

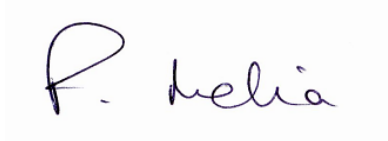
CITY HALL,
SUNDERLAND.
2 June 2023.

TO THE MEMBERS OF SUNDERLAND CITY COUNCIL

YOU ARE SUMMONED TO ATTEND A MEETING of Sunderland City Council to be held in the **Council Chamber, City Hall, Plater Way, Sunderland, SR1 3AA** on **WEDNESDAY 14 June 2023** at **4.00 p.m.** at which it is proposed to consider and transact the following business:-

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| 1. To read the Notice convening the meeting. | - |
| 2. Apologies. | - |
| 3. To approve the minutes of the Annual meeting of the Council held on 17 May 2023 (copy attached). | 1 |
| 4. Receipt of Declarations of Interest (if any). | - |
| 5. Announcements (if any) under Rule 2(e). | - |
| 6. To consider the Outstanding Motions from the last ordinary meeting of the Council held 22 March 2023 (copy attached). | 39 |
| 7. Reception of Petitions. | - |
| 8. Written Questions by Members of the Public (if any) under Rule 10. | - |

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 9. Written Questions by Members of the Council (if any) under Rule 11. | - |
| 10. Area Arrangements Annual Report 2022/23 – report of the Executive Director of Health, Housing and Communities (copy attached). | 43 |
| 11. Scrutiny Annual Report 2022/23 – report of the Assistant Director of Law and Governance (copy attached). | 75 |
| 12. To consider a report on action taken on petitions (copy attached). | 99 |
| 13. Local Government Boundary Commission for England Electoral Review of Sunderland - report of the Chief Executive (copy attached). | 107 |
| 14. To consider the following report:- | 113 |
| (i) Report on Special Urgency Decisions – report of the Leader (copy attached). | |
| 15. To consider the attached Motions (copy attached). | 117 |

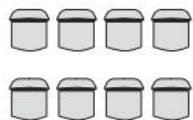


PATRICK MELIA, CHIEF EXECUTIVE.

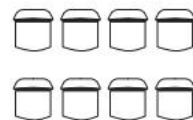
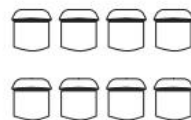
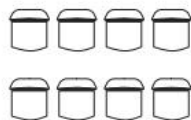
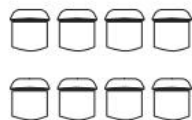
Note it is intended that the meeting will be livestreamed for the public to view on the Council's YouTube channel at

https://youtube.com/live/xqY_4aJahMw?feature=share

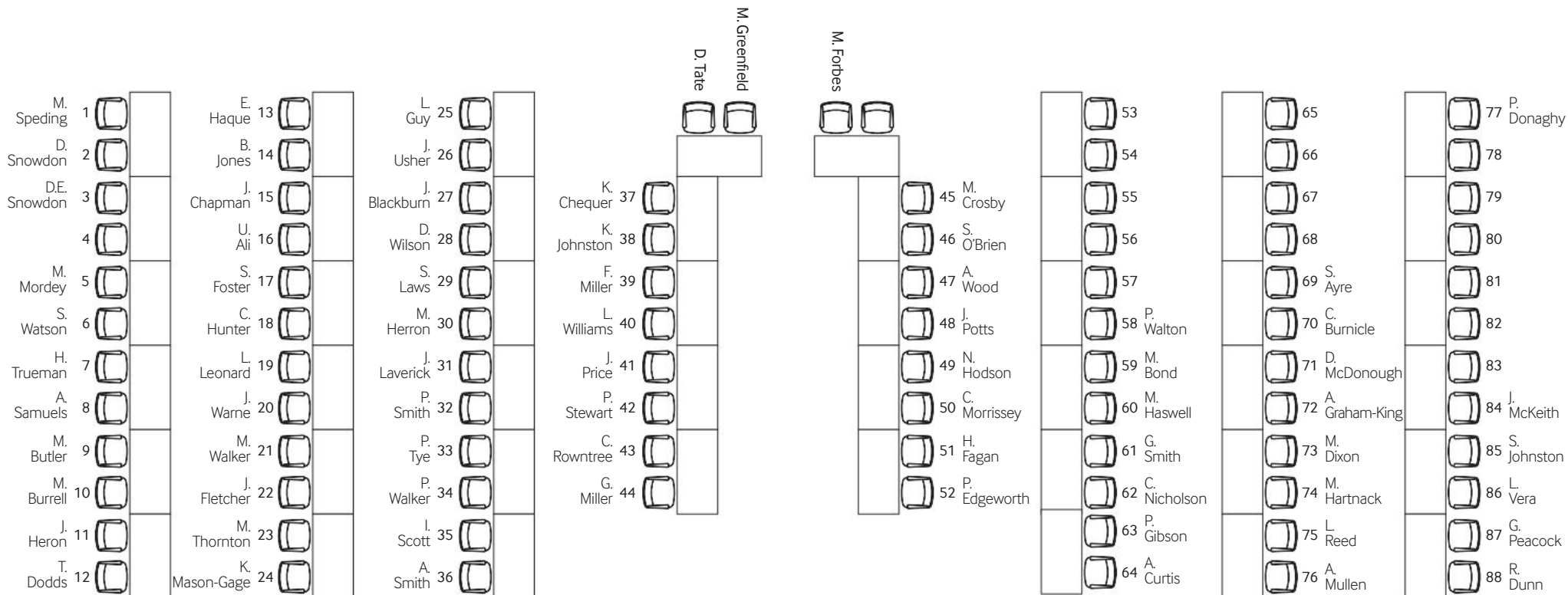
Chief Officer seating



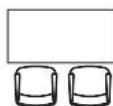
Press and Public Gallery



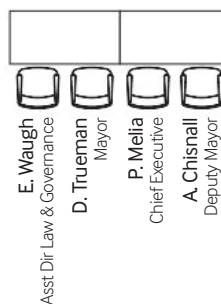
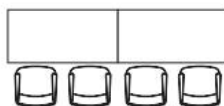
Honorary Aldermen



AV Access



Governance Services



Minutes

Sunderland City Council

At the Annual meeting of SUNDERLAND CITY COUNCIL held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL on WEDNESDAY 17 MAY 2023 at 6.00 p.m.

Present: The Mayor (Councillor A. Smith) in the Chair
The Deputy Mayor (Councillor D. Trueman)

Councillors	Ali	Fletcher	McDonough	Smith, P.
	Blackburn	Gibson	Miller, F.	Snowdon, D.
	Bond	Guy	Miller, G.	Snowdon, D.E.
	Burnicle	Haque	Mordey	Speding
	Burrell	Hartnack	Morrissey	Stewart
	Butler	Haswell	Mullen	Thornton
	Chapman	Heron	Nicholson	Trueman, H.
	Chequer	Herron	Peacock	Tye
	Chisnall	Hodson	Potts	Usher
	Crosby	Hunter	Price	Vera
	Curtis	Johnston, K.	Reed	Walker, M.
	Dixon	Jones	Rowntree	Walker, P.
	Dodds	Laverick	Samuels	Walton
	Dunn	Laws	Scott	Warne
	Edgeworth	Leonard	Smith, A.	Williams
	Fagan	Mason-Gage	Smith, G.	Wood

Also Present:-

Honorary Aldermen: - M. Greenfield and R.D. Tate.

Notice Convening the Meeting

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the Annual Council meeting and the Chief Executive read the notice convening the meeting.

Mayor's Announcements

- **Former Councillor Bernie Scaplehorn**

It was with great sadness that the Mayor informed Council of the recent death of former Councillor of the City, Bernie Scaplehorn. Councillors joined the Mayor in standing for a minute's silence as a mark of respect for their former colleague.

Election of Mayor

The Council proceeded to the election of a Mayor for the ensuing year, (to the next Annual Meeting of the Council) and nominations were invited. Councillor Warne, seconded by Councillor Speding, nominated Councillor Dorothy Trueman to be appointed as Mayor of the City for the ensuing year.

At the invitation of the Mayor, Councillor Warne and Councillor Speding spoke in support of the nomination.

A further nomination was received from Councillor Edgeworth and seconded by Councillor Crosby that Councillor Stephen O'Brien be appointed as Mayor of the City for the ensuing year.

At the invitation of the Mayor, Councillors Edgeworth and Crosby spoke in support of the nomination.

A further nomination was received from Councillor Mullen and seconded by Councillor Reed that Councillor McDonough be appointed as Mayor of the City for the ensuing year.

At the invitation of the Mayor, Councillor Mullen spoke in support of the nomination.

With no further nominations being received, the Mayor informed Councillors that they would be invited to vote by a show of hands for their preferred candidate. The vote was taken and with a clear majority voting in favour of Councillor Dorothy Trueman, it was:-

1. **RESOLVED** that Councillor Dorothy Trueman be appointed Mayor of the City for the ensuing year.

The Mayor then read and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and made her acceptance speech.

Mayor's Chaplain

The Mayor reported that she had appointed the Reverend Julie Wing of Holy Trinity Church, Washington to be Chaplain for her term of office. The Mayor's Chaplain then offered prayers.

Vote of Thanks to Retiring Mayor

Councillor Stewart, duly seconded by Councillor Usher and supported by Councillors Edgeworth and Mullen, thanked the retiring Mayor, Councillor A. Smith, for the manner in which she had discharged her duties as Mayor.

Councillor A. Smith responded appropriately.

On behalf of the Mayor, the Macebearer presented badges to Councillor Alison Smith and her consort, to commemorate their year of office, together with a photographic record of the engagements during the Mayoral Year.

Election of Deputy Mayor

The Council then proceeded to the election of Deputy Mayor for the ensuing year, (to the next Annual Meeting of the Council) and nominations were invited.

Councillor Foster, seconded by Councillor Usher nominated Councillor Allison Chisnall to be appointed as Deputy Mayor of the City for the ensuing year.

At the invitation of the Mayor, Councillors Foster and Usher spoke in support of the nomination.

A further nomination was received from Councillor Mullen and seconded by Councillor Reed that Councillor Michael Hartnack be appointed as Deputy Mayor of the City for the ensuing year.

At the invitation of the Mayor, Councillor Mullen spoke in support of the nomination.

With no further nominations being received, the Mayor informed Councillors that they would be invited to vote by a show of hands for their preferred candidate. The vote was taken and with a clear majority voting in favour of Councillor Chisnall, it was:-

2. **RESOLVED** that Councillor Allison Chisnall be appointed to the Office of Deputy Mayor for the ensuing year.

The Deputy Mayor then read and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and made her acceptance speech.

On behalf of the Mayor, the Macebearer presented gifts to the Consort to the Retiring Mayor and Councillor Harry Trueman.

Minutes

3. **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 22 March 2023 (copy circulated), be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors Ayre, Donaghy, Graham-King, S. Johnston, McKeith, O'Brien, Watson and Wilson and on behalf of Alderman M. Forbes.

Announcements

The Mayor made the following announcements:

- **Civic Service**

A Civic Service would be held in Holy Trinity Church, Washington at 10:00am on Sunday 11th June, 2023.

- **Mayor's Charities**

The charities the Mayor would be supporting during her term of office would be, Special Lioness and Hug in a Bag.

Appointments to Cabinet and the Portfolio Responsibilities, the Deputy Cabinet Members and any Amendments to the Arrangements for the Delegation of Executive Functions made by the Leader

4. RESOLVED that:-

i) the Leader's appointments and allocation of Portfolio responsibilities as set out below, be noted and that consequential amendments, as appropriate, be made to the Constitution, including the amendment of the Deputy Leader Budget Heading set out in the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules to "Deputy Leader and Clean, Green City":-

Deputy Leader of the Council and
Clean, Green City Portfolio Holder

Councillor Rowntree

Cabinet Secretary

Councillor Stewart

PORTFOLIO

EXECUTIVE MEMBER

Children, Learning and Skills

Councillor Williams

Healthy City

Councillor Chequer

Vibrant City

Councillor Price

Dynamic City

Councillor K. Johnston

EMERGENCY COMMITTEE OF CABINET

Leader of the Council, Deputy Leader & Clean, Green City Portfolio Holder and one relevant Portfolio Holder

SCHOOL ORGANISATION COMMITTEE OF CABINET

Children, Learning and Skills Portfolio Holder (Chair), Leader of the Council (Vice Chair), Cabinet Secretary, Vibrant City Portfolio Holder, Healthy City Portfolio Holder.

CABINET MEMBERS AND PORTFOLIO RESPONSIBILITIES

The portfolio responsibilities for executive members are as follows:

Executive Member	Portfolio
Leader	<p>To provide political leadership on behalf of residents, stakeholders and partners in the co-ordination of Council strategies, policies, and service delivery, ensuring good quality services.</p> <p>To provide political leadership in the development of local, regional, sub-regional strategies and strategic partnerships.</p> <p>To promote and enhance the reputation of Sunderland - the city and the council - at national, European and international levels.</p> <p>To ensure that the Council's approach to the economic, social and physical regeneration of the city is integrated, enabling and effective</p> <p>To provide democratic leadership to partners, residents and stakeholders, ensuring a collaborative approach to the development and delivery of services which meet people's needs and aspirations.</p> <p>To co-ordinate and apportion the roles and responsibilities of Members.</p> <p>To provide political leadership in relation to communications and corporate affairs.</p> <p>To provide political leadership in relation to safer communities.</p> <p>To undertake the role of Armed Forces Champion for the Council.</p>
Deputy Leader of the Council and Clean, Green City Portfolio Holder	<p>In the absence of the Leader of the Council, the Deputy Leader has overall responsibility for the portfolio of the Leader of the Council.</p> <p>To support the Leader as appropriate, working collectively with the Cabinet and Deputy Cabinet Members.</p>

To exercise political policy oversight and provide political leadership to the Council's approach to the environment, ensuring that the city is clean, green, attractive and accessible for all.

