a Christmas Cheer project and support and gift packs for users of warm spaces are just some of the projects which have been delivered thanks to Area Committee funding.</p> <p>Following the successful Coalfield Pride event this year, the Neighbourhood and Community Board agreed to progress an application for Pride 2023 to the Area Committee. Further information is contained in <b>Item 4 Area Budget Report</b>.</p>

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

- 5.1 Consider the progress and performance update with regard to Coalfield Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020/23 and agree proposals for future delivery contained within **Annex 1**

Annex 1 Coalfield Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020/2023

Contact Officer: Pauline Hopper, Coalfield Area Community Development Lead  
[pauline.hopper@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:pauline.hopper@sunderland.gov.uk)

## Coalfield Neighbourhood Delivery Plan 2020 / 2023

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

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

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

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Tackle empty properties                     | 10. Vacant Properties as Cultural Hubs and Leisure Activities |
| 2. Derelict land and property                  | 11. Job Opportunities and Job Clubs                           |
| 3. Enforcement                                 | 12. Social Prescribing – Reduce Social Isolation              |
| 4. Bloom Activity                              | 13. Local Greenspace  |
| 5. Transport and Parking                       | 14. Support voluntary and community sector                    |
| 6. Highways, pavements and street lighting     | 15. Youth Clubs   |
| 7. Parks, play areas, cycle and walking routes | 16. Reduce fear of crime                                      |
| 8. Digital Learning                            | 17. Preserve and celebrate local heritage                     |
| 9. Shopping Centres and Local Businesses       |   |

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

NB: numbers are for reference only, they do not list priorities in order.

Neighbourhood Investment priority		
1 Tackle Empty Properties		
Links to: A Dynamic Smart City <i>More and better housing</i>		
Action	Next Steps?	
Explore the feasibility of implementing a time limit on how long properties can be boarded up.	Request an update on current delivery in the area from the Empty Property Team and invite officers to attend a Board meeting	Officers from Housing Services gave an update to the February 2022 N&C Board meeting about the range of functions within the service, including: <b>Private Rented Sector</b> - Officers work in partnership with Private Landlords to tackle poor property standards to improve management practices via a range of measures including accreditation, private sector leasing and deposit guarantee. <b>Empty Homes</b> - Officers work to tackle empty homes and return them back into sustainable occupation across the City. Further information regarding number of empty homes and strategies to improve problematic areas were discussed.
Explore all types of enforcement powers to improve neighbourhoods	Invite relevant officers to discuss where Area Committee can influence and add value to current services. Request update on enforcement reporting and feedback	The Enforcement Task and Finish group received updates from a number of officers on the various enforcement powers available. Actions by Environmental Enforcement and ASB teams has taken place, including the removal of a number of nuisance/derelict caravans which were causing a blight on neighbourhoods. An update was given to the February 2022 Board meeting regarding

additional resources for the Coalfield area including 2 fixed term enforcement wardens and 5 additional street watch cameras which will be deployed and monitored for a 6 month period with results being presented to the Board.

To complement the work to date, and to encourage community ownership and resident participation, the N&C Board explored the development of a 'Clean it, Green it' project at the November 2021 meeting. Further information was requested and was presented to the February 2022 Board meeting. A recommendation to allocate a budget and develop a 'call for projects' was agreed at the March 2022 Area Committee. The Call went out via the VCS Network and VSA Alliance and applications received have been assessed against the project brief and scoring criteria. The June 2022 Area Committee approved a 2 year project commencing in September 2022. A Steering Group for the project will be set up.

The Clean it Green it project has now commenced. A project officer has been appointed and is working with residents, volunteers, apprentices and local groups to identify and improve local spaces which are important within the community.



Improve the physical environment of areas with high levels of empty properties and transient tenants	Request information on what environmental services provide in terms of maintenance in problematic areas.	As above. The Environmental Enforcement team has employed a number of additional officers who can work across all areas to increase capacity in the Coalfield area. Housing services updated the Board at the February 2022 meeting and highlighted work they are carrying out in areas with high levels of empty properties. Officers and their specific areas of expertise were introduced to the Board. Any issues should be reported to the team via the relevant processes in place.
<b>2 Review derelict land and properties to further create green and cultural communities</b>		
<b>Links to: A Healthy Smart City <i>Cleaner and more attractive city and neighbourhoods</i></b>		
<b>Action</b>		
Request an update on derelict land and properties to Coalfield Neighbourhood and Community Board	Invite relevant officers to a future Board meeting to inform specific areas where Area Committee can provide additional resources	The Green Infrastructure programme (now re-named LinkTogether) will address some of the areas identified by Members. Other areas will be discussed at future meetings with the Local Services Manager. The Neighbourhood Fund environmental improvements project is delivering small scale projects to support this priority. Housing services updated the Board at the February 2022 meeting and highlighted work they are carrying out in areas with high levels of problematic properties
Carry out environmental improvements at Flintmill Park and other identified greenspaces	Invite the lead on the Coalfield Green Infrastructure Strategy to attend Area	A request for funding for £200,000 Neighbourhood Fund to deliver environmental improvements was



	Board in order to explore further project development	approved by the December 2021 Area Committee as part of the Link Together project. This will be used as match funding for a project application for almost £1m which has been submitted to the Heritage Fund. Funding for the development phase of the project has now been approved by Heritage Fund and an application for additional funding to bridge the gap between development and delivery phases was approved by Area Committee at the June 2022 meeting. <a href="#">A project officer for the project has now been appointed and is in the process of setting up a steering group including a representative from Area Committee.</a>
Look at open and green spaces across the wards where derelict land, where not identified for other use, can be improved and/or used for community activity	Invite the lead on the Coalfield Green Infrastructure Strategy to attend Area Board in order to explore further project development	<p>A report has been provided identifying a number of green spaces which can be improved or enhanced to encourage increased community use including Keir Hardie field, Newbottle and Barnwell field. Other sites have been assessed and projects will be developed using the information provided. The LinkTogether project is designed to engage local people and encourage community use.</p> <p>The N&amp;C Board explored the development of a 'Clean it, Green it' project at the November 2021 meeting. Further information was requested and was presented to the</p>

		<p>February 2022 Board meeting. A recommendation to allocate a budget and develop a 'call for projects' was agreed by the March Area Committee</p> <p>An application from Springboard to deliver the project was approved by Area Committee at the June 2022 meeting. The project has employed a Clean it, Green it project officer and a volunteer support worker. Delivery commenced in October 2022.</p>
<b>3 Ensure all available enforcement powers are used to tackle those who continue to fly tip, drop litter and spoil the neighbourhood</b>		
<b>Links to: A Healthy Smart City <i>Cleaner and more attractive city and neighbourhoods</i></b>		
<b>Action</b>		
Consider dealing with unsightly caravans, unroadworthy cars and advertising vehicles taking up space on grass verges	Set up Enforcement Task Group to consider all enforcement powers the Council have. Invite relevant officers to discuss where Area Committee can influence and add value to current services	<p>Actions by Environmental Enforcement and ASB teams has taken place, including the removal of a number of nuisance/derelict caravans which were causing a blight on neighbourhoods.</p> <p>An update was given to the February 2022 Board meeting regarding additional resources for the Coalfield area including 2 fixed term enforcement wardens and 5 additional street watch cameras which will be deployed and monitored for a 6 month period with results being presented to the Board. The council 'report it' system should be used to report any incidents of ASB or environmental damage. Resources are deployed in areas of highest reporting and therefore it is</p>

		<p>important that all residents ensure reporting is carried out.</p> <p>An officer has been employed to deal with nuisance and abandoned vehicles. A number of derelict or abandoned caravans and vehicles have been successfully removed from the Coalfield area in recent months</p>
Continue the multi agency approach to large and ongoing fly-tips at the former Forest Estate, Easington Lane	Invite relevant officers to provide information to the Task group (above) and continue to feed into LMAPS request further information on	The multi agency action at this site is ongoing. LMAPS continue to monitor and take action to maintain improvements. Although there have been some successes in terms of prosecution/fines/vehicle removal it is difficult to obtain evidence on which to tackle the issue entirely. Senior Council officers are in discussion with other land owners to identify a strategic partnership solution to the issue
<b>4 Bloom Activities and Supporting Residents to Grow Their Own</b>		
<b>Links to:</b> <i>A Vibrant Smart City More residents participating in their community</i> <i>A Healthy City Smart City Cleaner and more attractive city and neighbourhoods</i> <i>Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy Community empowerment, engagement and involvement</i>		
Request further information regarding 'Gateway' improvements and how Area Committee may be able to enhance/further develop plans	ACDL to explore 'Gateway' improvements	A number of initiatives, supported by Area Committee funding, have been developed, including railing and barrier displays at gateways to shopping areas. New seats and troughs/tubs have been installed in various locations including Hetton and East Rainton.
<b>5 Transport routes and parking issues in residential and local shopping areas</b>		