To provide political leadership to the Council's climate change and low carbon plans and activities, working towards being a carbon neutral council by 2030 and carbon neutral city by 2040.

To ensure that the Council's approach to the environment is integrated, enabling and effective, and the Council fulfils its strategic and statutory roles in relation to these functions. This includes exercising political policy oversight in relation to public protection and place regulation to create a high-quality physical environment for living and working in and visiting the city.

To provide political leadership to environment, low carbon and energy partnerships.

Cabinet Secretary

To provide political leadership to the Council's approach to the efficient and effective deployment of resources to sustain services that matter to local people and to local communities.

To deputise for the Leader as appropriate.

To exercise political policy oversight relating to the Community Wealth Building and Cooperative development agendas, leading on the creation of social value through procurement and supporting the embedding of these principles across all portfolios.

To exercise political policy oversight relating to functions within Corporate Services, data protection and equalities.

To ensure that the Council's internal operations are integrated, enabling and effective and the Council fulfils its strategic and statutory roles in relation to Corporate Services.

Children, Learning and Skills

To provide political leadership to the Council's approach to commissioned and procured partnerships as well as partnerships where Sunderland is the lead authority.

To provide political leadership to the Council's Smart City agenda.

To be the designated "lead member for children's services" in accordance with Section 19 of the Children Act 2004.

To provide political leadership to the Council's approach to the priorities of children, learning and skills to ensure that children and young people achieve the best outcomes and all-age learning and skills agendas are supported.

To ensure that the Council's approach to the children, learning and skills agenda is integrated, enabling and effective and the Council fulfils its strategic and statutory roles in relation to these functions.

Healthy City

To provide political leadership to the Council's approach to the priorities of health and life chances of children and adults.

To exercise political policy oversight relating to the Council's adults and public health functions.

To provide political leadership to an all-population approach to public health, narrowing the health inequalities gap to achieve the best outcomes for all residents.

To ensure that the Council's approach to the adults and public health agendas is integrated, enabling and effective and the Council fulfils its strategic and statutory roles in relation to these functions.

Vibrant City

To provide political leadership to the Council's approach to the priorities of local communities to achieve the best outcomes as well as ensuring a wide-ranging cultural offer and that communities have access to the opportunities on offer in the city.

To exercise political policy oversight relating to the Council's communities and culture functions, including tourism and heritage.

To ensure that the Council's approach to communities, culture, leisure and resident engagement and resilience is integrated, enabling, effective and built on Community Wealth Building principles, and that the Council fulfils its strategic and statutory roles in relation to these functions.

As the Council's designated Food Champion, provide political leadership to the food poverty agenda.

To provide political leadership to the Council's approach to area/community and cultural partnerships.

Dynamic City

To exercise political policy oversight and provide political leadership to the Council's approach to the priorities of housing, regeneration and planning, ensuring that the city achieves the best outcomes from physical and economic regeneration including business and housing growth.

To exercise political policy oversight and provide political leadership to the Council's transport and infrastructure priorities and plans, supporting the development of great transport links and active travel opportunities.

To ensure that the Council's approach to the housing, transport and regeneration agenda is integrated, enabling and effective and the Council fulfils its strategic and statutory roles in relation to these functions, including dealing with homelessness.

To provide political leadership to the Council's approach to partnerships relating to housing, transport and regeneration.

To ensure Community Wealth Building and cooperative development approaches to delivering these priorities and functions, including a focus on the growth of the SME sector and on opportunities for the expansion of social housing across the city.

DEPUTY CABINET MEMBERS

Children, Learning and Skills	Councillor I. Scott
Healthy City	Councillor F. Miller
Vibrant City	Councillor P. Walker
Dynamic City	Councillor A. Smith

Appointments to all Council Committees and Sub-Committees and Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen thereof

Appointments to Joint Committees, Joint Authorities, outside bodies and Working Groups except where appointment to those bodies is an executive function

Update to the Constitution in relation to the update to Portfolio Responsibilities

To fix dates and times of meetings of the Council, the Cabinet and Committees etc.

To authorise the Assistant Director of Law and Governance, in consultation with the respective Chairmen, to make such changes as may be deemed necessary or expedient in connection with the dates and times of meetings of the Council, the Cabinet and Committees etc.

A Supplementary Report in relation to items 9-10 on the agenda had been circulated to all Members.

The Leader advised that there were no updates proposed to the Constitution other than the update to Portfolios.

It was moved by the Leader, and duly seconded by the Deputy Leader that items 9 to 13 inclusive be agreed.

The Mayor having put the motion to Council, that approval be given to items 9 to 13 inclusive, it was agreed accordingly, and:-

5. RESOLVED that: -

- (i) the appointments in respect of all Council Committees and Sub-Committees and Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen, as detailed below, be approved and adopted for the ensuing year;
- (ii) the appointments to Joint Committees, Joint Authorities, outside bodies and Working Groups except where appointment to those bodies is an executive function, be approved and adopted and the Leader's appointments to Joint Committees established under joint arrangements be noted;
- (iii) the update to the Constitution in relation to the update to portfolio responsibilities be agreed;
- (iv) the dates and times of meetings of the Council, the Cabinet and Committees be agreed; and
- (v) the Assistant Director of Law and Governance be authorised, in consultation with the respective Chairmen, to make such changes as may be deemed necessary or expedient in connection with (iv) above.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES AND CHAIRS AND VICE-CHAIRS THEREOF

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

5 Members (no more than one Member of Cabinet) plus 2 Co-opted Members

Councillor	Foster	Councillor	Nicholson
	Stewart		
	H. Trueman	Councillor	McDonough

Independent Members Mr. G.N. Cook and Mr. M. Knowles

Chair (Co-opted Member) Mr. G.N. Cook

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

12 Members

Councillor	Chequer K. Johnston G. Miller Price P. Smith Stewart Williams	Councillor	Haswell O'Brien Potts
		Councillor	Hartnack Mullen

Chair	Councillor G. Miller
Vice-Chair	Councillor Stewart

SUNDERLAND HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

20 Members

Healthy City Portfolio Holder (Chair) – Councillor Chequer
Deputy Cabinet Member for Healthy City – Councillor F. Miller
Children, Learning and Skills Portfolio Holder – Councillor Williams
Opposition Member – Councillor Bond

Council is requested to note the above-mentioned nominations are made by the Leader.

(Council Officers)

Chief Executive
Executive Director of Health, Housing and Communities
Director of Adult Services
Director of Children's Services and Chief Executive – Together for Children

(Representatives of external organisations)

Director of Place (Sunderland) – NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (ICB) – S. Watson
NHS North East and North Cumbria ICB Representatives -
Dr T. Lucas (Vice-Chair) and Dr R Hudson
Healthwatch representative – P. Weddle
Chair – Sunderland Partnership – **Vacancy**
Chief Executive, South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust– K. Bremner
Group Director, South Locality Care Group, Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne & Wear NHS Foundation Trust – A. Airey
University of Sunderland representative – Dr. Y. Graham
Chair – Sunderland Healthy Workplace Alliance
Sunderland Health and Care Alliance (Adults) – Dr M. Weatherhead
Sunderland Health and Care Alliance (Children) - Vacancy
Safer Sunderland Partnership representative – Chief Superintendent B. Joisce

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

14 Members

Councillor	Burrell Dodds Guy Jones Leonard Mason-Gage P. Smith Thornton Usher	Councillor	Curtis Morrissey Walton
		Councillor	Hartnack Mullen
	Chair Vice-Chair	Councillor Mason-Gage Councillor Dodds	

HEALTH AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

12 Members

Councillor	Haque J. Heron Hunter Jones Speding Usher M. Walker	Councillor	Bond Potts Walton
		Councillor	Burnicle Graham-King
	Chair Vice-Chair	Councillor Usher Councillor Jones	

CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND SKILLS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

12 Members + 4 Co-Opted Members

Councillor	Chapman Guy Samuels P. Smith D. Snowdon D. E. Snowdon Thornton	Councillor	Crosby Curtis Gibson
		Councillor	Dunn McDonough

Co-opted Members:-

1 Church of England diocese representative – Vacancy

1 Roman Catholic diocese representative – Ms. A. Blakey

Secondary and Special School Parent Governor representative – Vacancy

Primary School Parent Governor representative - Vacancy

Chair
Vice-Chair

Councillor Guy
Councillor Gibson

ECONOMIC PROSPERITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

12 Members

Councillor	Ali Burrell Foster Leonard Mordey Warne Watson	Councillor	Edgeworth Fagan O'Brien
		Councillor	Dixon Reed
	Chair Vice-Chair	Councillor Burrell Councillor Leonard	

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

8 Members

Councillor	Dodds K. Johnston G. Miller Stewart Williams	Councillor	Hodson O'Brien
		Councillor	Mullen

Co-Opted Members (non-voting):-

2 Members of Hetton Town Council nominated by the Town Council:-

To be confirmed

Chair	Councillor Dodds
Vice-Chair	Councillor Stewart

Independent Person (not a member of the Committee):-

Mr D. Hall – Appointed at Council in September 2017 for a period of two years, an additional period of two years from 1 October 2019 then an additional period of two years from 1 October 2021.

PLANNING AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

10 Members

Councillor	Ali Foster M. Herron Thornton Scott Warne	Councillor	Morrissey Nicholson
		Councillor	Dixon Peacock
	Chair Vice-Chair	Councillor Thornton Councillor Ali	

LICENSING AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE

15 Members

Councillor	Chapman Dodds Fletcher J. Heron Laverick Leonard Mordey H. Trueman M. Walker	Councillor	Curtis Gibson Wood
		Councillor	Hartnack S. Johnston Reed
	Chair Vice-Chair	Councillor Fletcher Councillor M. Walker	

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEES

Panels of 3 Members from Licensing Committee – Rotation system to operate

HOMELESSNESS APPEALS PANEL

10 Members

Councillor	Mason-Gage G. Miller Samuels Speding Usher Williams	Councillor	Curtis Hodson
		Councillor	Hartnack Vera
	Chair	Councillor Williams	

EDUCATION COMPLAINTS PANEL

10 Members

Councillor	Haque K. Johnston P. Smith Tye Williams Wilson	Councillor	Gibson Hodson
		Councillor	Dunn McDonough

EDUCATION (APPOINTMENT OF GOVERNORS) PANEL

10 Members

Councillor	Burrell Guy M. Herron Scott Watson Williams	Councillor	Nicholson G. Smith
		Councillor	McDonough Vera
	Chair	Councillor Williams	

APPEALS COMMITTEE

20 Members

Councillor	Blackburn Dodds Fletcher J. Heron Mason-Gage F. Miller G. Miller Rowntree A. Smith P. Smith Speding Stewart	Councillor	Curtis Crosby O'Brien Potts
		Councillor	Dixon Hartnack Mullen Reed

A Panel will comprise 3 Members, 2 majority and 1 opposition

JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

8 Members

Councillor	K. Johnston G. Miller Rowntree Stewart Williams	Councillor	Haswell Potts
		Councillor	McDonough

* N.B. The position of Chair alternates annually with Trade Union Side.

SUPPORTIVE PARENTING PARTNERSHIP

(Note: At its meeting on 21st November 2022, the Corporate Parenting Board expressed the wish to be renamed the Supportive Parenting Partnership with effect from the start of the 2023 municipal year and Council approved this change.)