<b>Links to:</b> <i>A Healthy Smart City Great transport and travel links</i> <i>A Healthy Smart City More and better housing</i> <i>Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy Business growth and investment in VCS</i>		
<b>Action</b>		
Work with Gentoo to explore solutions to parking issues on some estates		Gentoo have worked with residents to deal with parking issues on an estate by estate basis.
Work with colleagues to ensure adequate parking is provided on new housing estates		This is part of the planning process and will be considered, as and when, developments are in the planning stage.
<b>6 Highways, pavements and street lighting</b>		
<b>Links to:</b> <i>A Vibrant Smart City People feeling safe in their neighbourhoods</i> <i>A Healthy City Smart City Cleaner and more attractive city and neighbourhoods</i>		
<b>Action</b>		
Consider possibility of removal of derelict planters and replace or pave over (e.g. Gravel Walks/Stanley Street area, Houghton)	Invite Highways officers to an Area Board meeting to discuss	A number of local schemes, identified by the N&C Board, are planned or underway, as part of the Neighbourhood Fund Environmental Improvements project, including clearing, re-planting and re-instating concrete planters around the Gravel Walks area. The work commenced at the beginning of March 2022. The concrete planters in and around Gravel Walks have been planted with shrubs and bedding to improve the environmental aspect of the area. Despite a number of attempts to vandalise the area, the Local Services Team have reinstated damaged plants and encouraged residents to report any further damage

Progress the Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) programme within the Coalfield area.	Highways colleagues developed and implemented a programme of 8 signs, deployed across 31 sites on a 3 month rolling programme.	The September 2021 Area Committee approved funding to purchase a further 4 vehicle activated speed signs (VAS) (one for each ward) to deploy in areas where there is a concern, from residents and members, that vehicles are speeding and causing safety issues for pedestrians and other road users. All Coalfield Sunderland Councillors receive a quarterly report containing analysis of results and future rotations.
<b>7 Parks, play areas, cycle and walking routes</b>		
<b>Links to:</b> <i>A Vibrant Smart City More people visiting Sunderland and more residents informing and participating in cultural events, programmes and activities</i> <i>A Healthy Smart City Cleaner and more attractive City and neighbourhoods</i>		
<b>Action</b>		
Explore the feasibility of installing additional/improved signage at key locations	Request further information from the PROW Officer on current footpath and cycleway signage to inform next steps	New signs have been installed at Hetton Park. <a href="#">The Stephenson Trail Task group will identify footpath and cycleway signage requirements on the route and an educational project/competition is now complete and a design for waymarkers has been finalised.</a>
Support renewal of bins in Hetton Lyons Country Park (and other areas where relevant)	Request location and condition information of rubbish/dog bins in parks to inform next steps	An audit has been carried out on the condition of bins. New bins for Hetton Lyons Country Park were ordered in August 2022 and will be installed as part of a Citywide programme.
Support the improvement and increased use of Hetton Park	Request further information on the future plans for Hetton Park to inform next steps and the potential development of a park management plan	Following consultation (between July and November 2021) regarding <b>Hetton Park</b> , the initial designs have been revised to take in comments

		<p>and views of the community and respond to consultation feedback. New signs and bins have been installed. Work to address drainage issues has been carried out, a community orchard has been planted. Picnic benches have been installed. <a href="#">New seating will be installed in the coming months, and a longer term plan includes outdoor gym equipment, and improvements to the play area.</a></p>
Support improvements in Rectory Park, Houghton le Spring	Set up a Task group with ward members and partners. Allocate capital funding to assist improvements	<p>Area Committee has allocated £100,000 for improvements in <b>Houghton Rectory Park</b>. Consultation was carried out between October and December 2021. A project steering group has been formed to consider the results of the consultation and develop a park plan. The top suggestion for improvement was lighting in the park. An audit has been carried out and a lighting plan with costs presented to the steering group. The March 2022 Area Committee approved funding of £35,000 as a contribution to the total cost of lighting the park. New bins have been installed in the park, the fountain has been cleaned and re-painted. A new filter system was installed to the fountain but due to vandalism/theft of the new electrical unit the fountain remains out of action until the damage can be repaired. The lighting to the park has</p>

		<p>now been installed consisting of the supply and installation of lighting on all footpaths. There have been 28 new heritage lighting columns with associated embellishments/lanterns plus relevant electrical and connections provided as part of the scheme. The lights will be fully operational at night from September 2022. Improvements and repairs have been made to the informal car parking area next to the Rectory Building. A longer term plan is to improve the play area and install new seats and benches. The project steering group met in September to review progress to date.</p>
<p>Provide additional, accessible, play equipment in key parks across the Coalfield area</p>	<p>Invite Assistant Director of Environmental Services to an Area Board meeting to discuss condition survey, future plans and areas where Area Committee can add value to planned provision</p>	<p>A condition survey of all fixed play sites has been carried out and information was presented to the November 2021 Board. Available budgets are being worked on to discuss feasibility of enhancing planned works to include accessible equipment. The Assistant Director of Community Resilience will attend the next N&amp;C Board meeting to discuss future developments.</p> <p>Keir Hardie play area is now complete, despite a number of set backs due to criminal damage and vandalism during installation. The area will be monitored for ASB.</p>

		<p>Improvements to the play area and installation of a skate park at Easington Lane Flatts is now complete and was well received during the Summer Holidays.</p> <p>Improvements to Rectory Park play area will be carried out as part of the wider park plan.</p> <p>A draft design to upgrade Old Durham Road play area has been agreed. A request for funding to contribute to improvements was approved by the June 2022 Area Committee. A procurement exercise is now underway to obtain fixed play equipment and improvements.</p>
<b>8 Digital Learning Resources</b>		
<b>Links to:</b> <i>A Dynamic Smart City A lower carbon City with greater digital connectivity for all</i> <i>A Dynamic Smart City More local people with better qualifications and skills</i> <i>Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy Improving community resilience</i>		
<b>Action</b>		
Implement the next phase of the Neighbourhood Funded Digital Inclusion programme to enable support to residents within the community	To be discussed by the N&C Board	<p>The Coalfield Communities Connected project, delivered by Springboard, provides 1-2-1 and small group support to local residents who require advice or help with anything digital. The project continues to be delivered from a range of venues across various days with a spread of clients accessing the different venues.</p> <p>The project supports local residents in their use of IT. Support during the last quarter (to July 2022) has</p>



		<p>ranged from: participants improving their skills and tutors continuing to support participants to access further online programmes to develop this. Support to a client in applying for council tax reduction and supporting another client with registering on the housing allocation site. Support in helping participants to produce and update their CVs and doing job search and applications. Offering IAG on a wide range of topics and making referrals to other services if appropriate.</p> <p>Through the project participants have access to mobile phone and tablets (using venue's wifi), laptop and PCs which they utilise. During 2021/22 over 280 local residents accessed the service. During the first quarter of 2022/23 95 people have been supported, including 13 residents who have moved into employment or training following guidance and advice from the project.</p>
Develop a 'loan' scheme to provide IT equipment to children and young people who do not have computers at home.	Funding was approved at the March 2021 Area Committee to purchase devices for loan.	Hetton, Kepier, Biddick and St Roberts schools now have the equipment in place and are allocating to pupils resident in the Coalfield area.
<b>9 Shopping Centres and Local Businesses</b>		
<b>Links to:</b> <i>A Dynamic Smart City A stronger city centre with more businesses, housing and cultural opportunities</i> <i>A Vibrant Smart City More residents participating in their communities</i> <i>Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy Business growth and investment in VCS</i>		
<b>Action</b>		

Encourage use of Shop Local and using smaller traders in the community	Build on the support for local business messages developed during lock-down. Promote the benefits of local shopping. Use Coalfield Sunderland Community facebook page	<p>The work of the Coalfield Community Hub (a partnership between Sunderland City Council and a range of VCS partners) has promoted the services provided by local retailers within the Community. Shopping support to those who are isolated or vulnerable has been carried out by local groups and volunteers and has supported, where possible, shops and services within the local community.</p> <p>In addition to the local welfare provision, an Enhanced Winter Offer is being delivered across the Coalfield to support those who are struggling with food and fuel. Local shops in Hetton, Houghton and Shiney Row are being used for vouchers where possible. A 'Christmas Cheer' project funding by all four Coalfield Wards via Community Chest will use local shops in Hetton, Houghton and Shiney Row when purchasing vouchers</p>
<b>10 Vacant Properties and Land as Cultural Hubs and Leisure Activities</b>		
<b>Links to:</b> <i>A Vibrant Smart City More people visiting Sunderland and more residents informing and participating in cultural events, programmes and activities</i> <b>Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy Socially productive asset management</b>		
<b>Action</b>		
Explore opportunities for Elemore Golf Course e.g. community farm, community forest and space for mini-festivals, training and apprenticeships.	Set up a Task Group to explore vacant properties and feasibility for future use for cultural and leisure activity.	Sunderland City Council has set up a project group to protect and develop the site, now known as 'Elemore Park'. It is proposed to develop the

		<p>club house and the greenspace area for the benefit of the local and wider community as a location of natural and historic importance. March 2021 Area Committee approved a sum of £100k to support the planned work. The project group continue to meet regularly to develop and implement the agreed action plan. Ecology surveys have been completed and designs for the building and the site have been drawn up, in preparation for a planning application. A visitor centre, horticultural activity and a coffee shop, as well as walks, wildlife activities and educational provision, are part of the proposals for development. School and community action days including bird watching, tree identification and tree planting have taken place. <a href="#">Work on the building has commenced and is due to finish in Spring 2023. Plans for the wider site have been submitted and resident forum events took place in September 2022. A site visit to the lakes with stakeholders, including residents, took place in November 2022 and work to the lakes area will be carried out in coming months.</a></p>
Explore the feasibility of creating a heritage centre at the former Philadelphia Depot		<p>Area Committee approved a project to carry out a condition survey of the building. The final survey results have now been reviewed by the N&amp;C Board and passed on to Northern</p>

		National Restoration Group (NNRG) who currently occupy the building. NNRG can now use this document, along with their business plan to plan next steps for the group, and the building.
Identify vacant sites and their current and future use	Task and Finish Group members to identify any other key sites for discussion	The Group discussed the currently underutilised building in Herrington Country Park, and the potential for future use. Funding was agreed by Council to develop the building and an outline design for a café has been drawn up by Design Services. Work is now underway to remodel and extend the café within the building, providing more indoor and outdoor seating.
<b>11 Job Opportunities and Job Clubs</b>		
<b>Links to:</b> <i>A Dynamic Smart City More and better jobs</i> <i>A Dynamic Smart City More local people with better qualifications and skills</i> <i>Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy Improving community resilience</i>		
<b>Action</b>		
Support local residents with employment-related information and training in local venues via VCS organisations	Liaise with VCS partners, to explore what is currently available and where additionality can be provided to enhance support locally	Initial discussions with Springboard have taken place and employment related support is provided to local residents. The Voluntary Sector Alliance have a range of training opportunities on offer to local groups and residents/volunteers which are offered regularly in local community venues. Both the Digital Support, and RU Ready for UC projects provide employment related training and support, and are delivered in local community organisations .

Support residents back into employment and maximise job opportunities		<p>The NF Communities Connected project (see Priority 8, above) provides job relate support in a number of community settings.</p> <p>The Clean it, Green it, project will encourage volunteers, work with apprentices and teach skills to improve employment opportunities.</p>
<b>12 Social Prescribing and Reducing Social Isolation</b>		
<b>Links to:</b> <i>A Healthy Smart City Reduced health inequalities enabling more people to live healthier longer lives</i> <i>A Healthy Smart City People enjoying independent lives</i> <i>Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy Improving community resilience</i> <i>Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy Business growth and investment in VCS</i>		
<b>Action</b>		
Continue to provide affordable wellbeing activities to reduce social isolation and improve health (e.g. Zumba, dance fit, walking football etc...)	Area Board to discuss allocation of Neighbourhood Fund via a Call for Projects to the VCS Network	<p>The Coalfield Community Hub partners are supporting residents to take part in activities and services across the area. A network of partners, working with the Coalfield GP Alliance social prescribing team, offer a range of social and community support to those who need it</p> <p>A City Council funded Covid 19 Mental Health and Wellbeing project is being delivered in the Coalfield area by 5 organisations who have come together to form a 'mental health partnership'. One element of the project is telephone befriending.</p>
Provide befriending and welfare support to local residents via telephone, facetime or 1-2-1 in person	Area Board to discuss allocation of Neighbourhood Fund to address this priority	The Coalfield Community Hub, set up in response to the Covid 19 pandemic, has continued to provide

		<p>befriending support and keep in touch calls to residents who require them. Neighbourhood Fund projects including Our Day Out and Encouraging Participation include an element of befriending support.</p> <p>Happy to Chat benches have been created in Hetton in partnership with Hetton New Dawn. This is the first of a series of identified seating across the City to invite people to take time to chat to others. Signs have now been installed in Houghton ward in partnership with The Old Rectory, and in Shiney Row ward in partnership with ShARP</p>
<b>13 Enhance Local Greenspace and encourage wider use</b>		
<b>Links to:</b> <i>A Healthy Smart City Cleaner and more attractive city and neighbourhoods</i> <i>A Vibrant Smart City More residents participating in their communities</i>		
<b>Action</b>		
Explore the expansion of green gyms and adult exercise equipment in parks	ACDL to request further information from colleagues in Sport and Leisure	Equipment has been installed in Hetton Lyons Country park. Outdoor gym equipment for Hetton Park has been ordered and will be installed as part of the overall park improvements
Consider the improvement and promotion of local greenspaces, not identified for other use, for community activity	Invite the lead on the Green Infrastructure Strategy to discuss with the Area Board to inform next steps	The LinkTogether project, which commenced in October 2022, will further develop this as part of the project.
Look into improved signage for footpaths and cycle routes	Discuss as part of the Green Infrastructure Strategy	This is being developed as part of the wider LinkTogether project. New signage for Hetton Bogs has been installed. The Stephenson Trail project will also develop appropriate signage

14 Support the voluntary and community sector to provide additional services within local community venues as well as host community events/activities		
<b>Links to:</b> <i>A Vibrant Smart City More residents participating in their communities</i> <i>Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy Increasing social value through procurement and wider activity</i> <i>Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy Business growth and investment in VCS</i>		
Action		
Continue to provide funding opportunities to local organisations via the VCS Network	All funding opportunities (internal and external) to be circulated to the VCS Network via information sharing from the Area Team	<p>A regular bulletin including information sharing and funding opportunities is circulated to all VCS Network members. The VCS continue to be supported by the Area Committee, the Community Hubs receive on-going support and the VCS Network continues to be supported to ensure they have access to all internal and external funding opportunities.</p> <p>Regular VCS Network meetings and contact with VCS Representatives to Area Committee ensure that views and input are incorporated into project ideas and actions. The retirement of one of the VCS Representatives left a vacancy which was promoted at the November 2021 and March 2022 meetings. Nominations have been invited and the group will select a rep at the next meeting.</p> <p>At the May 2022 meeting of the VCS Network meeting two new representatives to Area Committee were selected by the Group.</p>

		Sunderland City Council continue to support a thriving voluntary sector and is a key partner in the VCS Alliance which is set up to support and build capacity in the sector.
<b>15 Support Youth Clubs and spaces for young people to be together and feel safe</b>		
<b>Links to:</b> <i>A Healthy Smart City Access to equitable opportunities and life chances</i> <i>A Vibrant Smart City More people feeling safe in their homes and neighbourhoods</i> <i>Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy Improving community resilience</i>		
<b>Action</b>		
Support the development of the 2 year Neighbourhood Funded Youth Activity project	ACDL to monitor the project closely, ensuring members have the opportunity to feed in views/proposals to the lead agent (SNCBC)	<p>A two year programme of youth support is currently being delivered by Community Opportunities. Clubs and activities for 11-19 year olds are being delivered twice a week in each ward. This year, to date, 90 sessions have been delivered, with 257 unique participants attending.</p> <p>Following alignment of £200,000 at the September Area Committee to develop ward based youth projects, a Call for Projects is now underway. The February N&amp;C Board will consider applications and agree the way forward. An update will be given to the March 2023 Area Committee.</p>
Explore the development of a responsive service that can deal with problematic areas as they arise	Set up a Task group to look at ASB prevention and longer term strategies	<p>The NF youth project is designed to respond to areas of need/concern and provides outreach work in those areas.</p> <p>The ASB Task and Finish group met in February 2022 and discussed the need for more proactive and partnership working. A proposal to fund an additional ASB Officer for the</p>



		area was agreed at the March 2022 meeting of Area Committee. An additional ASB Officer dedicated to working proactively in the Coalfield area has been appointed and commenced the role on 5 December 2022.
Support activities for children and young people during school holidays	Based on consultation, Coalfield Area Committee made a Call for Projects for local groups and organisations to deliver a series of 'activity with food' sessions during school holidays from July 2021 to May 2022.	A total of £37,431 was allocated to 8 projects across the Coalfield area. During the Summer 2021 and October half term 2021 holidays a total of 76 sessions were delivered to 556 children and young people aged 4-14. The programme has now ended and a further 11 projects totalling £47,075 for delivery during holiday periods from July 2022 to May 2023 were approved at the June 2022 Area Committee meeting. An update regarding summer holiday was provided to the Neighbourhood and Community Board in November 2022.
<b>16 Reduce fear of crime by working in partnership across neighbourhoods to bring communities of all ages together</b>		
<b>Links to: A Vibrant Smart City <i>More people feeling safe in their homes and neighbourhoods</i></b>		
<b>Action</b>		
Develop long term strategies, with partners, for dealing with ASB	Set up a Task group to look at ASB prevention	Following a meeting of the ASB Task and Finish group, the Board received further information regarding current initiatives and services available to tackle ASB across the area. It was agreed that a proposal to fund an additional ASB Officer to strengthen a proactive and partnership approach would be brought to Area Committee