7 Members

Children, Learning and Skills Portfolio
Holder (substitute Deputy Cabinet Member
for Children, Learning and Skills)

Councillors	Guy P. Smith Tye (Substitutes – Councillors Burrell, Chapman and Mordey)	Councillor	Crosby (Substitute – Councillor Bond)
		Councillor	Gibson (Substitute – Councillor Fagan)
		Councillor	McDonough (Substitute – Councillor Burnicle)

1 Non-Voting Co-opted Member – A Non-Executive Director from Together for
Children - Sunderland

Chair	Children, Learning and Skills Portfolio Holder
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PORT BOARD

5 Members

Councillor	G. Miller Rowntree Stewart	Councillor	G. Smith
		Councillor	McDonough

Co-Opted Members

Mr R. McEvoy and Mr L. Taylor

Chair	Councillor G. Miller
Vice-Chair	Councillor Stewart

COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE

(Ward Councillors for Copt Hill, Hetton, Houghton and Shiny Row)

Councillor	Blackburn
	Burrell
	Dodds
	J. Heron
	K. Johnston
	Mason-Gage
	Price
	Rowntree
	Scott
	D. Snowdon
	Speding
	Thornton

Chair
Vice Chair

Councillor Blackburn
Councillor J. Heron

WEST SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE

(Ward Councillors for Barnes, Pallion, St. Anne's, St. Chad's, Sandhill and Silksworth)

Councillor	Ayre
	Burnicle
	Crosby
	Dunn
	Edgeworth
	Haque
	Haswell
	Hunter
	Laverick
	McDonough
	Mullen
	Nicholson
	O'Brien
	Peacock
	G. Smith
	P. Smith
	Tye
	Watson

Chair
Vice Chair

Councillor Laverick
Councillor Haswell

EAST SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE

(Ward Councillors for Doxford, Hendon, Millfield, Ryhope and St. Michael's)

Councillor

Ali
Curtis
Dixon
Fagan
Gibson
Graham-King
M. Herron
Hodson
Leonard
Mordey
Morrissey
Potts
Reed
Wood
Vacancy

Chair
Vice Chair

Councillor M. Herron
Councillor Hodson

NORTH SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE

(Ward Councillors for Castle, Fulwell, Redhill, St. Peter's and Southwick)

Councillor

Bond
Butler
Chequer
Chisnall
Foster
Hartnack
S. Johnston
McKeith
Samuels
A. Smith
Stewart
Usher
Vera
Walton
Wilson

Chair
Vice Chair

Councillor Wilson
Councillor Foster

WASHINGTON AREA COMMITTEE

**(Ward Councillors for Washington Central, Washington East,
Washington North, Washington South and Washington West)**

Councillor

Chapman
Donaghy
Fletcher
Guy
Jones
Laws
F. Miller
G. Miller
D.E. Snowdon
D. Trueman
H. Trueman
M. Walker
P. Walker
Warne
Williams

Chair
Vice Chair

Councillor Laws
Councillor Warne

JOINT COMMITTEES, JOINT AUTHORITIES, OUTSIDE BODIES AND WORKING GROUPS

ACTIVE SUNDERLAND BOARD

Vibrant City Portfolio Holder

ADVENTURE SUNDERLAND

Executive Director of Health, Housing and Communities

AGE UK

Deputy Cabinet Member for Healthy City

AGED MERCHANT SEAMEN'S HOMES AND THE SUNDERLAND DISTRESSED MARINER'S FUND

Councillors Mordey and Vacancy

ALLIANCE (FORMERLY COALFIELD COMMUNITIES CAMPAIGN)

Councillors Speding and H. Trueman

ANEC LTD.

Leader of the Council

Named Alternative - Deputy Leader and Clean, Green City Portfolio Holder

ANEC LTD. – NORTH EAST CULTURE PARTNERSHIP

Vibrant City Portfolio Holder

BOWES RAILWAY COMPANY LIMITED

Vacancy

BRITISH RESORTS ASSOCIATION - POLICY COMMITTEE

Councillor Foster

CHANCE PROJECT

Vacancy

CHILDREN'S CENTRES/EARLY HELP LOCAL ADVISORY PARTNERSHIP BOARDS

Coalfield and Washington –Coalfield Area Committee representative, Councillor J. Heron (Substitute – Councillor Blackburn) and Washington Area Committee Representative, Councillor Warne (Substitute - Councillor Laws)

Sunderland North & South –North Sunderland Area Committee Representative, Councillor Foster (Substitute - Councillor Wilson), East Sunderland Area Committee Representative, Councillor M. Herron (Substitute – Hodson) and West Area Committee Representative, Councillor Laverick (Substitute – Councillor Haswell)

CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU, WASHINGTON - MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Councillor H. Trueman

CO-OPERATIVE COUNCILS INNOVATION NETWORK

Cabinet Secretary

CUMBRIA, NORTHUMBERLAND, TYNE AND WEAR NHS FOUNDATION TRUST COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

Healthy City Portfolio Holder

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PARTNERSHIP

Healthy City Portfolio Holder

ELIZABETH DONNISON EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Councillors Mordey and Vacancy

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION UK

Deputy Leader & Clean, Green City Portfolio Holder
and the Dynamic City Portfolio Holder
Councillors G. Miller and Thornton
Director of Environmental Services – [Not on Committee]

FRIENDS OF SUNDERLAND MUSEUMS

Vibrant City Portfolio Holder
Substitute: Councillor P. Walker

**GENTOO GROUP LIMITED (this includes board membership of GENTOO
HOMES)**
**(Nominations are made subject to the application of Gentoo's appointments
process)**

Councillor P. Smith

GREAT EPPLETON WIND FARM PANEL

Councillor Thornton

GREEN TERRACE PRIMARY SCHOOL TRUST

Councillors Dunn, Haque and Wood

HETTON TOWN TRUST

Councillor Blackburn (term of office to 16 May 2024)

Councillor Scott (current term of office to 16 May 2023 – to be reappointed)

HEALTH AND WELLBEING CHAIRS NETWORK

Healthy City Portfolio Holder

HEALTH SCRUTINY JOINT COMMITTEE BETWEEN SOUTH TYNESIDE AND SUNDERLAND LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Councillors Ayre, Bond, Butler, J. Heron, D.E. Snowdon, Walton and Watson

HOUGHTON FEAST STEERING COMMITTEE

Councillors Blackburn, J. Heron, K. Johnston and Mason-Gage

HYLTON CASTLE TRUST

Councillors Chisnall and Wilson

INTERNATIONAL ADVANCED MANUFACTURING PARK (IAMP) LLP

Leader of the Council (Substitute - Deputy Leader & Clean, Green City Portfolio Holder), Chief Executive and the Executive Director of City Development

KEPIER ALMSHOUSES CHARITY

HOUGHTON LE SPRING RELIEF IN NEED CHARITY

Mrs. S. Wardle

KEY CITIES BOARD

Leader of the Council (with Deputy Leader & Clean, Green City Portfolio Holder as a substitute) and the Chief Executive

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION - GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Leader of the Council, Deputy Leader & Clean, Green City Portfolio Holder, Cabinet Secretary

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION – SIGOMA

Cabinet Secretary

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION COASTAL SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

Councillor K. Johnston and the Flood and Coastal Group Engineer, City Development Directorate

MAYOR’S FUND FOR NECESSITOUS CHILDREN

The Right Worshipful the Mayor for the time being
Children, Learning and Skills Portfolio Holder
Deputy Cabinet Member for Children, Learning and Skills
Councillor Dixon

MILLFIELD/ST. MARK’S COMMUNITY PROGRAMME

Councillor Hodson

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILLORS

Councillors Fagan, J. Heron and F. Miller

NEWCASTLE AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Councillor Usher Substitute Councillor H. Trueman

NEWCASTLE AIRPORT LOCAL AUTHORITY HOLDING COMPANY LIMITED

Director Leader of the Council
Alternate Director Deputy Leader & Clean, Green City Portfolio Holder

NORTH EAST AND NORTH CUMBRIA INTEGRATED CARE BOARD

Central Integrated Care Partnership

Healthy City Portfolio Holder, Executive Director of Health, Housing and Communities, Director of Children’s Services and Director of Adult Services

ICB Place Committee

Chief Executive, Executive Director of Health, Housing and Communities, Director of Children’s Services and Director of Adult Services

NORTH EAST AND NORTH CUMBRIA INTEGRATED CARE SYSTEM AND NORTH OF TYNE AND GATESHEAD AND DURHAM, SOUTH TYNESIDE AND SUNDERLAND AREA INTEGRATED CARE PARTNERSHIPS JOINT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Councillors Bond, Jones and Usher

NORTH EAST AUTOMOTIVE ALLIANCE

Chief Executive

NORTH EAST CHILD POVERTY COMMISSION

Children, Learning and Skills Portfolio Holder

NORTH EAST COMBINED AUTHORITY (where appointments are made by NECA or the Joint Transport Committee, those bodies will have regard to the nominations made by the Council)

North East Leadership Board

Leader of the Council

Substitute – Deputy Leader & Clean, Green City Portfolio Holder

Audit and Standards Committee

Councillor Hodson

Substitute – Councillor O'Brien

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillors Mason-Gage and Reed

Substitutes – Councillors Burnicle and Dodds

North East Joint Transport Committee

Leader of the Council (appointed by NECA)

Substitute – Deputy Leader & Clean, Green City Portfolio Holder (appointed by NECA)

North East Joint Transport (Tyne and Wear) Sub-Committee

Leader of the Council

Substitute – Deputy Leader & Clean, Green City Portfolio Holder

North East Joint Transport Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillors Mason-Gage and Mullen

Substitutes – Councillors Dodds and Reed

North East Joint Transport Audit Committee

Councillor Mason-Gage

Substitute – Councillor Dodds

**Economic Development and Digital Advisory Board
to the North East Combined Authority**

Leader of the Council

Substitute – Deputy Leader & Clean, Green City Portfolio Holder

NORTH EAST DISABILITIES RESOURCE CENTRE

Councillor Chequer

NORTH EAST JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Chair of Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee

Substitute: Chair of Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee

NORTH EAST LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Leader of the Council – Observer to the Board appointed by NECA

**NORTH EAST LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP BOARD INNOVATION
DELIVERY ADVISORY BOARD**

Chief Executive of the Council – appointed by NECA

**NORTH EAST LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP BOARD BUSINESS
GROWTH ADVISORY BOARD**

Leader of the Council – appointed by NECA

NORTH EAST MIGRATION NETWORK CORE STRATEGIC GROUP

Dynamic City Portfolio Holder (appointed by ANEC Ltd.)

NORTH EAST REGIONAL ARTS COUNCIL

Tyne and Wear vacancy to be nominated by ANEC Ltd.

NORTH EAST REGIONAL EMPLOYERS' ORGANISATION

Councillors G. Miller*, Price, Rowntree and Williams

* Member of the Executive Committee

NORTH EASTERN INSHORE FISHERIES AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Councillor Stewart

NORTH REGIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR SENSORY SUPPORT

General Council – Councillors Chequer and F. Miller*

* Also a Member of the Executive Committee

NORTHERN HOUSING CONSORTIUM LIMITED

Dynamic City Portfolio Holder

and Deputy Cabinet Member for Dynamic City

NORTHERN REGIONAL BRASS BAND TRUST

Councillor Warne

NORTHUMBRIA POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Deputy Leader & Clean, Green City Portfolio Holder and Cabinet Secretary
Substitutes – Councillor Fletcher and Councillor Laws

NORTHUMBRIA REGIONAL FLOOD AND COASTAL COMMITTEE (Four Year Term commencing 1 June 2021 to 31 May 2025)

Councillor K. Johnston
Substitute – Councillor A. Smith

Northumbria Regional Flood and Coastal Committee – Programming and Investment Group

Councillor K. Johnston
Substitute – Councillor A. Smith

PARKER MEMORIAL HOME / PARKER TRUST CIO

Current Trustees: Ms P Dyball, Mr I. Galbraith, Ms S. Rackstraw and Ms A. Solomon
(for a four year term until 19 June 2023)

Ms. H. Cox, Mrs S. Preece and Mr T. Preece (for a four year term until 19 May 2025)

Council agreed to nominate Councillor Gibson as Trustee:-

- to serve on the Parker Trust CIO for a four year term ending 17 May 2027, and
- to the original Parker Memorial Home Trust for a four year term ending 17 May 2027 or until it is disbanded, whichever is sooner.

ROKER REGATTA COMBINED CLUBS COMMITTEE

Councillors Foster and Stewart

SAMUEL DOBSON TRUST

Councillors Blackburn, J. Heron, K. Johnston, Mason-Gage, Scott and Speding

Chair – Councillor Blackburn

SIGLION LLP, SIGLION INVESTMENTS LLP, SIGLION DEVELOPMENTS LLP, SIGLION NOMINEE LTD, SIGLION HOLDINGS LTD, POTTERS HILL MANAGEMENT COMPANY LTD, VAUX MANAGEMENT COMPANY LIMITED

Leader of the Council, Deputy Leader & Clean, Green City Portfolio Holder and Chief Executive

SOUTH TYNESIDE AND SUNDERLAND NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

Deputy Cabinet Member for Healthy City

STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Councillors Dodds, O'Brien, Samuels, P. Smith and Williams

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education Agreed Syllabus Conference

Councillors Dodds, O'Brien, Samuels, P. Smith and Williams

ST. LUKE'S NEIGHBOURHOOD PROJECT

Councillor Nicholson

ST. PETER'S CHURCH BAKEHOUSE CAFÉ (Known as Bede's Monastery @ Monkwearmouth Limited)

Councillor McKeith

SUNDERLAND AFC FOUNDATION PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Leader of the Council, Children, Learning and Skills Portfolio Holder,
Cabinet Secretary, Chief Executive, Executive Director of City Development and
Executive Director of Health, Housing and Communities

SUNDERLAND BOYS INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FUND

Councillors J. Heron, Mordey and D. Trueman

SUNDERLAND BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Leader of the Council and Deputy Leader & Clean, Green City Portfolio Holder

SUNDERLAND CARE AND SUPPORT (HOLDING COMPANY) LIMITED

Councillors Fletcher, Thornton and Williams together with the Director of Adult
Services and Chief Finance Officer of the Company

SUNDERLAND CARE AND SUPPORT LIMITED

Councillors Fletcher, Thornton and Williams together with the Director of Adult Services and Chief Finance Officer of the Company

SUNDERLAND CULTURE LIMITED

Vibrant City Portfolio Holder and Executive Director of City Development

SUNDERLAND EMPIRE THEATRE TRUST

Councillor Williams (for a three year period to 19 May 2024) and the Director of Finance (for a three year period to 28 March 2026)

SUNDERLAND AND NORTH DURHAM ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Councillors Butler and Curtis

SUNDERLAND FOOTBALL TRUST BOARD

Vibrant City Portfolio Holder

SUNDERLAND LIFESTYLE PARTNERSHIP LIMITED

Vibrant City Portfolio Holder and the Executive Director of Health, Housing and Communities

SUNDERLAND ORPHANAGE AND EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Councillors Dixon, D. Snowdon, Speding and Thornton