		and recommend approval of an application for funding (as above).
Explore the feasibility/benefits of setting up a boxing club in Hetton		Potential premises are currently being explored and Council Officers are working with Councillors to liaise with England Boxing to gather more information. <a href="#">With the support of the Voluntary Sector Alliance, Houghton Boxing Club has been successful in an application to Biffa to carry out repairs to the roof and interior of their building to enable the club to re-open the centre. A match funding contribution to the project has been agreed as part of a previously approved Neighbourhood Fund project.</a>
<b>17 Preserve and celebrate local heritage</b>		
<b>Links to:</b> <i>A Vibrant Smart City More people visiting Sunderland and more residents informing and participating in cultural events, programmes and activities</i> <b>Sunderland Community Wealth Strategy <i>Community empowerment, engagement and involvement</i></b>		
<b>Action</b>		
Explore opportunities to celebrate Hetton Railway 200 year anniversary	Area Co-ordinator to discuss with other areas of Sunderland, who have also identified this opportunity	A Stephenson Trail Task and Finish group with members from the Coalfield, East and West areas has developed an action plan and each of the three Area Committees have approved £50k funding. In February 2022, the Stephenson Trail Task Group received an update on the Walking the Routes results, which identified environmental and physical improvements required. Working with Council services and partners the Task Group is

		<p>developing an action plan to improve the route of the trail.</p> <p>The Cultural Spring will deliver an Educational programme and are engaging with seven primary schools, whose location is near the Trail. The Schools in the Coalfield area (St Michaels, Hetton Primary, Easington Lane Primary) will work with specialists from the creative sector to produce an Education Pack which will be shared with other Primary Schools within the City. In addition, there is an array of community activities on offer during 2022, which include: way markers competition; song writing; banners and flags project; photo competition; oral history recordings and pop up gigs.</p> <p>Three local community organisations (one from each of the Coalfield, East and West areas) are supporting the project by carrying out environmental and physical improvements with the support of volunteers. The groups will also assist in the design of interpretation boards for each area, at relevant points along the route. The groups will work in partnership with colleagues from Local Services who are also carrying out work to improve the trail. A graffiti artist has been commissioned to redesign the</p>
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		Barnes subway, proposed design works include outlining a map of the Stephenson Trail highlighting key points of interest. A celebration event took place at City Hall in November 2022. All groups, schools and volunteers who have contributed so far took place.
Support the development of a commemorative mining statue/memorial on the old Houghton Colliery site	ACDL to liaise with Development Director of Land and Investment to explore how Area Committee can enhance proposals for the site	Further to approval of £50,000 at the December 2020 Area Committee, the artwork for the site was agreed, and has been included in the planning application which was approved at the November 2021 Development Control meeting. Further options for a mining memorial plaque are being explored.
Explore the feasibility of creating a mining 'map' on the paving of the new retail development at Houghton		As above
Continue to support local events and celebrations via Neighbourhood Fund	Celebrate 100 year anniversary of Easington Lane memorial clock which was unveiled by Lord Joicey on 27 August 1921	The event took place on 28 August 2021

**14 DECEMBER 2022**

**REPORT OF NORTHUMBRIA POLICE**

**NEIGHBOURHOOD INSPECTOR STEVE PASSEY**

Anti-Social Behaviour

Since the last Area Committee ASB across Coalfields has decreased by 31% when compared to the last reporting period. This is an exceptional achievement especially considering the period spans Halloween and Bonfire Night. The current ASB hotspots are Easington Lane, Fencehouses and Houghton.

Motorcycle Disorder

Since the last Area Committee Motorcycle Disorder across Coalfields has decreased by 38% when compared to the last reporting period. It is acknowledged that there still may be some underreporting and residents are still actively encouraged to report incidents to the Police so that problem areas can be identified.

Burglary

Since the last Area Committee overall burglary rates across the Coalfields area have decreased by 10% and is down 27% when compared to the same time last year. This is largely due to the positive impact of Operation Cherry and Operation Tiama both of which have been designed to combat this issue in addition to the prosecution of several identified suspects.

HALO

The HALO Team continues to evolve and innovate to tackle issues in the Hetton Ward. HALO has recently forged new links with Sunderland FC's Beacon of Light Project with a view to bring increased provision to the area. Furthermore, as part of a wider problem-solving approach, HALO is continuing to work with partners to reduce the illegal use of motorcycles. Thus far the team has arrested several individuals involved in the theft of motorcycles and seized numerous stolen and illegal motorcycles in the process. This followed intelligence shared by the local community around motorcycle disorder taking place and where the offending vehicles were being stored.

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14 December 2022

## REPORT OF THE TYNE AND WEAR FIRE SERVICE

### 1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The following report gives Performance Monitoring details in relation to the Local Indicators for Coalfields Committee area from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 to 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022 compared to the same period last year in 2021.

### 2 Background

#### 2.1

Area Committee agreed that regular updates on Crime and Community Safety would be presented to each Committee meeting.

### 3. Tyne and Wear Fire Service Update

#### 3.1 LI 01 & 02 Number of Deaths from all fires

No deaths were recorded during the reporting period.

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

Deliberate property fires, had an increase of 16% from last year. 2 single occupancy house in Copt Hill. Operational crews and prevention education department continue to target our most vulnerable residents with targeted safe and well visits. TWFRS, Northumbria Police, Sunderland city council, Gentoo and other Local Authority partners have been working in partnership to reduce these incidents with continued targeting of problematic areas and focussing activity in these areas. The reporting of any empty/void property which may be accessible has assisted in improving these figures.

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

There were 21 incidents reported during this period compared to 35 for the same period last year. An improvement of 40% 7 of the fires were in the Houghton ward – no significant pattern. Hetton saw a dramatic decrease compared to last year, from 15 incidents to 3. Shiney Row increase from no incidents to 4 this year from 2. Copt Hill had a reduction from 9 incidents last year to 7 this year. TWFRS will continue to work with Northumbria Police regarding any further similar incidents to help identify trends and perpetrators. All incidents were reported and investigated by both Police and Fire Investigators to establish any links.

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

There has been a increase of 71% overall in secondary fires. 67 of the 190 incidents were attributed to hot dry weather the region experienced across the summer. The Report-It tool for the reporting of fly tipping and loose refuse is used regularly to help support ASB reduction activities. Shiney Row saw a 180% increase, Copt Hill 40% increase, and Houghton 75% increase on the number on incidents attended compared to the same reporting period as last year. Hetton still remains the ward experiencing the greatest number of deliberate secondary fires within the coalfields area. Although the

increase was less than forecasted. The multi-agency HALO project, TWFRS new Ignite diversionary activity course along with other collaborative working continues to assist in tackling some of the hot spot areas. LMAPS Partner work groups assist to monitor all wards to prevent, reduce, investigate and help improve the wards regarding deliberate ASB and fire setting.

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

There were a total of 215 deliberate fires in this reporting period. Although notable improvement on the number of road vehicle fires started deliberately. Across all 3 local indicators saw an increase of 44% compared to the same reporting period last Year. A large proportion of incidents were attributed to the prolonged hot dry weather the region experienced across the summer. Many of the incidents were across vast areas which resulted in many of the fires taking considerable time to bring under control and increased pressure on our resourcing. TWFRS continue to work closely with Northumbria Police, Sunderland city council, Gentoo and partners carrying out estate and site visits, ASB patrols, reporting of accessible premises, and using the Report-it for removal of loose refuse/fly tipping. Using data to target areas in most need of support to try and reduce ASB and secondary fire incidents. Please encourage members of your local communities to report Fly tipping and or request up lifts – essential support heading towards the Christmas period which often has implications post celebrations regards waste.

#### **Copt Hill Ward –**

Has seen an increase from 35 incidents to 44, during this period. Incidents over this period are predominately loose refuse and grass fires. 7 Vehicle fires compared to 9 last year were within this ward, TWFRS are working with Northumbria police to monitor and identify any trends/patterns/underlying issues. Hot spot areas – Seaham Road, Baker Street, Byron Terrace.

#### **Houghton Ward –**

Has seen an increase from 44 to 65 incidents over this reporting period. The vast majority of of these incidents were attributed to grassland and loose refuse. 6 Vehicle fires Fly tipping remains problematic. – Hot spot areas - New bottle Street, Avon Crescent, Lambton Lane, Mulberry Lane.

**Hetton Ward -** Has seen a 30% increase in incidents. Deliberate grass fires and loose refuse remain problematic. Hetton ward remains an area of concern. Hot spots – Brick Garth, Ennerdale Street, Hazard Lane, Mooresley Road. Several multi agency partnership projects including HALO project, Easington lane project and TWFRS ignite continues to carry out initiatives aiming to deliver a positive impact.