SUNDERLAND PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE BOARD

Chief Executive

SUNDERLAND PARTNERSHIP NON-EXECUTIVE BOARD

Leader of the Council

Safer Sunderland Partnership

Leader of the Council
Cabinet Member for Healthy City
Executive Director of Health, Housing and Communities
Director of Children's Services – Chief Executive of Together for Children
Director of Adult Services
Assistant Director of Community Resilience
Head of Adult Social Care
Assistant Director of Regulatory Services

Local Multi Agency Problem Solving (LMAPS)

Coalfield – Councillor Blackburn

East Sunderland – Councillors M. Herron and Wood

North Sunderland – Councillor Wilson

Washington – Councillor Laws

West Sunderland – Councillor Tye

Dynamic City Board

Executive Director of City Development

SUNDERLAND SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD

Healthy City Portfolio Holder

SUNDERLAND SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP (SSCP)

Children, Learning and Skills Portfolio Holder

TOGETHER FOR CHILDREN – SUNDERLAND

Executive Directors

Chief Executive of Together for Children

Director of Finance (TfC)

Vacancy

Non-Executive Directors

Ms T Banks (initial term of office ends 31 March 2024 with an option to extend for a further two years)

Ms D. Exley (term of office ends 31 March 2024)

Ms C. Hearne (term of office ends 31 March 2024)

Mr S. Mason (term of office ends 31 March 2024)

Mr S. Williams (term of office ends 31 March 2026)

Assistant Director of Corporate Affairs, Sunderland City Council

Assistant Director of Economic Regeneration, Sunderland City Council

TRANSPORT FOR THE NORTH BOARD

Deputy Leader & Clean, Green City Portfolio Holder – appointed as the Deputy Representative by the North East Combined Authority

TRANSPORT FOR THE NORTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Representative to be appointed by the North East Combined Authority

TRIPLETT CHARITY

Councillors Fletcher, F. Miller and D.E. Snowdon

TYNE AND WEAR ANTI FASCIST ASSOCIATION

Councillor Warne - non-voting

TYNE AND WEAR FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

Councillors G. Smith, Tye, Usher and Warne

TYNE AND WEAR LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

Councillor F. Miller

TYNE AND WEAR PENSION FUND

Councillor Laws

Substitute – Councillor Price

TYNE AND WEAR STRATEGIC FLOOD GROUP

Councillor K. Johnston

Substitute – Councillor A. Smith

UNIVERSITY OF SUNDERLAND: BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Deputy Cabinet Member for Children, Learning and Skills

VICTORIA HOUSE CHARITY

Councillor M. Herron, Stewart and Usher

WASHINGTON SPORTS TRUST

Vibrant City Portfolio Holder,
Councillors Fletcher, Laws, G. Miller and P. Walker

WEAR WATER SPORTS CLUBS ASSOCIATION

Councillor Wilson

WOODCOCK AND BOWES CHARITY

Councillors J. Heron and Thornton

**WORKERS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
DISTRICT COMMITTEE**

Councillor D.E. Snowdon

WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION HEALTHY CITIES NETWORK

Healthy City Portfolio Holder
Substitute – Deputy Cabinet Member for Healthy City

Governors of Schools/Colleges

Council noted the appointment of Governors as set out below:-

Those highlighted in bold have been made by the Education (Appointment of Governors) Panel. The other governorships are those positions of which Governance Services are aware which are held by the individual Councillors in a capacity other than as a nominee of the Council. Any additions to this list may be notified to Governance Services and the on-line list will be updated.

Cllr. U. Ali	St. Paul's Church of England Primary School
Cllr. M. Burrell	St. Michael's RC Primary School
Cllr. M. Butler	Southwick Primary School (co-opted member)
Cllr. K. Chequer	Southwick Primary School
Cllr. P. Donaghy	Oxclose Community Nursery
Cllr. R. Dunn	Richard Avenue Primary School
Cllr. L. Guy	Virtual School
Cllr. M. Hartnack	Grange Park Primary School
Cllr. K. Johnston	Houghton Community Nursery
Cllr. L. Leonard	St Paul's Church of England Primary School, Venerable Bede CE Academy
Cllr. F. Miller	George Washington Primary
Cllr. G. Miller	Oak Learning Trust (Director)
Cllr. A. Samuels	Grange Park Primary School
Cllr. I. Scott	Hetton Primary School
Cllr. G. Smith	Diamond Hall Junior Academy
Cllr. D. Snowdon	Barmston Village Primary
Cllr. D.E. Snowdon	Biddick Academy
Cllr. M. Speding	Shiney Row Primary
Cllr. P. Stewart	Willow Fields Primary (Co-opted Governor)
Cllr. M. Thornton	Eppleton Academy Primary School
Cllr. H. Trueman	Columbia Grange
Cllr. P.M. Tye	New Silksworth Academy

Cllr. L. Williams

Lambton Primary, Oxclose Community Academy, Discover
Learning Trust (Trustee)

REPRESENTATIVES ON BODIES ESTABLISHED UNDER JOINT ARRANGEMENTS

Noted the under mentioned appointments made by the Leader

COLLABORATIVE PROCUREMENT SUB-COMMITTEE OF ASSOCIATION OF NORTH EAST COUNCILS (ANEC)

Cabinet Secretary

SOUTH TYNE AND WEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIP JOINT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Deputy Leader & Clean, Green City Portfolio Holder
Councillor K. Johnston
Substitute – Councillor A. Smith

PATROL (PARKING AND TRAFFIC REGULATIONS OUTSIDE LONDON) ADJUDICATION JOINT COMMITTEE

Deputy Leader & Clean, Green City Portfolio Holder

TYNE AND WEAR TRADING STANDARDS JOINT COMMITTEE

Deputy Leader & Clean, Green City Portfolio Holder,
Deputy Cabinet Member for Vibrant City
and Councillors Fletcher and J. Heron
Substitutes – Councillors Dodds, Mordey, D. Snowdon and M. Walker

(Signed) D. TRUEMAN,
Mayor

***Motions on Notice
Outstanding from the
Last Ordinary Meeting of
the Council***

MOTION ON NOTICE OUTSTANDING FROM THE LAST ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Council Members are asked to consider the under-mentioned Motions:-

1. Notice of Motion – School Streets

This Council recognises the horrendous parking problems that can arise around schools at the start and end of the teaching day and expresses its support for a "school streets" approach which would limit access to the streets in which schools are located to residents and emergency vehicles at such times

Proposer Councillor L. Reed
Seconder Councillor M. Dixon

2. Notice of Motion – North East Devolution Deal

This Council believes that any future directly elected mayor and North East Mayoral Combined Authority should be headquartered in Sunderland.

Proposer Councillor M. Haswell
Seconder Councillor C. Morrissey

Additional Signatories

Councillor M. Bond	Councillor H. Fagan	Councillor S. O'Brien
Councillor M. Crosby	Councillor P.W.L. Gibson	Councillor J. Potts
Councillor A. Curtis	Councillor N. Hodson	Councillor G. Smith
Councillor P. Edgeworth	Councillor C. Nicholson	Councillor A. Wood

3. Notice of Motion – Lease over Site of the Seaburn Inn

In 2021 Siglion Developments LLP granted a lease over the site of the Seaburn Inn to Inn Collection (Seaburn) Limited for a term of 999 years. The premium paid by Inn Collection (Seaburn) Limited was £1,000.

The duty under s.123 of the Local Government Act 1972 to obtain 'best value' only applies to local authorities, meaning Siglion is only required to meet a minimum land receipt requirement which formed part of the option agreement made between the Council and Siglion in 2014.

Council therefore:

- Expresses regret that a prime parcel of land formerly owned by the Council was disposed of for £1,000.
- Takes note of the relationships between the Council and the private sector organisations involved in disposing of the land.

- Resolves to commission an independent review of all disposals made under the 2014 option agreement where the sum paid for a freehold or long leasehold interest in land was less than £100,000. Terms of reference will include the extent to which the assumptions made by valuers instructed by the Council were realistic, and whether sufficient efforts were made to obtain 'best value'.

Proposer Councillor A. Mullen
Seconder Councillor M. Hartnack

Additional Signatories

Councillor M. Dixon	Councillor L. Reed
Councillor S. Ayre	Councillor R. Dunn
Councillor J. McKeith	

Area Arrangements Annual Report 2022/23

AREA ARRANGEMENTS ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH, HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To present the combined Area Committee Annual Report which summarises the work and subsequent achievements of the five Area Committees during 2022/23.

2. Background Information

- 2.1 Every year the five Area Committee annual reports are united into one combined report and presented to Council.
- 2.2 The Annual Report provides an overview of the work undertaken by the five Area Committees throughout 2022/23. It provides details of where the elected Members, through Area Committees and the supporting Neighbourhood and Community Boards, have influenced local service delivery, and delivered a range of other activities and projects to meet the agreed priorities as set out within their Area Plans, for the benefit of residents and communities.
- 2.3 The report demonstrates how the Area Arrangements process is integral to supporting elected Members in their role as community leaders and how Area Committees continue to work collaboratively with partners to bring forward opportunities, maximising social value and co-production, to support local people and to develop more resilient, stronger communities.

3. Area Committees

- 3.1 The Area Committees are appointed by the Council to lead on the development and implementation of an Area Plan, which includes all main priorities for the Area, which enables its residents to be more resilient.
- 3.2 The Area Committee actively encourage local residents to become involved in shaping and delivering the Area Plan, co-producing to support matters which affect them.
- 3.2 To support the delivery of these objectives the Area Committee may:
- Consult, engage and involve local people and organisations in development and delivery of the Area Plan.
 - Consult, engage and work collaboratively with partners (including the Voluntary and Community Sector, public and private sector) in development and delivery of the Area Plan and maximising social value within communities
 - In developing Area Plans, identify priorities for allocation of budgets delegated to the Area Committee.

- Commission activity to improve local quality of life and public satisfaction in its area, and publicise initiatives supported by the Area Committee.
- Area Committees will report on the delivery of area priorities and working in partnership with communities through the production of an Annual Report to Council.

4. Conclusion

- 4.1 During 2022/23 the Area Committees have been involved in shaping and delivering a wide range of activities to meet the needs of local communities. During 2023/24 Area Committees will continue to work hard to deliver the priorities within their Area Plans.
- 4.2 The Annual Report should be viewed as a collaborative achievement of work. All five Area Committees would like to thank everyone who has supported and contributed towards the outcomes achieved this year, particularly our voluntary and community sector partners.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1 Members are asked to consider the achievements and impact of the work of the Area Committees and their supporting Neighbourhood and Community Board during 2022/23 as outlined in the Annual Report.

6. Background Papers

- 6.1 Area Committee Annual Report for 2022/23.

Contact Officer: Graham Scanlon, Assistant Director Housing and Communities
Email: graham.scanlon@sunderland.gov.uk



Annual Report of the Area Committees

2022–23

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Foreword



Councillor Linda Williams

As Sunderland City Council's Cabinet member for Vibrant City, I am incredibly proud to present the Annual Report of Area Committees for 2022-23. This report is produced specifically to highlight the combined achievements of the Area Committees and partners and to demonstrate the remarkable joint working which has taken place over the past year.

Through Let's Talk Sunderland resident engagement, we developed each of the five Neighbourhood Investment Plans and have continually consulted with local communities to ensure the plans were still relevant to meet the needs and expectations within local areas. The areas have now delivered the final year of those 3 year plans, which have been updated on a regular basis to keep our residents informed of progress.

As we commenced 2022, we recognised the need to be flexible in our support to communities to deliver more advice, guidance, and practical help in relation to the ongoing financial issues and cost of living crisis. The emphasis during the winter months being to support residents to keep safe and warm and provide social and welfare support to those who needed it most. We also recognised the importance of continuing to

deliver health and wellbeing activities, provide support and positive activities to children and young people and to ensure our neighbourhoods were kept clean, tidy, safe, and attractive for the benefit of residents. To deliver on each Area's priorities, a total of over £2,880,000 area budget was awarded across the five areas. You can see more information and detail in the following sections of this annual report, for each Area Committee.

I would like to give my thanks and gratitude to the local Voluntary and Community Sector organisations and all partners in each of the areas, who have continued to deliver projects and supported the work of the Area Committees throughout the past year. Area Committees are proud to support these groups who are providing valuable services for residents of all ages, including support for children and young people to protect their physical and mental wellbeing.

Sunderland City Council continues to support the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) across Sunderland, through the established five Area VCS networks, which are linked directly with each of the Area Committees.

In the last 12 months, in addition to Area Funding, the sector has been awarded additional budgets to provide enhanced support to residents. One example of such funding was the Warm Spaces Funding which provided a total of £816,596 to Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations in every ward across the city, to provide 67 Community Hubs. Those organisations have provided a welcoming place, refreshments and social and welfare support to individuals and families. A total of 41,851 residents were registered as accessing those Hubs during winter months. As we move

now into springtime and warmer weather, we continue to work with those organisations to adapt and develop their Hubs to provide support with digital skills, welfare and benefit advice and health and wellbeing activities. The What Matters to you initiative seeks to help grow Sunderland's Community Support Programme and Social Prescribing Offer and awarded £268,223 of grant to 35 VCS Organisations. We are immensely proud of how local groups, organisations and volunteers remain so resilient and continue to work tirelessly with Elected Members, officers and partners to ensure that residents of the City are fully supported to access relevant services.

The implementation of the Sunderland Voluntary Sector Alliance (SVSA) which has been developed with key partners across the City, has progressed this year. Key partners across the City, including Sunderland City Council, Sunderland Integrated Care Board (ICB) and Gentoo are committed to supporting the Alliance which will be pivotal in ensuring the voluntary sector is supported and resourced in the city.

We have now delivered the final year of the three-year plan and look to the future as we develop new plans for 2023-26 for each of the five Area Committees. We continue some of the priorities from the previous plans and develop new ones as need arises. The work involved in providing support to Area Committees, including the development of projects and initiatives, administering of grants and working with residents, partners and communities for mutual benefit cannot be underestimated and I would like to offer my thanks to the Area Arrangements team for all of their hard work and support over the last year.

Area Arrangements and growing community wealth

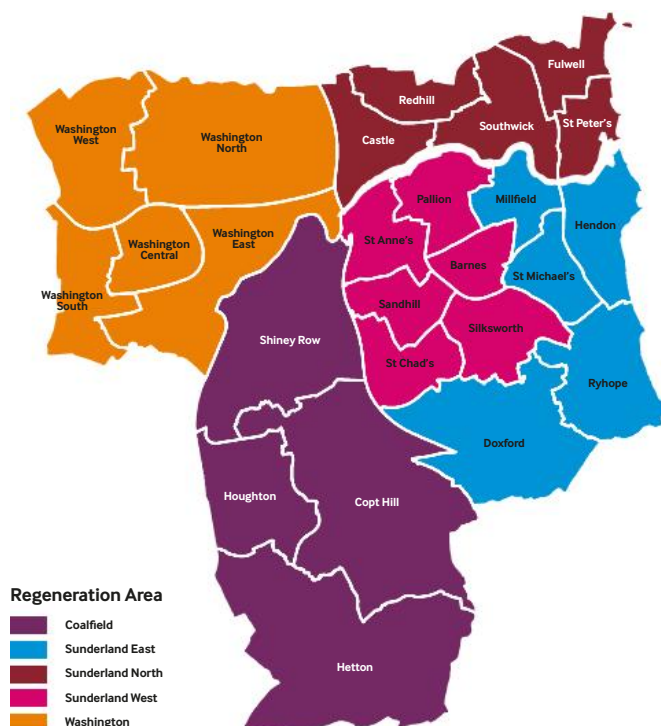
Sunderland Council is committed to growing Community Wealth and bringing forward significant investment into the City. Sunderland Elected Members are all Community Wealth Champions, working together with residents and communities to reduce health inequalities, increase resilience and maximise the use of assets to improve communities.

The reality of Community Wealth Building delivery on the ground is practiced through Area Arrangements and the work of the Area Committees with their supporting Neighbourhood and Communities Boards. The Area Committees are comprised of all Elected Members from the Area's wards who work closely with council officers, service delivery partners and members from the Area Voluntary and Community Sector Network (VCSN).

The role of the Area Committee is to:

- Identify the main priorities that reflect the biggest need in the area;
- Develop efficient and effective solutions to local area priorities as well as supporting city-wide issues; and
- Encourage local residents to become involved in decision making on matters which affect them.

They do this in many ways, one of which is providing funding to take forward projects that deliver their identified priorities. Each of the Area Committees hold delegated budgets



in the form of the Neighbourhood Fund (NF), Neighbourhood Capital Investment Programme (NCIP) and Community Chest. These budgets are allocated to support projects and initiatives that can demonstrate that their work will support delivery of the Areas' identified priorities.

The focus of this locally delegated funding is as follows:

- Developing community capacity in localities, often involving volunteering to make things happen
- Funding 'one off' projects where work would not otherwise be taken forward
- Acting as a catalyst to lever funding from other sources

- Implementing specific local actions to deliver priorities

The past year has been challenging for everyone involved in Area Committees. Priorities have changed, and Area Committee focus has changed and adapted to meet the requirements and needs of each local community. The commitment and direction from all Elected Members, Officers and Partners is demonstrated in the outcomes and achievements highlighted in the individual area chapters of this report. A flavour of local projects that are making a real difference in local communities are highlighted throughout.



Councillor James Blackburn, Coalfield Area Chair

I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the past year, and on the challenges faced by our residents and communities. 2022/23 saw the final year of delivery of our 3 year plan, set back in 2020. External influences threw up a number of challenges impacting on those plans, not least the cost of living crisis and financial uncertainty faced by all. Despite the challenges faced, Coalfield Area Committee has, with the dedicated support of local Voluntary and Community Sector groups and partner organisations, continued to deliver a range of projects and services to local communities supporting them to build resilience and look after their wellbeing. A number of environmental improvement projects and additional work in parks has also taken

place. The Coalfield is an attractive and green area, and we are all doing our bit to keep it that way and make improvements. Without the dedication of area based teams and local volunteers we would not be able to do this. I would like to offer my thanks to them all.

I also want to thank my fellow Councillors, officers, partners, and volunteers who have supported the implementation of area priorities for the benefit of our Coalfield residents. The range and scope of projects is diverse and impressive. Young people have been at the heart of area discussions and priorities. Area funded projects alone, supported almost 500 young people to take part in youth clubs delivered every week in all wards. A total of 246 children and young people have taken part in

holiday activities and clubs, all receiving information and guidance on healthy lifestyles. Partners continue to support children and young people to protect and improve their mental and physical wellbeing. Despite the challenges, actions from the Coalfield work plan have been delivered.

During the past few months we have been planning for 2023-26 and Area Committee is developing its plan to continue to provide services and projects of benefit to the local community in line with current needs.

I am proud to present this Annual Report for the Coalfield Area which outlines some of the key achievements, right across the area.



Coalfield Area Committee

Councillor James Blackburn, Coalfield Area Chair

Coalfield Area priorities set out in the Delivery Plan

- Improve housing and neighbourhoods
- Improve the physical and natural environment, and local greenspaces
- Increase access and improve support to digital resources
- Support local shopping centres and businesses
- Improve access to education and employment opportunities
- Reduce social isolation and improve health and wellbeing
- Invest in local voluntary and community sector organisations/assets
- Support young people and provide positive activities and opportunities
- Preserve and celebrate heritage

Key highlights

From our 2022–23 allocated budgets, we approved over **£475,000** of area budget to deliver projects to meet identified priorities. Key highlights of the year, include:

£35,807.79 of Community Chest funding was awarded to local groups delivering a total of 47 Community projects. Projects were varied and have included; Improvements to community venues including replacement cooker & a lincat boiler, Family Fun Days, A wreath making workshop, accessible bowls equipment & A violinist to provide entertainment at a Christmas party. The average grant was **£761.87**

As part of a parks improvement scheme, lighting has been installed in Houghton Rectory Park, with funding of **£35,000** approved by Area Committee

The first Coalfield Pride event took place in Hetton in July 2022, attracting groups and families from the local and surrounding area. Funding allocated enabled the organising group to develop this event which is to become a regular feature in the Coalfield calendar

An additional, pro active, anti social behaviour (ASB) officer, dedicated to the Coalfield area, has been employed for a 2 year period. Enabled by a **£79,840** grant

from Area Committee, the officer will work with Councillors and partners to identify areas of concern

A total of **£91,000** of area budget has been allocated for improvements in Herrington Colliery Welfare Ground, to include improvements to the bowls pavilion, environmental works on the parkland area, a community orchard and work on the football pitch

Educational and arts projects to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Hetton Colliery Railway were delivered in partnership with VCS organisations. A community loco was made by local schools and groups and a celebration event to mark the occasion was held in November 2022

The Stephenson Trail project has carried out environmental improvements along the Coalfield stretch of the walking/cycling route of the original Hetton Railway.

Local community centres and organisations have been supported to carry out improvements in their buildings.

Shiney Row CA received funding to renew their kitchen area and repair flooring to the main hall. A new youth club is now being delivered from the centre

A Christmas tree was provided for the Fencehouses community, in partnership with Karbon Homes

Buddies Toddlers was established thanks to funding provided by Area Committee. The group provides a safe space for toddlers who have additional needs, and their parents/carers.

Funding was approved to deliver ward based youth provision, providing at least two sessions per ward per week for young people aged 10–19

The Coalfield Clean it, Green it project was set up to complement and add value to environmental services across the area. The project works with volunteers and apprentices delivering projects including cutting back vegetation, litter picks and community clean up days and painting and general maintenance to enhance the visual aspect of the area

Our year in numbers

23 

Projects, totalling £439,200 awarded
Neighbourhood Fund

222 

Young people participating in the
CHAT (Coalfield Healthy and Active
Teens) project

8,471 

Passenger journeys using
Community Transport services

408 

People supported to improve their
digital skills in community settings

71 

Adults supported to progress into
employment, education or training

90 

Organised litter picks
carried out

16 

Tonnes of waste removed
from local greenspaces by
Clean it, Green it

77 

Residents supported to
access Universal Credit

240 

Children and young people taking
part in art and music workshops
as part of Houghton Feast

491 

Children and young people
accessing term time youth clubs

246 

Children and young people
accessing holiday activities
and clubs

47 

Community groups and
organisations were awarded
Community Chest funding

Our year in images





Councillor Martyn Herron, East Area Chair

As Chair of the East Area Committee, I am proud to present this Annual Report which highlights the key achievements delivered in partnership with groups and organisations from across the East area. This year which was the final year of the 3 year delivery plan saw residents and communities face external challenges, which were considered when delivering the Area Priorities.

I want to offer thanks to my fellow Councillors, officer, partners, local groups and volunteers who continue to come

together to deliver the area projects which benefit the residents of East Sunderland.

The voluntary and community sector has continued to deliver activities and projects such as The East Rangers, which delivered over 500 litter picks, Go! Get online which saw over 600 people supported digitally as well as all the other projects delivered across the Area. My thanks go to the groups and the many volunteers who support these projects which are impressive and impactful.

During the past few months we have been planning for 2023-26 and Area Committee is developing its plan to continue to provide services and projects of benefit to the local community in line with current needs.

I am proud to present this Annual Report for the East Sunderland Area which outlines some of the key achievements, right across the area.



East Area Committee

Councillor Martyn Herron, East Area Chair

East Area priorities set out in the Delivery Plan

- Tackle empty properties
- Derelict land
- Private landlords
- Affordable homes
- Love Where You Live
- Enforcement
- Bloom activities
- Carbon and plastic pollution
- Highways, pavements and street lighting
- Parks, play, cycle and walking routes
- Digital technology and 5G
- Use of existing and vacant properties
- Job clubs and educational centres
- Community cohesion
- Social prescribing
- Enhance local green space
- Support voluntary and community sector
- Volunteer platform
- Local events
- Youth clubs and spaces
- Reduce fear of crime
- Support local organisations
- Fuel poverty
- Credit solutions
- More than a Foodbank
- Heritage assets and activities
- Preserve heritage

Key highlights

From our 2022–23 allocated budgets, we approved over **£524,908** to deliver projects to meet identified priorities. Examples of funding awarded are:

£49,939 of Community Chest funding was awarded to local groups delivering a total of 42 Community projects. Projects were varied and included; Outdoor classroom equipment, Buggy Buddies fitness, Wellbeing Fitness sessions, Christmas meals for the elderly, Female swimming lessons, Reading pods and Funding for Football Kits. The average grant was **£1,189.02**

£63,606 was awarded to VCS Groups to deliver the Fancy a Day Out Programme. The grant has enabled Groups to deliver sessions, which were fun and educational to children and young people during the

13 weeks of the school holidays, whilst providing access to a nutritional meal

The joint project with the Coalfield and West Area Committees celebrating the 200th anniversary of the internationally renowned Stephenson Trail continued

£42,000 was awarded to deliver the WoW Features

£43,340 was awarded to support Ryhope Community Association

£18,500 was awarded to five VCS Groups to deliver the Maximising Community Assets programme

£70,000 awarded to Go! Get online

£28,845 was awarded to Sunderland MIND to deliver improvements to an outside space

£99,800 was awarded to 6 groups to extend the East Rangers project to encourage volunteering and environmental improvements in each ward across the East

Our year in numbers

398 

volunteers involved in area activities

738 

hours of digital support
to residents

9,312 

hours of in-kind support
provided by volunteers

403 

litter picks carried out.

255 

community clean ups
environmental improvements

2,070 

Enforcement actions, including
written warnings, investigations and
fixed penalty notices

1,212 

children and young people received
a meal and accessed activities that
were educational and fun throughout
the school holidays

20 

environmental improvements
carried out using the Walk and
Talk Programme

378 

people supported to GO! Get Online
to reduce the digital divide

1,029 

Socially isolated and vulnerable
adults received support

69 

VCS Groups received
an Area grant

1,462 

children and young people engaged
in health and wellbeing activities

Our year in images





Councillor Denny Wilson, North Area Chair

As Chair of the North Area Committee I would like to take this opportunity to introduce the 2022–23 North Sunderland Annual Report, highlighting some of the activities and achievements delivered in what has been another very challenging year for everyone.

The Area Committee agreed their workplan following extensive research and consultation amongst our communities

and neighbourhoods across the area.

I want to offer mine and the Area Committees thanks for the amount of support and dedication shown by local community and voluntary groups who have worked tirelessly alongside ourselves and partners to ensure that the services and support have been available to help and care for the residents of North Sunderland.

Despite the challenges and restrictions we have faced the North Area Committee and partners have continued to deliver the actions outlined in our Neighbourhood Investment Plan with some great projects and improvements being seen across the area. I am proud to present just some of the key achievements delivered.