**Shiney Row Ward -** Has seen a 163% increase in incidents over the reporting period. Deliberate grass fires and loose refuse remain problematic. Tied in with sustained long dry periods have been the main cause of incidents.

- Hot spots identified have been – Rear of Maple Terrace, rear of Claremont Drive, Cambridge Crescent, Coxgreen Road

Partnership work continues to monitor and share information to help reduce ASB and improve local areas within all wards.

### **3.6 Community Involvement**

TWFRS continue to support partners involved in the HALO project, which has given an opportunity to bring partners together to deliver success, empower and improve the local area based on the highly successful SARA project. To build on this summer's introduction of a new diversionary project - Ignite. Crews continued to build relationships by encouraging Ignite participants to be School ambassadors whilst we delivered darker nights presentations. The project has been a huge success with many positive feedback comments being received. The service, with help from partners would like to continue to grow our diversionary activities over the coming months and years, and will be looking to run another Ignite course in the spring.

As part of our Darker nights campaign several schools were identified to receive joint fire service and police educational visits in the run up to bonfire period.

TWFRS in conjunction with HALO ran a business fire safety event on the mornings of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> October. Over the event 20 businesses participated, this was an opportunity for local businesses to ask our fire safety team any question or queries to help make them operate safely.

Crews from Rainton worked alongside the HALO team to deliver bonfire and Halloween safety messages at several Halloween party or bonfire themed nights. Allowing crews to further build relationships with local children and youths.

All other opportunities where crews are available to support and attend community events they shall continue to do so. Partnership initiatives will be welcomed and considered for attendance/support.

The service continues to deliver safe and well visits targeting the most vulnerable members of our communities ensuring they are given home fire safety advice, have working smoke alarms and fitting them free of charge and if necessary referring to partner agencies for further support. Since April crews have already delivered 439 Safe & well visits to households across the Coalfields area.

### **3.7 On-going Issues**

Continuing to work with partners being proactive to help reduce incidents as highlighted in the report.

Attacks on emergency services are on the increase across the Tyne and Wear service area. This year's darker night's campaign and school education programme focused on Fire safety/ASB and consequences of attacks on crews. Year's 7-10 at both Houghton Kepier and Hetton Comp were given collaborative sessions with the police. Work with Inspector Passey and his team to carry out joint education sessions with our local schools will hopefully go towards reducing the number of attacks on blue light responders and reduce ASB. Although improvement in the Coalfields on last year there were still 2 attacks where objects were thrown at crews in Copt Hill.

It is essential that any fire related issues are reported to myself, (Andrew Nelson, Station Manager) or using Fire Stoppers 0800 169 5558, so I can action with my crews. Each of my watches have been given ward areas to create community links (similar to the Police). This is not just about ASB fires but all deliberate fires.



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

#### 4. Recommendations

##### 4.1 Note the content of this report.

**Contact Officer:** Station Manager Andrew Nelson,  
Tel: 0191 4441188,  
Email: [Andrew.Nelson@twfire.gov.uk](mailto:Andrew.Nelson@twfire.gov.uk)

Hetton Ward -Watch Manager Kevin Williams - [Kevin.Williams@twfire.gov.uk](mailto:Kevin.Williams@twfire.gov.uk)  
Houghton Ward - Watch Manager Simon Robinson [simon.robinson@twfire.gov.uk](mailto:simon.robinson@twfire.gov.uk)  
Shiney Row Ward - Watch Manager Adam Robinson [Adam.Robinson@twfire.gov.uk](mailto:Adam.Robinson@twfire.gov.uk)  
Copt Hill Ward - Watch Manager Andrew Lane [Andrew.Lane@twfire.gov.uk](mailto:Andrew.Lane@twfire.gov.uk)



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**14 DECEMBER 2022****COALFIELD VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR (VCS) NETWORK REPORT**

The Coalfields VCS Network have met on 2 occasions since the last Coalfields Area Committee on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September, with the next meeting (the final meeting for 2022) due to be held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December, which is after the date of submission for this report.

**VCS meetings have taken place on:****Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October & Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November**

The meetings have taken place at Easington Lane Community Access Point and have been well attended, welcoming both returning and new members/organisations. The meetings have been chaired by Councillor Julianna Heron and have been co-chaired by the Coalfields VCS Representatives. Pauline Hopper, Sunderland City Council Area Community Development Lead and Toni Longstaff, Sunderland City Council, Area Support Assistant have also been in attendance.

The network has welcomed different speakers at the meetings.

**Meeting Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October**

Presentations delivered as follows:

**Warm Spaces** – Pauline Hopper, Sunderland City Council Area Community Development Lead gave a presentation outlining the Warm Spaces project across the city and in the Coalfields. Warm Spaces will be taking place from October 2022-March 2023 in different phases. The scheme will be looking to offer support across the Coalfields with the aim of tackling isolation and providing safe, warm spaces to those who need it. The aim of the Warm Space initiative is bifold, in providing community support to those in need, and bringing added value to existing services helping to keep the doors of local groups/venues open over the winter months.

**Holiday Activities** – Pauline Hopper gave a report on the current call for projects for holiday activities in the area. 11 projects were approved mid 2022, all of them beginning in July 2022 running until May 2023. The report highlighted the wide range of provision available for young people across the area throughout school holidays over the coming year. Throughout the summer of 2022, over 50 sessions ran, supporting over 300 young people. Alongside the given benefit of participation available to those attending the holiday activities, the sessions are also seen as valuable support for busy, working parents and carers.

**Community Chest Update** – Pauline Hopper and Toni Longstaff, Sunderland City Council, Area Support Assistant both updated the network on the new online application process for Community Chest as an advancement on the prior paper-based application. It remains ward based with the same process of councillor sponsorship still being needed. It was pointed out to the network that applications for funding for specific timed events should be made within plenty of time (up to two months before an event taking place).

**Meeting Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November**

Presentations delivered as follows:

**Warm Spaces Update** – Pauline Hopper, Sunderland City Council Area Community Development Lead gave an update on the Warm Spaces project across the Coalfields. The full timetable for the area was shared with the network – with 12 providers across the Coalfields. Pauline thanked everyone involved and commented on the good coverage across the Coalfields with organisations working together. The scheme is helping to support families, younger adults and not just older adults as had been anticipated as a possibility. Phases 2 & 3 of the project were briefly outlined where current venues will be looking for activity providers to add further value/support to sessions as the scheme progresses.

**Introducing Findaway** – Adele Lamber and Emma Duffy from WWIN (Wearside Women In Need) introduced the Findaway project to the network. Aimed at the whole community, it was summarised as a support organisation receiving referrals from anyone who has concerns about someone who might be potentially being controlled, hurt or abused by their partner, ex partner or family member. They explained what the organisation is, what they do and how they engage with the community and their work with other organisations to provide a service to support those who may have been identified as vulnerable to abuse.

**The Well Bean Machine** – Amy Swan from Active Families North East gave a presentation about the work that Active Families North East do both citywide and across the Coalfields. Mainly talking about the services they can provide for the ageing well community, the network was introduced to the Well Bean Machine. This is currently a 12 month project across Sunderland that offers free physical activity to older adults on a ground level. Their unique and innovative project, currently supported by UKRI, sees door to door engagement, street and park-based exercise, and also community outreach all taking place.

### **Household Support Update (HSF3)**

The third round of the Household Support Fund has begun in the Coalfields area. The lead organisation continues to be Active Families North East who work in partnership with ELCAP, Hetton New Dawn, SNCBC & ShARP to initially work together to support households across the area. The partnership that has been established since the first round of Household Support, continues to strengthen. The key organisations play to their individual strengths and can support households that they regularly encounter, for example, Active Families have good working relationships with many primary schools in the area. Alongside being a direct link to the community, the partnership organisations involved in HSF3 continue to work with smaller organisations, social prescribers, and local councillors to be able to offer targeted, direct and personalised support to both vulnerable individuals and families. Since the inception of the Household Support Fund over 1000 households in the area have been supported with over £200,000 already awarded. The current round of support HSF3 (running until end of March 2023) will see another £100,000 being awarded to vulnerable household across the Coalfields.

Coalfields VCS Representatives are:

Eileen Bewick (Lead Advice Worker, ShARP)

Emerley Christie (Centre Manager, The Old Rectory)

Wendy Cook (Youth & Community Manager, SNCBC)

Amy Swan (Creative Director, Active Families North East)

All of the Coalfields VCS Representatives work directly in the Coalfields as part of large and well-established organisations and have great connections both in the area and citywide. Each bringing something different to the table, a good working relationship allows them to use skills, knowledge and experience in order to best serve the Coalfields VCS Network.

The Coalfields VCS network continues to be well attended with near to 40 groups regularly taking part in meetings.