North Area Committee

Councillor Denny Wilson, North Area Chair

North Area priorities set out in the Delivery Plan

- Tackle empty properties
- Derelict land
- Affordable homes
- Love Where You Live
- Transport Routes and Parking
- Highways, pavements and street lighting
- Parks, play, cycle and walking routes
- Social Prescribing
- Support voluntary and community sector
- Support youth clubs and spaces for young people to be together and feel safe
- Volunteer platform
- Support communities to deliver local events
- Improve CCTV and Enforcement
- Promote Heritage Assets and Deliver Heritage Activities
- Preserve and Celebrate Local Heritage

Key highlights

From our 2022–23 allocated budgets, we approved and aligned over **£830,000** to deliver projects to meet identified priorities. Examples of funding aligned and awarded are:

£48,739.54 of Community Chest funding was awarded to local groups delivering a total of 38 Community projects. Awards have included; A boxing ring & equipment, summer trips to the aquarium & bowling, festive trips & celebrations, carnival workshops & furniture and equipment for community venues. The average grant was **£1,282.62**

£100,000 awarded to develop 'Christmas at the Castle' at Hylton Castle

£100,000 towards improvements in Thompson park

Awarded **£5,000** to develop a park run in the Quarry

Supported 16 projects and awarded **£250,000** towards activities for young people

Working with partners and the community awarded **£11,000** towards a fence in Redhill

Awarded **£10,000** towards the development a Playzone

£25,000 towards a Battle Re-enactment at Hylton Castle

£19,981 towards an event in Thompson Park

Our year in numbers

2,256 

young people benefiting
from school holiday activities

1 

Fence installed to tackle Anti Social
Behaviour and improve safety

243 

Young People Accessing
sessions - Southwick
Raising Aspirations

839 

Young People attending
Youth Provision - St. Peters
Raising Aspirations

86 

People benefiting and
enjoying independent lives -
Fulwell Raising Aspirations

40 

Community cleans ups and
litter picks delivered -
Castle Raising Aspirations

133  2,036 

adults enjoying a healthier
lifestyle - Redhill Raising Aspirations

volunteer hours delivered

1 

Southwick Illumination
Switch On Event delivered

122 

Residents volunteered in
the local community

38 

Community Chest grants with an
average grant of £48,739 awarded

1 

Park run

Our year in images





Councillor Len Lauchlan, Washington Area Chair

As Chair of the Washington Area Committee, I would like to highlight some of the key areas of work delivered over the last year. The Area Committee agreed their workplan following extensive research and consultation amongst all communities and neighbourhoods across the area.

I want to offer thanks to all the key workers, my fellow Councillors, partners and volunteers who have supported our Washington residents. The priority became

ensuring that services and activities to help our local communities were continued, and that residents who were facing issues caused by financial uncertainty and the cost of living were given support and advice. Priorities were delivered through the commitment of partners and volunteers pulling together to support each other to support those who were most vulnerable or struggling with isolation.

Despite the challenges and restrictions, as well as providing additional support to our residents throughout the past year, the Washington Area Committee, together with its partners, has continued to deliver the actions outlined in our Neighbourhood Investment Plan with some great projects and improvements being seen across the area. Some of the key highlights are contained in the following pages.



Washington Area Committee

Councillor Len Lauchlan, Washington Area Chair

Washington Area priorities set out in the Delivery Plan

- Invest in parks, play, cycle and walking routes, open spaces and Love Where You Live activities
- Improve housing, tackle empty properties and ensure enforcement is used to manage neighbourhoods effectively tackling flytipping, litter and dog fouling
- Road safety, highways, pavements and street lighting
- Increase 5G access & support digital learning to improve employment opportunities and basic skills
- Health and Wellbeing – including social isolation and emotional wellbeing
- Support and invest in the Voluntary & Community Sector and volunteering
- Support the VCSE to deliver local services such as social care and welfare
- Support for young people
- Events, culture and local heritage
- Create safe neighbourhoods

Key highlights

From our 2022–23 allocated budgets, we approved over **£450,000** to deliver projects to meet identified priorities.

£49,788 of Community Chest funding was awarded to local groups delivering a total of 52 Community projects. The funding has gone to various different projects including: Improvements to community venues, Day trips out, Local litter picks throughout Washington, Jubilee Celebrations and installation of benches. The average grant was **£957.46**

We approved **£90,000** to deliver a programme of local events across Washington including the Springwell Village 40's weekend, Miners Picnic and Washington Illuminations

We supported the 'Creative You' project, delivering an outreach plan into Washington schools, strengthening relationships and delivering a diverse programme of Young People's Arts Activities in three locations across Washington

We invested a further **£20,000** to support improvements in Usworth and Princess Anne Parks

A programme of positive activities for young people, to be delivered during school holidays, was developed. Funding of **£100,000** was approved to support a

number of local groups and organisations to work with children and young people aged 5–19

A youth matters financial education and resilience programme commenced, working with schools and youth groups across the Washington area

A tree management programme commenced to manage a number of plantations across the area. **£100,000** was allocated to deliver the programme

Our year in numbers

16 

projects awarded
neighbourhood funding
during 2022–23

48 

Clean & Green Environmental
Programmes and community clean
ups delivered

8 

local organisations supported
with funding to improve
community buildings

1,500 

enforcement actions
carried out

31 

groups of young people invited
to present their project ideas and
all received funding from the
CAN DO budget

51 

local voluntary and community groups
received Community
Chest grants to deliver projects
within their neighbourhoods

2,473 

engagements by young
people participating in the
youth outreach programme

14 

individual Ward Improvement
Projects were delivered

3,300 

residents attended local
events and celebrations funded
by Area Committee

311 

residents in crisis receiving
much needed information,
advice and guidance

324 

local residents benefiting from
'Healthy Lifestyles' Projects

693 

hours of volunteer time
committed to community
clean ups

Our year in images





Councillor Peter Gibson West Area Chair

As Chair of the West Area Committee I would like to take this opportunity to introduce the 2022–23 West Sunderland Annual Report, highlighting some of the activities and achievements delivered in what has been a challenging year for residents and communities.

This year was the final year of delivery of our 3 year plan, set back in 2020. This year the Committee considered the priorities and the impact of external factors, not least of which being the cost of living crisis and financial uncertainty faced by all.

I want to offer thanks to my fellow Councillors, officers, partners, local

community and voluntary groups who have continued to deliver area projects to benefit the residents of West Sunderland. Young people continue to be engaged and involved in our area and over 2000 have been involved in our area projects. Environmental improvement projects have been established in each ward and improvements have been made to local communities and parks. I would like to thank these groups and the volunteers who are working together to make the area a nice clean and tidy place.

As an Area Committee, we have continued to work with colleagues from the Coalfield

and East Area Committees and a wide range of services and partners to enhance 'the Stephenson Trail project' which saw a number of exciting celebrations and educational activities delivered and improvements to the route.

During the past few months we have been planning for 2023-26 and Area Committee is developing its plan to continue to provide services and projects of benefit to the local community in line with current needs.

I am proud to present this Annual Report which outlines just some of the key achievements delivered.



West Area Committee

Councillor Peter Gibson, West Area Chair

West Area priorities set out in the Delivery Plan

- Create safer neighbourhoods
- Invest in the voluntary and community sector
- Improve the feel and look of neighbourhoods
- Improve Health and Wellbeing
- Improve activities for young people
- Digital skills, career and educational opportunities
- Event, Culture and heritage
- Reduce carbon and plastic pollution

Key highlights

From our 2022–23 allocated budgets, we approved over **£457,181** to deliver projects to meet identified priorities. Examples of funding awarded are:

£59,100 of Community Chest funding was awarded to local groups delivering a total of 53 Community projects. Projects included; Christmas parties, the Installation of Defibrillators to multiple locations, Environmental improvements, Poppy march, replacing damaged property to the cricket club, winter wellbeing and Family fun days. The average grant was **£1,115.09**

2 local parking improvements projects initiated **£50,000**

1 Community Minibus supported to help Voluntary groups deliver activities across the West

Transport costs were provided to ensure local schools could get young people to Safetyworks!

Holiday Activities delivered in 6 wards throughout the school holidays, funding awarded **£29,824**

Large Scale event delivered in Barnes Park, attracting thousands of local people

£161,990 was invested in 6 ward based environmental projects, working with residents, volunteers and local community groups to improve local neighbourhoods

Young Peoples Emotional & Mental Health project continued to be delivered in schools

A programme of youth activities continued to be delivered across all 6 wards, delivering 2 youth sessions per ward per week. Additional funding of **£49,760** was provided to deliver sessions to target youth ASB

The West enforcement programme continued to be delivered with an additional enforcement officer and 2 neighbourhood wardens as well as 6 street watch cameras

Our year in numbers

18 

projects awarded £457,181
Neighbourhood funding
during 2022–23

255 

litter picks and community
clean ups

7,309 

children and young people
attended youth clubs, advice and
support to improve wellbeing
and develop life skills

165 

People supported to be more
resilient and able to help
themselves in a crisis

673 

children accessing
'activity with food' sessions
during summer holidays

52 

ward based improvement
projects: reduced ASB and
crime and improved the
physical environment

259 

residents volunteered in the
local community

1,094 

people accessed digital support
across the West

53 

Community Chest grants with an
average grant of £1,115 awarded

2,050 

young people supported with their
mental health and well-being

69 

VCS Groups supported

1,476 

enforcement actions, including
written warnings, investigations and
fixed penalty notices

Our year in images



The year ahead

In the year ahead each of the Area Committees will focus on the first year of their new plan for 2023–26 and ensure that priorities are aligned to meet the needs of residents and communities. Working with service leads, partners and VCS organisations, actions within the 3-year plans will be considered, and through the Neighbourhood and Community Boards, be developed and delivered.

We recognise the need to be flexible and prepare for ongoing challenges, aligning area budgets to meet these challenges where relevant. Communication across all elements of area working is vital and we will continue to make a commitment to the Voluntary and Community Sector partners who have supported Area Committees throughout a very difficult period.

The year ahead will see further implementation and strengthening of the Sunderland Voluntary Sector Alliance (SVSA), which has been developed by the sector with key partners across the City.

Challenges faced over recent years have demonstrated the huge value and importance of our VCS organisations to residents of the City, and how working in partnership with the key stakeholders in the City has made and will continue to make a significant difference to the delivery of services. These partnerships will be built upon and strengthened as a recognised way of working within communities. The VCS have a vital role to play within all our neighbourhoods. The facilities and services they offer, their local knowledge of the communities of which they are such an integral part

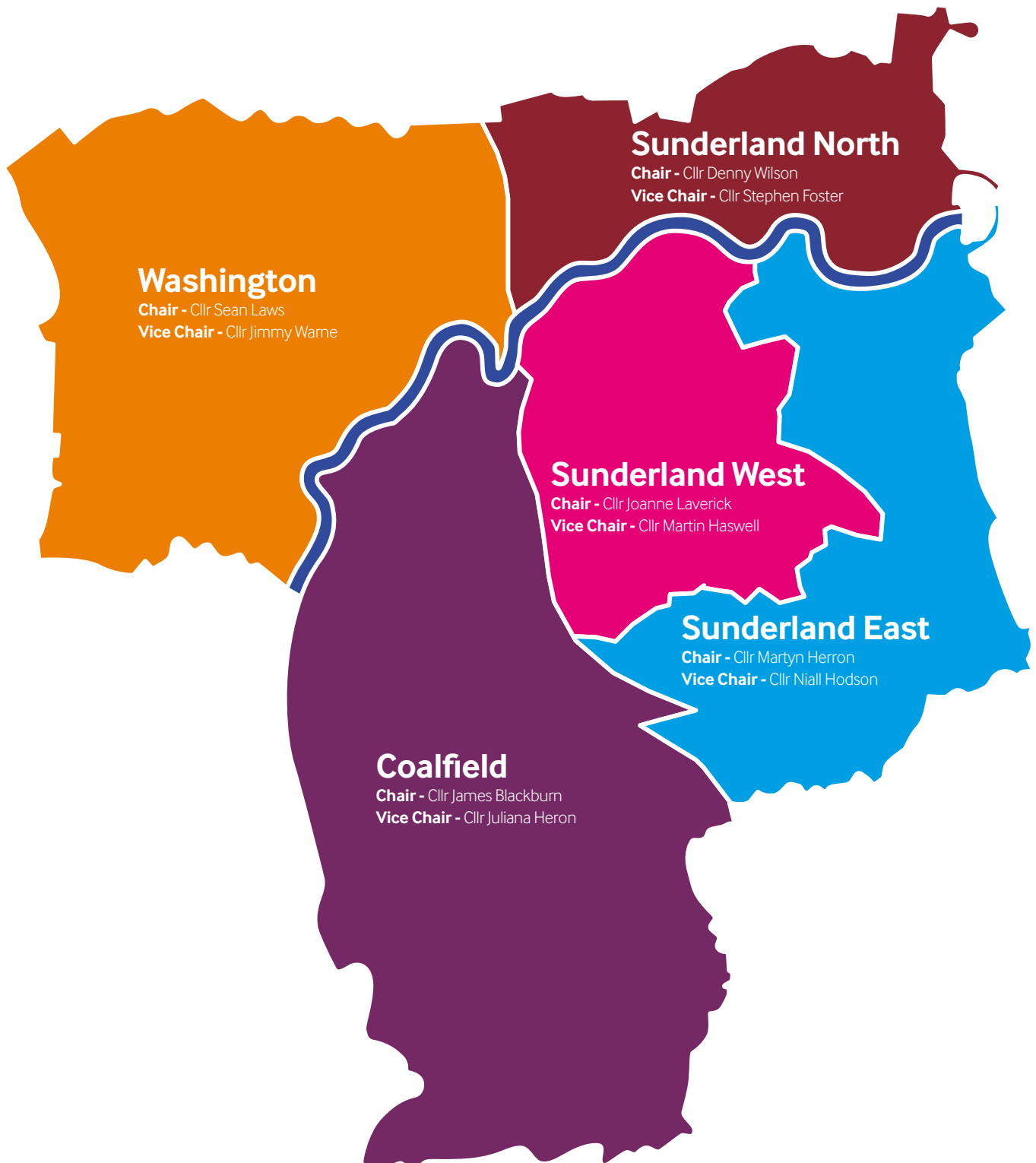
and their understanding of the needs of residents within those communities are all invaluable to supporting the work of Area Committee to meet the objectives set out in each area's plans.

The 2023–26 Area Committee Plans will be reviewed and refreshed throughout the coming years to inform the development of priorities and projects beyond the year ahead. This will be done via VCS Networks, resident consultation, Area Neighbourhood and Community Boards and Area Committees.

We have a new City Cabinet Member for Vibrant City, Cllr John Price, following the Annual Council in May 2023, Cllr Price will work hard to continue to further support and develop the positive achievements delivered to-date within Area Arrangements. .



Area Committees 2023-24





Scrutiny Annual Report 2022/2023

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE

SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2022/2023

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To present the Scrutiny Annual Report which summaries the work of the Scrutiny Committees during 2022/2023.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Scrutiny Annual Report provides an overview of the work of scrutiny throughout 2022/23 and the contribution it has made to the good governance of the Council and the delivery of the city's priorities. It also looks at the how the scrutiny function will continue to develop and the challenges it faces in the year ahead.

3. Operation of the Scrutiny Function

- 3.1 The Council's scrutiny function comprises one formal, overarching Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee and three themed scrutiny committees; namely the Children Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee, the Economic Prosperity Scrutiny Committee and the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee.
- 3.2 Scrutiny ensures that decision-making processes are clear, accessible and accountable. It also has an important role in driving improvement in services delivered to the people of Sunderland.

4. Conclusion

- 4.1 The four Scrutiny Committees have delivered demanding, varied and interesting work programmes in 2022/23 with 2023/24 promising to be another challenging year.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1 Council is asked to receive the report on the operation of the scrutiny function for 2022/23.

6. Background Papers

- 6.1 Scrutiny Annual Report 2022/23

Contact Officer: Gillian Robinson, Scrutiny and Members' Support Co-ordinator



Scrutiny Annual Report

2022–23

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Foreword



I am pleased to once again be able to introduce the Council's Scrutiny Annual Report. The report provides an overview of the work of scrutiny during 2022–23 and provides a snapshot of the varied issues and topics that our scrutiny committees have looked at during the year. The work programmes for the various committees have once again covered a vast array of subjects and involved a wide range of services and organisations.

The year has been both challenging and rewarding as we deal with a number of issues that impact on the residents of the city. It has also been a rewarding year as we look at some of the many positive projects and initiatives that are happening in the city. The aftermath of the pandemic continues to be a challenge; not least in the long-term health of our residents, the cost-of-living crisis as well as international issues like the war in Ukraine are major issues which are impacting on the lives of everyone.

Council finances and budgets remain one of the most important issues for any local authority and ensuring that our resources and services are utilised in the most effective way for the city and its residents. With budgets tightening for Councils, businesses and households the importance of an

effective and robust scrutiny function is evident and we will continue to adapt and improve the scrutiny process to address these challenges.

The recent review of the scrutiny function in Sunderland continues to underpin these improvements to the service. The Scrutiny Coordinating Committee has recently developed a Cabinet/Scrutiny Protocol which will help to develop and strengthen the relationships between Cabinet and Scrutiny Committees.

Once again, the report illustrates the breadth and variety of issues considered by the various scrutiny committees in Sunderland. Each committee has, through its work programmes, looked to consider and challenge a number of key issues that are important to the Council, the city and its residents.

It is also good to acknowledge that committees are once again undertaking task and finish working groups, as recommended in the review of scrutiny, to look at specific issues in much greater detail. This includes work around a Cabinet/Scrutiny Protocol, Members Portal, Adult Social Care and Sunnyside Regeneration. As future work programmes are developed, I would expect to see a greater emphasis on this way of working which can only benefit both Scrutiny and the Council in general.

Sunderland remains committed to joint working across the health service and scrutiny members are active in participating in the joint arrangements that cover the North East and North Cumbria, looking at the Integrated Care System and Integrated Care Boards. These joint arrangements are providing an opportunity to challenge regional service reconfiguration and development

and how services are delivered across the North East and Sunderland.

Sunderland also continues to contribute to regional scrutiny arrangements through representation on the North East Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee which looks at matters of significant importance to residents across the region, focusing particularly on economic development and transport issues.

Finally, I would like to place on record my thanks and that of all scrutiny members to all those staff within in the Council and in our partner organisations who have cooperated and contributed to the work of scrutiny in Sunderland.

Councillor Dianne Snowdon
Chair of the Scrutiny
Coordinating Committee



Scrutiny Coordinating Committee



Chair: Cllr Dianne Snowden

Vice-Chair: Cllr Susan Watson

Committee Members: Councillors Malcolm Bond, Michael Butler, Allen Curtis, James Doyle, Paul Edgeworth, Michael Hartnack, Katherine Mason-Gage, Antony Mullen, Pat Smith, David Snowden, Melanie Thornton and Harry Trueman.

Once again it gives me great pleasure to present the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee's annual report. As is usual the summary provides a brief overview of the work of the Committee during the previous 12 months, and it is good to see that Members have remained fully engaged in activities and the following summary identifies some of the issues that the committee has undertaken.

One of the fundamental remits of the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee is to scrutinise and provide comment on a range of financial and budgetary reports including the Council's budget proposals. A number of detailed reports are presented to the Committee over the municipal year including around the Capital Programme, Treasury Management, Revenue Budget and the Budget

Planning Framework. As always there continues to be insightful discussions and Members did comment on the importance of limiting any rises in Council Tax given the current financial pressures facing residents of the city. The Committee did note that the proposed rise in Council Tax will be one of the lowest in the country.

Performance management also remains an integral part of the Committee's workload through monitoring of the Council's performance, achievements and progress against the key themes of Dynamic City, Healthy City and Vibrant City.

Members of the Committee remain committed to challenging performance, and consideration of these reports has led to further updates on a number of issues including the delivery of affordable housing, environmental enforcement, social prescribing, fly tipping and events in the city. The Committee also continues to look at ways to improve the report by the inclusion of additional information or suggestions on the way information is presented.

The City Plan has also been updated and refreshed this year and the Committee has again been involved in the process. Members held a workshop in December to look at the proposals for the refresh of the plan and provided some useful feedback around the wording and layout of the draft plan.

The Committee also received a further update on the City Plan and its indicative timeline at its January meeting where Members again provided some useful comments

around the plan and its contents. This included highlighting that the plan was truly city wide, conveyed a sense of pride in the city, developing thriving businesses in the city and the importance of good integration with the university. The Plan was also presented back to Committee for a final time in February as part of the budget papers with a new design and layout. The Committee's suggestions from the previous meeting had been taken on board and incorporated into this final version of the plan.

The Safer Sunderland Partnership Annual Report remains an important update for the Committee, and Members were pleased this year to also have a senior officer from Northumbria Police in attendance to answer and provide context to Member queries. As always there was a good level of discussion around a number of the key issues including anti-social behaviour, the community trigger policy and policing resources.

The Committee continues to look to enhance the data provided and requested if future reports could provide more detail of the extent to which children and young people were being employed and/or exploited in relation to the drugs trade in the city.

An overview of the Residents Survey 2021 was also submitted to the Committee and as well as the Council's Communications Manager, the Committee welcomed one of the Ipsos Research Managers to the meeting. Members were provided with a summary analysis of the outcome of the survey highlighting where satisfaction had both increased and decreased in a number of areas

relating to the Council, its services and the locality. The Committee highlighted a number of key areas for improvement including looking at how sometimes ward names in the survey were not always how residents identified their local areas and ensuring there was representation from all areas. Members also queried whether the survey could be made accessible online and if there was a similar survey for young people.

The Committee established a task and finish working group during the year to develop and draft a Cabinet/Scrutiny Protocol. During the development of the protocol Members looked at a number of examples from other local authorities, as well as considering what would be important to include from

our Scrutiny Members perspective and experience.

The Committee also held a session with the Deputy Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Secretary to discuss their draft proposals for the protocol. The final Cabinet/Scrutiny Protocol was agreed by the Scrutiny Committee and then approved by Cabinet and we look to use and fully implement this protocol in the coming year.

Members of the Committee held a productive workshop session to look at the Council's Report It tool and Member Portal. The session provided an opportunity for Members to share their experiences and suggestions for the tool and portal in terms of function and useability. Members and officers

had a productive session, and the Committee would hope to see developments to both the Report it tool and Member Portal based on some these discussions.

Finally, and as scrutiny remains a member-led function, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Members of the Committee for their support, involvement and cooperation throughout this year. I would also like to put on record the Committee's gratitude to council officers and partners for their continued contribution to the work of the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee.

Councillor Dianne Snowden
Chair of the Scrutiny
Coordinating Committee



Children, Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee



Chair: Cllr Katherine Mason-Gage
Vice Chair: Cllr Joshua McKeith

Committee Members: Councillors Mark Burrell, Margaret Crosby, Richard Dunn, Paul Gibson, Logan Guy, Sam Johnston, Alex Samuels, Pat Smith, Melanie Thornton and Philip Tye.

Co-opted Members: Ann Blakey (Roman Catholic Diocese)

At the start of the year, the Committee received a report on the TfC Self Evaluation, a document setting out the performance, quality and impact of children's services in Sunderland. This document played an important part in highlighting our priorities for the year and establishing our annual work programme. Issues raised included early help, prevention and innovation, safeguarding, children in need and child protection, cared for children, fostering and participation and engagement.

The Committee received a highly positive report about the progress being made by the Early Help service. Members heard that there had been a return to the pre-pandemic level of families being supported by an Early Help Plan, together with an 8%

decrease in the numbers of children stepping up to statutory services. Three quarters of families supported through Family Group Conferencing stepped down to the universal services and required no further support and a further 8% required a lower level of support. The Youth Drug and Alcohol project (YDAP) recorded a positive outcome rate of 92%. Of the young people engaged as part of the Wear Kids (Anti-Social Behaviour) programme, 80% remained out of the youth justice system.

Members also heard more about the progress of the Holiday Activity and Food Programme which provides the opportunity for children from disadvantaged families to access nutritious food and a range of organised out of school activities. Feedback from the programme had been very positive and the Committee thanked all involved for their efforts.

The Committee heard from Louise Farthing, the Portfolioholder for Children, Learning and Skills on the renewal of the Corporate Parenting Strategy. This has involved working with the Change Council to focus on the priorities identified by young people, including health and care, stigma, employment, education, leisure, housing and transport.

The Committee also received a report on current training and apprenticeship access for care experienced young people, including Virtual School's support to reduce the number of NEET cared for young people. Members heard that Sunderland Virtual School has been selected to participate in a one-year DfE pilot of Pupil Premium Plus Grant funding (PP+) for post 16

cared for young people, with a focus on improving retention in Education, Employment and Training and raising attainment in Maths and English.

Members also heard how Virtual School works with employers and local training providers to identify suitable opportunities and apprenticeships for young people and ensure that the needs of the apprentices are met.

In October 2022, the Committee considered the outcome of the Ofsted Inspection of Together for Children Fostering. The service was rated as Good in each of the three Inspection categories; overall experiences and progress of children and young people, how well children and young people are helped and protected and the effectiveness of leaders and managers. It was noted that the service was developing an action plan arising from the issues raised. The Committee commended the service on the outcome of the Inspection.

Building on our work last year, the Committee received an update on SEND provision in Sunderland following an Inspection undertaken in June 2021. Members heard that the process of joint commissioning had been improved through the use of more comprehensive information and working more closely with children, young people and families. Improvements also included the establishment of a new SEND Governance structure, a shared data platform to enable data to be shared across education, social care and health and the development of a range of co-production tools such as Mind of My Own.

Members of the Committee heard from Catherine Barnett, Headteacher Hylton Red House Nursery School/Chair of Thriving and Coping Group about the introduction of the Mental Health Charter Mark Award and the work going on amongst a network of schools to develop school-based approaches to support resilience, mental health and emotional wellbeing. The Committee heard that funding had been secured by Sunderland CCG to employ mental health workers who were trained teachers to work with a multi-disciplinary team in the delivery of low-level interventions. This should help to reduce the pressure on the CAMHS and CYPS services by preventing issues escalating to a point requiring that level of intervention.

In setting our work programme, the Committee asked for an update on the demands facing the Children's Speech and Language Therapy Service focusing on the impact of the Covid pandemic and its future implications. Members heard that while the period had seen an increase in numbers, the most striking factor had been the increase in the complexity of cases. The Committee commended the work and commitment of the team in providing a service which not only supported the child but families as a whole.

The Committee received an update on the level of childhood obesity and the approaches being taken nationally and locally. This issue falls hardest on children from low-income backgrounds, as obesity rates are highest in the most deprived areas and have been exacerbated further as a result of Covid. Living with obesity can

significantly affect health outcomes for children, both in the short term and into their adult life.