As always the 'information share' agenda item towards the end of the meeting always provides a lot of information to the groups attending and often provokes discussions about issues and challenges that residents in the Coalfields locality are facing. It gives both large and small organisations within the area the opportunity to positively come together, sharing ideas and suggestions to support each other. This section of the network meeting highlights the breadth of organisations and activities that we have in the Coalfields. As recorded in past reports, organisations are focussed on the cost-of-living crisis and how this will impact on residents and in some cases the increased cost of utility bills for VCS organisations.

The Coalfields VCS network would like to take this opportunity to thank Sunderland City Council – Coalfields Area Committee for their ongoing support and providing funding opportunities for local VCS groups and organisations.

# COALFIELDS AREA COMMITTEE

14 December 2022

## REPORT OF GENTOO

### **1 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 The following report provides an update from Gentoo for the Coalfields Area Committee from September to December 2022.

### **2 Background**

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

### **3 Update on Neighbourhood Services**

- 3.1 Following the recent coverage around the tragic impact mould and damp can have, we know that some of our tenants may be concerned about mould and damp in their home. To ensure we provide the necessary support, we have set up a dedicated phone line where tenants can report any concerns about mould or damp, and these will be addressed as soon as possible. A dedicated team has been set up to deal with any concerns. The health and safety of our tenants is our number one priority, and we believe everyone has the right to live safely and comfortably in their own home.
- 3.2 Estate walks with Local Councillors are going well and would like to thank all Councillors for your contribution at these walks, showing residents in our neighbourhoods the collaborative working that goes on in making the area's people are proud to live in.
- 3.3 At last committee Gentoo shared with you that we have entered into an agreement with other Housing providers called 'The Bread & Butter Thing'. The Bread-and-Butter Thing (TBBT) is a charity that makes life more affordable for people on a low income. Their mission is to create a fair solution for people in poverty and their long-term aim is to address the premiums that people in poverty pay for food, loans, energy and other everyday essentials, simply because of their personal circumstances. It works by collecting surplus food and staple goods that often end up going to waste from supermarkets, factories, and farms and distribute them at a discount price through community hubs, our first area in the City to be able to access this is Pennywell. On 9/11/22 the first session benefitted 75 families, the second session on 16/1/22 79 families and 1 single person attended and received their shopping at a substantially reduced rate.
- 3.4 Bonfire Night update, in the run up to the 5th November Gentoo deployed a number of teams to work out of hours across the City, they were actively picking up fly tipping and waste that could have been used potentially for bonfire. On the 5th November, working in partnership with the City Council, TWFRS teams and Gentoo the partners worked across the City dismantling bonfires and collecting waste items that could become part of a bonfire.

As a result of all of the partnership working, the actual number of bonfires was greatly reduced and demonstrated how working and a coordinated citywide approach, can play a massive part in keeping everyone safe.

Waste figures from Gentoo's waste partners Biffa and Suez has highlighted that during the lead up to bonfire night, working out of hours and on the 5th, Gentoo disposed of 23 tonnes of waste at the two transfer stations, that would have ended up on bonfires.

- 3.5 This year's Christmas campaign is underway and an opportunity for staff to nominate a family they are supporting to receive tickets for the pantomime (200 tickets available), Christmas gifts and Christmas dinners (160 or more).
- 3.6 Staff conference foodbank collection. Christmas during the cost-of-living crisis will be a difficult time for local families and communities. To offer a helping hand and support the stocks at the Foodbank, we are asking colleagues to bring along a small donation for Sunderland Foodbank to this year's staff conference on 9 December.

#### **4. Investment & Renewal**

- 4.1 We have ongoing internal works including new kitchens, bathrooms and rewiring taking place in East Rainton. Our contractor for these works is ESH and 124 properties are benefiting from these modernisations. ESH have completed 74 properties to date.

#### **5. Recommendations**

- 5.1 Note the content of this report.

#### **Contact Officer**

Beth Wilkie, Head of Neighbourhoods.

Tel: 0191 525 5000

Email: [bethan.wilkie@gentoogroup.com](mailto:bethan.wilkie@gentoogroup.com)

<b>COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE</b> <b>14 December 2022</b> <b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I</b>	
<b>Title of Report:</b> Coalfield Area Budget Report	
<b>Author(s):</b> Assistant Director of Housing Services	
<b>Purpose of Report:</b> Area Committee has delegated budgets to allocate to specific strategic priorities identified in the Neighbourhood Investment Plan, with the overall aim to benefit the wider community and to attract other funding into the area. The report provides a financial statement as an updated position on progress in relation to allocating Area Committee Neighbourhood Funding, Neighbourhood Investment Plan Capital Programme and Community Chest, and presents proposals for further funding requests.	
<b>Description of Decision:</b>  Committee are requested to:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Note the financial statements set out in section 2.1, 3.1 and 4.1.</li> <li>b) Approve the 2 Neighbourhood Fund applications from 2022/23 budget as set out in Section 2.3 and Annex 1</li> <li>c) Agree that the February 2023 meeting of the Neighbourhood and Community Board review and approve the ward based youth project applications from the previously aligned Neighbourhood Fund budget, and report to the March 2023 Area Committee</li> <li>d) Approve the Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme application set out in 3.4 and Annex 2</li> <li>e) Note the Community Chest approvals supported from 2022/2023, as detailed in Annex 3</li> </ul>	
Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework? <span style="float: right;">Yes</span>	
<b>Suggested reason(s) for Decision:</b> The Area Committee has an allocation £439,200 from the Neighbourhood Fund and £208,039 from the Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme for 2022/23 to deliver key priorities identified in the relevant Neighbourhood Investment Delivery Plan and to attract other funding into the area.	
<b>Alternative options to be considered and recommended to be rejected:</b> The circumstances are such that there are no realistic alternatives that could be considered.	
Is this a “Key Decision” as defined in the Constitution? No	Relevant Scrutiny Committees:
Is it included in the Forward Plan? No	



14 December 2022

## REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF HOUSING SERVICES

## Coalfield Area Budget Report

## 1. Purpose of Report

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

## 2 Area Committee Neighbourhood Fund

- 2.1 The table below shows the financial position of Area Committee Neighbourhood Fund for 2022/2023:

Project Name	Committee Date	Aligned	Approved	Balance
<b>Total Neighbourhood Fund for 2022/2023 is £439,200</b> (357,946, plus £81,254 unspent balances returned to budget)				
<b>Project Name</b>				<b>£439,200</b>
Shiney Row Community Centre Refurb/Improvements	15 June 2022		<b>£3,790</b>	<b>£435,410</b>
Houghton Brass Championships of Great Britain	15 June 2022		<b>£4,420</b>	<b>£430,990</b>
Link Together – bridging the gap	15 June 2022		<b>£18,500</b>	<b>£412,490</b>
Houghton Feast – community programme	15 June 2022		<b>£10,000</b>	<b>£402,490</b>
Holiday Activities	15 June 2022		<b>£4,895</b>	<b>£397,595</b>
Copt Hill Holiday Zone	15 June 2022		<b>£4,129</b>	<b>£393,466</b>
Hetton Holiday Zone	15 June 2022		<b>£4,129</b>	<b>£389,337</b>
Houghton Holiday Zone	15 June 2022		<b>£4,129</b>	<b>£385,208</b>
Shiney Row Holiday Zone	15 June 2022		<b>£4,129</b>	<b>£381,079</b>
Wild Green Days	15 June 2022		<b>£4,920</b>	<b>£376,159</b>
ABEL Club	15 June 2022		<b>£1,818</b>	<b>£374,341</b>
Elba Park Holiday Activities	15 June 2022		<b>£4,970</b>	<b>£369,371</b>
Buddies Life Skills	15 June 2022		<b>£4,116</b>	<b>£365,255</b>
Early Years Holiday Programme	15 June 2022		<b>£4,900</b>	<b>£360,355</b>
Active Adventurers	15 June 2022		<b>£4,940</b>	<b>£355,415</b>
RU Ready for UC	28 Sept 2022		<b>£44,500</b>	<b>£310,915</b>
Coalfield Communities Connected (Digital Inclusion)	28 Sept 2022		<b>£31,500</b>	<b>279,415</b>
Ward based Youth Provision	28 Sept 2022		<b>£200,000</b>	<b>79,415</b>

<b>Balance</b>				<b>£79,415</b>
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- 2.2 Coalfield Area Committee currently has £79,415 Neighbourhood Funding available for capital and revenue projects.
- 2.3 There are two applications to the 2022/23 Neighbourhood Fund presented to Area Committee for consideration, detailed at **Item 4 Annex 1**
- Buddies Toddlers £3,500
  - Coalfield Pride 2023 £11,325
- 2.5 The total Neighbourhood Fund budget requested for approval is **£14,825**. If approved, the remaining balance will be **£64,590**
- 2.4 Following alignment of £200,000 (£50,000 per ward) Neighbourhood Fund to deliver youth provision/activities, extensive discussions have taken place by the Neighbourhood and Community Board, and at a ward level. It was agreed at the November 2022 N&C Board meeting that a project brief would be drawn up to deliver activities and support for young people in each ward. A budget of £200,000 (£50,000 per ward) Neighbourhood Fund is aligned and project applications will be assessed following the deadline for applications (20 January 2023). It is requested that the decision on successful applications is delegated to the Neighbourhood and Community Board to agree at the February 2023 meeting, and reported to the March 2023 Area Committee.

### 3. Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme 2020 – 2023

- 3.1 The table below shows the financial position of Coalfield Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme for 2020/2023.

Project Name	Committee Date	Budget Returned	Budget Aligned	Budget Approved	Balance
<b>Starting Balance for 2020/2023</b>					<b>£500,000</b>
Festive Lighting Project	15.07.20	-	-	£10,000	£490,000
Mining Heritage Project	09.12.20	-	-	£50,000	£440,000
Shiney Lighting	17.03.21	-	-	£5,961	£434,039
Elmore Greenspace	17.03.21	-	-	£100,000	£334,039
Improving Rectory Park	17.03.21	-	-	£100,000	£234,039
Lighting up Rectory Park	16.03.22	-	-	£35,000	£199,039
Old Durham Road Play	15.06.22			£35,000	£164,039
Environmental Improvements to Herrington Colliery Welfare Ground	28.09.22	-	-	£10,000	£154,039
Improvements to Herrington Colliery Welfare Ground Pavillion	28.09.22	-	-	£41,000	£113,039
Footpath Improvements to Fenton Tce/Railway Tce	28.09.22	-	-	£14,300	£98,739

- 3.2 Coalfield Area Committee has been allocated £500,000 for capital developments which complement the Neighbourhood Investment Plan. Members will be responsible for allocating the funding through a majority decision at Area Committee.
- 3.3 The Capital Programme is now in the final year of a three year programme and the budget was available to allocate across one or more years depending on the proposals presented.

- 3.4 There is one request for funding presented to this meeting as outlined below and in **Annex 2**.
- Enclosure of the Class A football pitch at Herrington Colliery Welfare Ground £40,000
- 3.5 Should this project be approved, the total Coalfield Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme balance remaining would be **£58,739**
- 3.6 There are also two projects under consideration which the Neighbourhood and Community Board will discuss at the February meeting, with a view to presenting the preferred option to the March 2023 Area Committee.

#### 4. Community Chest

- 4.1 For 2022/23 Copt Hill, Hetton, Houghton and Shiney Row wards have been allocated a ward budget of £10,000 each, to support projects which complement the Neighbourhood Investment Plan. The process to allocate Community Chest has now moved online to make it easier for Groups to access the funds, however, if Groups need digital support Area Arrangements will provide it to ensure inclusivity. Ward Councillors will continue to lead on seeking suitable project proposals and making decisions on applications received. Where a majority decision and discussions cannot be resolved at a ward level the outcome will be escalated to Area Committee for a final decision.
- 4.2 The table below details the Community Chest current budget position for 2022/2023. **Annex 3** shows the approvals supported to date for 2022/23.

Ward	Start Balance for 2022/2023	Project approvals since April 2022	Grant Returned	Balance
Copt Hill	£10,000	£3,067		£6,933
Hetton	£10,000	£6,150		£3,850
Houghton	£10,000	£7,885	£500	£2,115
Shiney Row	£10,000	£2,077		£7,923
<b>Total</b>	<b>£40,000</b>	<b>£19,179</b>		<b>£20,821</b>

#### 5. Recommendations:

Committee are requested to:-

- Note the financial statements set out in section 2.1, 3.1 and 4.1.
- Approve the 2 Neighbourhood Fund applications from 2022/23 budget as set out in Section 2.3 and Annex 1
- Agree that the February 2023 meeting of the Neighbourhood and Community Board review and approve the ward based youth project applications from the previously aligned Neighbourhood Fund budget, and report to the March 2023 Area Committee
- Approve the Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme application set out in 3.4 and Annex 2
- Note the Community Chest approvals supported from 2022/2023, as detailed in Annex 3

**Contact Officer:** Pauline Hopper, Area Community Development Lead  
[pauline.hopper@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:pauline.hopper@sunderland.gov.uk)

## Neighbourhood Fund proposals

## Application No. 1

<b>Funding Source</b>	Neighbourhood Fund
<b>Name of Project</b>	Buddies Toddlers
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	Hetton Buddies

<b>Total cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total NF Application</b>
£3,500	£0	£3,500

**Project Description:**

Hetton Buddies has been operating as a successful weekly support group for children with additional needs and their parents for over a year. The success of our group has meant that we are fully subscribed with members attending every week, we have now been approached to expand our offer to younger children and to open a toddlers group. Volunteers have completed safeguarding and other appropriate training, risk assessments and policies & procedures are in place.

We would like to offer a weekly toddler session for children aged from birth to age 5, to provide a session for those who do not access nursery or are below nursery age and have nowhere to learn social skills with other children or a safe environment to play and develop alongside others. Another main aim of our session would be to offer a support mechanism for the parents/carers who will accompany the young people to sessions, as it can be incredibly isolating to be the parent/carer of a child with additional needs, as they often don't feel like they fit in to mainstream services and parents/carers can become withdrawn.

We feel the benefits of this project will support 20 younger children to feel supported and included in social activities and will give them the opportunity to develop friendships, play and take part in educational activities which are age appropriate. We also believe this project will benefit at least 20 parent/carers who attend the weekly sessions to feel the peer support and guidance of others experiences, which will in turn support their mental wellbeing and reduce social isolation. We will seek regular feedback from our service users to ensure we are flexible and adaptable to meet their individual needs, we will be open and inclusive to any family from across the Coalfield area.

Hetton Buddies has always worked in partnership with other organisations and we will continue to do so. We will work closely in partnership with Community Opportunities over the first 6 months of the project to develop and grow the toddler group with their guidance and support.

We plan to charge £2 per family to ensure the project is sustainable. We will sell refreshments, hold raffles, tombolas and do other fund raising to support ongoing costs. We aim to launch on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

**Recommendation: Approve:** The project will meet the Delivery Plan priority of 'Support Voluntary and Community Sector'

## Application No. 2

<b>Funding Source</b>	Neighbourhood Fund
<b>Name of Project</b>	Coalfield Pride 2023
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	Coalfield LGBTQ+ Support Group

<b>Total cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total NF Application</b>
£11,325	£0	£11,325

**Project Description**

Coalfield's LGBTQ+ Support Group was established in July 2021. Our aim is to support members of the LGBTQ+ community in our area, to provide them with a platform to share their experiences and support

one another. The group's members took the decision to organise their very own PRIDE event, and came up with the idea of holding Coalfield's PRIDE as a celebration within the community of all things LGBT+ which was held in July 2022.

Building on the success of the 2022 Pride, the event will take place in July 2023 at Hetton School. The group will work alongside the school, and pupils from the school will be volunteering on the day, managing the car park entrance and providing wristbands to members of the community attending the event. An events company are to provide security staff, event staff and First Aid tent and staff. A stage, PA, a sound technician, a generator power for the stage and a stage manager will be provided. There will be a children's fun fair, bouncy castles and catering facilities, there will also be sufficient portable toilets for people attending the event.

There will be a number of tribute acts performing from 12:00pm until 6:00pm, and the event will end at approximately 6:00pm. The group have organised for six acts to perform at the event. In addition, throughout the day there will be walk around performances, stilt-walkers and a face painter. Local press and radio stations will cover the event, and a photographer will capture all of the highlights from the day.

There will be a small charge at the gate for members of the local community, and a fee will also be charged for car parking. All monies raised will go to the Coalfields LGBT+ Support Group, and our aim going forward will be to continue to provide a regular face to face opportunity for our members to meet up with one another, in a safe space, support one another and welcome new members.

**Recommendation – Approve (with conditions)**

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend approval of the project which will meet the Neighbourhood Investment Plan priority 'support the voluntary and community sector to host community events and activities'.

**Conditions:** All relevant event plans, risk assessments, insurance documentation and health and safety assessments must be provided. Quotes and written agreements between the group and contractors must also be available.

## Neighbourhood Capital Investment Programme proposal

## Application No. 1

<b>Funding Source</b>	Neighbourhood Capital Investment Programme
<b>Name of Project</b>	Herrington Colliery Pitch Fencing
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	Sunderland City Council

<b>Total cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total NF Application</b>
£40,000	£0	£40,000

**Project Description:**

The Class A football pitch within Herrington Colliery Welfare Ground is subject to overuse due to informal and unauthorised use e.g. dog training/walking, keep fit/boot camp/football training sessions. It is proposed that the pitch is fenced off with a lockable gate and therefore only available for those booking and paying to play on that pitch. The condition of pitch will be preserved for team matches.

**Recommendation: Approve.** Improvements to the facility will support the Coalfield Neighbourhood Investment Plan priorities of 'Enhance local greenspaces', 'support community facilities' and 'encourage use of outdoor space for health and wellbeing'

**Coalfield Area Committee**
**14<sup>th</sup> December 2022**
**Community Chest Awards April 2022 - December 2022**

<b>Copt Hill Ward Budget</b>	<b>£10,000</b>		<b>Approvals</b>
<b>Project</b>	<b>Approval Date</b>	<b>Returned</b>	<b>Approvals</b>
HCR200 (joint with Hetton)	09.06.22		£500
Houghton Archers (joint with Houghton)	30.06.22		£600
Hetton Juniors FC (joint with Hetton & Houghton)	11.07.22		£667
Houghton U3A	16.09.22		£300
Houghton Heritage Society (All 4 Wards)	16.09.22		£500
The Houghton Feast Trust (All 4 Wards)	16.09.22		£500
<b>Remaining balance - £6933</b>		-	<b>£3067</b>
<b>Hetton Ward Budget</b>	<b>£10,000</b>		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Approval Date</b>	<b>Returned</b>	<b>Approvals</b>
HCR200 (Joint with Copt Hill)	09.06.22		£500
Hetton Juniors FC (joint with Copt Hill & Houghton)	11.07.22		£650
HALO-Nidderdale	15.08.22		£1000
Houghton Heritage Society (All 4 Wards)	16.09.22		£500
The Houghton Feast Trust (All 4 Wards)	16.09.22		£500
Hetton Buddies	21.10.22		£500
Community Opportunities	24.11.22		£1800.14
Springboard Adventure	24.11.22		£700
<b>Remaining balance - £3,849.86</b>		-	<b>£6150.14</b>
<b>Houghton Ward Budget</b>	<b>£10,000</b>		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Approval Date</b>	<b>Returned</b>	<b>Approvals</b>
HOPE (Houghton Older People's Enterprise)	13.05.22		£466.30
Gateway Wheelers	16.06.22		£784.74
Kepier Hall	16.06.22		£786
Houghton Archers (joint with Copt Hill)	30.06.22		£600
Hetton Juniors FC (joint with Copt Hill & Hetton)	11.07.22		£600
Dubmire FC Over 40's	15.08.22		£1,000
Houghton Heritage Society (All 4 Wards)	16.09.22		£500
The Houghton Feast Trust (All 4 Wards)	16.09.22		£500
The Old Rectory	06.10.22		£500
Space4	21.10.22		£950
HOPS	24.11.22		£500
Durham Elvet Rotary Club	24.11.22		£698
<b>Remaining balance - £2114.96</b>		-	<b>£7885.04</b>
<b>Shiney Row Ward Budget</b>	<b>£10,000</b>		

<b>Project</b>	<b>Approval Date</b>	<b>Returned</b>	<b>Approvals</b>
Together For Children	16.08.22		£500
Trinity Methodist	31.08.22	£423.17	£576.83
Houghton Heritage Society (All 4 Wards)	16.09.22		£500
The Houghton Feast Trust (All 4 Wards)	16.09.22		£500
<b>Remaining balance - £7,923.17</b>		-	<b>£2,076.83</b>



## Current Planning Applications (Coalfields)

Between 01/10/2022 and 24/11/2022

Reference	Address	Proposal	Date Valid	Target Date for Decision
22/02193/ADV	Land At Newbottle Street Houghton-le-Spring	Replace existing signage with internally illuminated 48 sheet advert to support digital poster.	03/10/2022	28/11/2022
Copt Hill				
22/02106/FUL	Garage Block Lawnswood Houghton-le-Spring DH5 8JA	Erection of double garage. (Retrospective)	05/10/2022	30/11/2022
Copt Hill				
22/01884/FUL	Chemvicon Carbon Cloth Division High Tech House Unit D Commerce Way Rainton Bridge Industrial Estate Houghton-Le-Spring DH4 5PP	Removal of redundant furnaces and support structure, installation of new furnace and associated cloth handling system, IR drier. Installation of new gas abatement plant and upgrade of site effluent plant with new contaminant bund. Increase site electrical capacity by installation of new HV/LV transformer and cabling.	02/11/2022	28/12/2022
Hetton				
22/02433/FUL	Chemvicon Carbon Cloth Division High Tech House Unit D Commerce Way Rainton Bridge Industrial Estate Houghton-Le-Spring DH4 5PP	Installation of a dual vehicle charging point, replace existing fencing to north and south boundary with 2.4metre mesh security fencing, including automated pedestrian and vehicle access gates.	03/11/2022	29/12/2022
Hetton				

Reference	Address	Proposal	Date Valid	Target Date for Decision
22/02478/FUL	23 Whitehill RoadEasington LaneHoughton-Le-SpringDH5 0PA	Erection of a single storey rear extension	11/11/2022	06/01/2023
Hetton				
22/02523/FUL	Hetton Lyons Cricket ClubLilywhite TerraceEasington LaneHoughton- Le-SpringDH5 0HF	Erection of a two storey extension to existing cluhouse including new and replacement external staircase.	16/11/2022	11/01/2023
Hetton				
22/02525/OUT	Snippersgate CottageSouth Hetton RoadEasington LaneHoughton-Le- SpringDH5 0LG	Erection of a detached dwelling (All matters reserved except for access).	17/11/2022	12/01/2023
Hetton				
22/02138/FUL	18 Wingate GrangeHoughton-le- SpringDH4 6GQ	Brick up part of detached double garage and installation of air conditioning unit. (Retrospective)	13/10/2022	08/12/2022
Houghton				
22/02299/FUL	21 Fairbairn DriveHoughton-le- SpringDH4 5JQ	Erection of single storey front extension and installation of rear bi-fold door.	18/10/2022	13/12/2022
Houghton				

Reference	Address	Proposal	Date Valid	Target Date for Decision
22/02301/FUL	Sunniside Farm HouseSunnisideHoughton-le-SpringDH4 5HZ	Erection of a detached garage with storage above (retrospective)	18/10/2022	13/12/2022
Houghton				
22/02320/VA4	Burnside Primary SchoolBrinkburn CrescentHoughton-le-SpringDH4 5HB	Variation of Condition 2 of Planning Application 21/02019/FU4 to amend timescales for removal of development and reinstatement of site. Furthermore, removal of Condition 5 (noise) and Condition 6 (ventilation), as information accompanies this application.	20/10/2022	15/12/2022
Houghton				
22/02460/LBC	Gilpin HouseChurch StreetHoughton-le-SpringDH4 4DN	Part loft conversion including 3x conservation roof lights.	08/11/2022	03/01/2023
Houghton				
22/02462/TC3	The Old RectoryThe BroadwayHoughton-le-SpringDH4 4BB	Fell Lawson Cypress Tree	08/11/2022	20/12/2022
Houghton				
22/02459/FUL	Gilpin HouseChurch StreetHoughton-le-SpringDH4 4DN	Part loft conversion including 3x conservation roof lights.	10/11/2022	05/01/2023
Houghton				

Reference	Address	Proposal	Date Valid	Target Date for Decision
22/02473/LP3	Houghton Branch Library And Learning Centre 74 Newbottle Street Houghton-le-Spring DH4 4GB	Replace and enlarge 3 no. existing windows to rear (west elevation).	15/11/2022	10/01/2023
Houghton				
22/02390/FUL	Land North Of Mulberry Way Dubmire Industrial Estate Fence Houses Houghton-le-Spring DH4 5RJ	Proposed Open Storage of Caravans (Use Class B8) and the erection of boundary fence and vehicle access gates.	18/11/2022	17/02/2023
Houghton				
22/02247/FUL	14 Shellbark Houghton-Le-Spring DH4 7TD	Erection of a single storey front extension	11/10/2022	06/12/2022
Shiney Row				
22/01833/FUL	Woodville Alice Well Villas Coxgreen Sunderland SR4 9JU	Proposed loft conversion including balcony within roof to front and 8 no. roof lights and 2 no. juliette balconies to first storey rear.	13/10/2022	08/12/2022
Shiney Row				
22/02289/FUL	1 Elliott Close Shiney Row Houghton-Le-Spring DH4 7QZ	Erection of two storey side extension with single storey rear/ front extensions and front and rear dormers.	14/10/2022	09/12/2022
Shiney Row				

Reference	Address	Proposal	Date Valid	Target Date for Decision
22/02393/FUL	127 Weymouth DriveHoughton-Le-SpringDH4 7TZ	Change of use of open land to residential garden with new fencing (Retrospective).	03/11/2022	29/12/2022
Shiney Row				
22/01433/FUL	Land OppositeGreenhurstWatersideCo xgreenSunderlandSR4 9JS	Change of use of private garden and equestrian land to provide tea rooms, including decked seating area with projection over riverbank, seating with grassed area, pergola, conversion of part stables to covered seating area and pontoon.	10/11/2022	05/01/2023
Shiney Row				