Members heard that tackling obesity was a complex issue which required joint working across national government, local authorities, and a wide range of partners. On the positive side, Members heard that recent data indicates that healthy weight prevalence has improved following the increase in obesity during the 2020–21 and it was hoped this trend would continue.

The Committee received a report on the work going on to support children and young people who were unaccompanied and seeking asylum. Members heard that TFC had developed staffing expertise and pathways to help meet the needs of these young people. However, the challenges and resource implications were considerable and continued to place very significant demands on the service.

Toward the end of the year, an update was provided on the verified overall school performance data for the academic year 2021–22 and the key priorities for the school improvement service. Details were provided around Early Years Foundation Stage Profile, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, together with GCSE results. It was noted that the DfE had stressed that performance data for 2022 should not be directly compared with 2019 and earlier or comparisons made between schools, as different schools may have been affected differently by the Covid pandemic.

An on-going problem for the city has been the relatively high numbers of

young people not in education, employment or training (NEET). The Committee received an update on measures being taken to tackle this issue and ensure that as a city that we are able to equip our young people in what will be a very challenging employment market.

In December 2022, HM Inspectorate of Probation published the outcome of its inspection of Youth Offending Services in Sunderland. Overall, the service was rated as Good. The Inspection found a skilled service, with strengths evident in the partnership's strategic approach to prioritising prevention and diversion. It was considered a well-led and well-managed partnership. The case management of out-of-court disposals was of a high standard, underpinned by clear policy and provision arrangements. YOS staff and senior leaders were found to have a shared commitment to ensuring that children receive the most appropriate services and interventions at the earliest stage. An improvement plan has been prepared in response to the recommendations detailed in the inspection report. The Committee commended the service on the outcome of the Inspection.

The Committee places great importance on listening to the views of young people. At the start of the year, members of the Committee met with young people from Cozmik 3piphany; a group for young people who identify as LGBTQ+ or are questioning their sexuality and/or gender identity. The meeting provided an opportunity to hear their views and priorities for the future.

Last year, the Committee received the feedback on the Ofsted Inspection of Children Services and were delighted to hear that the service had received an outstanding rating. The Committee has continued to receive periodic performance report in order to demonstrate that the level of improvement was being maintained and we will continue to monitor the

progress into the future. The Committee has also received regular update reports on Children Services Customer feedback reports. I am pleased to see that these show a continuing reduction in the number of complaints.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all the members of the Committee for

their contributions and to thank all the officers and witnesses who gave up their time to attend and provide insights into the services they provide and the challenges they face.

Councillor Katherine Mason-Gage
Chair of the Children Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee



Economic Prosperity Scrutiny Committee



Chair: Cllr David Snowdon

Vice Chair: Cllr Harry Trueman

Committee Members: Councillors Usman Ali, Michael Dixon, Paul Edgeworth, Heather Fagan, Stephen Foster, Sean Laws, Michael Mordey, Lyall Reed, Lynda Scanlan and James Warne.

During the year, the Committee's work programme has focused on a range of issues affecting the economic prosperity of the city and the opportunities and challenges we face in the future.

In relation to regeneration, the Committee received an update on the progress being made by Siglion on a number of sites within the city. Members heard that the main priorities for Siglion were to improve the concentration of new economic activity in the city centre, create a city centre that supports higher value job creation, bring back into use dormant areas such as the former Vaux site, offer a wider choice of housing to the market and position Sunderland as a place to invest.

The Committee also heard about two major sources of funding available for

the regeneration of the city; the Future High Street Fund and the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) is intended to replace the previous European Structural and Investment Funds. The total amount of funding allocated to Sunderland is £16.57m over three years from 2022–23 to 2024–25. The funding will support projects across three investment priorities: communities and place, supporting local business and people and skills. As the lead designated authority, the Council is responsible for the development, management, and monitoring of the Fund. Members heard in detail about the development of the programme in Sunderland which will reflect the priorities set out in the City Plan and the processes by which funds will be allocated.

The Future High Street Fund is a Government initiative intended to renew and reshape high streets in order to drive growth, improve user experience and ensure sustainability. In 2021, the Council was awarded £25m through the Fund; one of only three cities to be granted the maximum award. Members heard that the Council has taken a targeted approach, using the funding where it will make most difference and act as a catalyst for change for the rest of the city. This includes flagship projects such as the Culture House and Crowtree Place and contributing to other key projects including St Mary's Boulevard, Elephant Tea Rooms and Keel Square hotel fit out.

In 2021, the Committee set up a Working Group to consider the regeneration of the Sunnyside area. The Group considered that the

challenges facing Sunnyside were highly complex and deep rooted and that there was no single solution to the issues faced. Any long-term sustainable improvement would depend on progress across a range of issues; including tackling antisocial behaviour, improving the quality and mix of housing, repopulating the area and increasing footfall and economic activity.

However, the report did highlight a number of positives and opportunities. The area has the potential for improvement. It is an attractive area close to the city centre. It possesses an attractive historic core. It is a small area in which resources can be targeted. It is proving attractive to social enterprise, early-stage businesses and an emerging cultural and creative services sector. The Group considered that recent work to develop a Masterplan for the area will be central to its improvement and we look forward to reviewing progress in the years ahead.

Rebecca Ball, Chief Executive of Sunderland Culture outlined the important contribution of the cultural sector and its major venues to the economic prosperity of the city. For the future, the Committee heard that the opening of the Culture House and the Museum redevelopment should substantially improve the cultural offer in the city, though it could be several years before we see attendance figures back up to pre covid levels.

At the start of the year the Committee asked for a report on development of screen industries in Sunderland. Members heard that early in 2021, the BBC had announced that it would

invest up to £25m in the region, with regional partners seeking to commit £11.4m over a five-year period. A new North East Screen Industries Partnership (NESIP) has been developed and with the support of North East Screen (formerly Northern Film and Media) a number of new productions have been developed or filmed in Sunderland. The Committee also heard about exciting plans for the potential development of Crown Works Studios at Pallion. Though still at an early stage, the further development of a screen industry in Sunderland clearly has considerable potential for future growth and we look forward to hearing more in the future.

In November 2022, Sharon Appleby of the Sunderland Improvement District (BID) updated us on their work in supporting local businesses in the city. This included events such as the Summer Food and Drink Festival and the March Restaurant Week, together with a summer and seasonal programme of family activities. It was hoped that following the Covid pandemic, footfall and retail spending in the city centre would begin the process of recovery and that the proposed development of Sunderland Riverside would provide an impetus for the growth of the independent retail sector. Ms Appleby commented that 2024 would be a key year with major developments such as the Culture House coming to fruition.

The Committee received an update on major events in the city; an area that had been adversely affected by the Covid pandemic during the last few years and also heard from Councillor Linda Williams, Portfolioholder Vibrant City about the cancellation of the

Sunderland Airshow. It was noted that in future greater emphasis would be placed on smaller community-based events with a wider geographical spread, that were less at risk at cancellation and were often more cost effective. The Council would also look to work closely with the BID in making the most of the resources available.

In December 2022, members visited the Port of Sunderland to meet with the Port Director, Matthew Hunt and discuss plans for the future. These included the major development of the East Shore and a number of new businesses attracted over the past 12 months, including Quantafuel Sunderland Ltd which will build a plastics processing plant taking mixed plastic waste from across the north of England that would otherwise have been incinerated or disposed of in landfill. It was hoped that this latest expansion, together with the development of the Hendon Sidings site will help make the Port an even more attractive proposition for investors.

On our visit Members also took the opportunity to visit Sister Mary Scholastica at the Stella Maris Seaman's Centre to see the tremendous support provided to the seaman on the ships visiting our port and hear about its valuable work.

The promotion of new business start-ups plays a significant part in securing the city's long-term prosperity and diversifying the local economy. Members heard about the progress being made by city's three business centres in encouraging growth in areas of the economy, such as IT and software. It was recognised that the

pandemic period had seen a fall in occupancy levels across the three centres. Whilst the business centres operated at an overall loss during 2021–22, the current projection for 2022–23 was for a significantly reduced deficit. Members also heard about the measures being taken to promote the centres and improve their marketing, operation, and efficiency.

In terms of the development of housing in the city, the views of the Committee were sought on a refresh of the Council's Housing Strategy. The new strategy sets out three priorities for housing in the city; maximising housing growth and increasing the choice of housing; making the best use of existing homes and supporting vulnerable people to access and maintain housing. The Committee was also consulted on the Council's Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy which has been developed across four strategic pillars – the prevention of homelessness, intervention when homeless, recovery to reduce repeat homelessness and partnership working across the city.

The Committee met with representatives of Gentoo, Thirteen Group and Bernicia to consider the challenges facing the city and discuss any operational issues relating to housing management. The key issues raised included the treatment of and responsiveness to complaints, the effect on residents of the cost of living crises, anti-social behaviour, stock condition and damp and mould. The Committee heard that increases in building costs had also had an impact; it was now considerably more expensive to build houses and it was becoming increasingly difficult to

attract and retain skilled workers. Substantial investment was being made in the sustainability agenda, with there being a drive for greater energy efficiency and reduced carbon emissions.

Members stressed the importance of ensuring clear lines of communication between housing associations and their tenants and also between housing associations and local councillors. It was noted that partnership working between housing associations was good and that the Council's housing team was now holding formal group meetings in order to discuss housing issues in the city.

The Committee received a report on the refugee provision available in the city. Members heard that this provision presented a challenge for the Council in terms of resourcing and staffing. Considerable effort was made to support the people involved and help them to settle into the local community. The Committee commended staff on their hard work in what was a very challenging situation.

In setting its work programme for the year, the Committee asked for an update on operation of Environmental Services within the city and its plans for the future. Members heard that the Covid pandemic had proved a major challenge but that the situation was now beginning to return to normal. The Pallion Household Waste & Recycling Centre had now opened and was proving a great success. The Refuse Electric RCV had begun operations and the fleet service had introduced 24 new refuse collection

vehicles during the year. Cemetery regulations have been improved and remedial works to cemetery lawn sections were ongoing.

The Committee was consulted on proposed changes to the Council's Statement of Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Licence policy, including the introduction of a new code of conduct for licensed drivers, a driver improvement programme, a revised convictions policy and changes to the current arrangements regarding vehicle age limits and emissions standards. Members heard that there had been a significant fall in the number of drivers operating in the sector and noted the measures that were being taken to try to encourage the entry of new drivers.

In March 2019, Sunderland City Council declared a climate emergency. In response, a city-wide 2030 Shadow Board was established, bringing together partners from across the city, with the ambition of the city becoming carbon neutral by 2040 and the Council carbon neutral by 2030. The Committee received a report on the progress being made on the Low Carbon Framework and Action Plan that reflected the importance of fully involving partners from throughout the city if the goals are to be achieved.

All in all, it has been a very busy and productive year for the Committee. I would just like to take this opportunity to thank members of the Committee and everyone else involved for their hard work and commitment.

Councillor David Snowdon
Chair of the Economic Prosperity
Scrutiny Committee

Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee



Chair: Cllr Michael Butler
Vice-Chair: Cllr Alison Chisnall

Committee Members: Councillors Simon Ayre, Malcolm Bond, Juliana Heron, Pam Mann, Dominic McDonough, Julia Potts, Mel Speding, Dorothy Trueman, John Usher and Michael Walker.

I am pleased to be able to present my first annual report as Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee. It has been another challenging year as the Council and its partners continue to deal with the impacts of the pandemic as well as the cost-of-living crisis and the continued pressures on health and social care services across the city. The annual report provides a summary of some of the issues looked at by the committee through its wide and varied work programme.

Adult social care is an issue that the committee has concentrated on during this year in a number of ways. The Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board annual report is a regular item received by the committee. Members made a number of observations around the report, discussing the levels of safeguarding

referrals and recommending that future reports provide greater detail around the multi-agency approaches used in safeguarding.

The Committee also commenced a task and finish group looking at the challenges facing adult social care in Sunderland. The group looked at a variety of issues around adult social care including the impact of Covid-19, sustainability and resilience and the implication of forthcoming legislation on the sector. The sub-group held a number of sessions with key stakeholders as well as visiting social care providers in their settings to gain a better understanding of the challenges. The final report, including the group's recommendations, will be presented to the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee before being submitted to a future Cabinet meeting for final approval. It is hoped that the work that has been carried out can shine a light on the adult social care sector, the challenges it faces and look to support the sector in Sunderland.

This year has seen significant change within the NHS as Clinical Commissioning Groups were replaced with Integrated Care Boards (ICB) across England. Sunderland is part of the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care System (ICS) and as part of the ICS, Sunderland Integrated Care Board manages the budget and provision of health services in Sunderland. Members have received a number of updates from Sunderland ICB looking at the development and continuity of place-based arrangements, developing integrated care partnerships and the strategic aims of the ICB, ensuring the Committee was fully engaged.

The Committee have also continued to look at key ICB performance measures related to NHS services around urgent care, planned care, cancer treatment and mental health. Further reports are also expected on the mental health strategy and the outcomes of the recent GP access review. Members have highlighted a number of issues around GP appointments, hospital waiting lists and GP and nursing vacancies in the city, all of which were being addressed or further information provided. The Committee acknowledges the integral role that Sunderland ICB has in the delivery of health services across the area and will continue to monitor and challenge, where appropriate, around performance.

Another change to the health landscape and a consequence of the pandemic has been the replacement of Public Health England in April 2021 with the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), for health protection responsibilities, which provides expertise, information, and intelligence to local authority public health teams. The Committee were interested in how the health protection arrangements would be better equipped to tackle major outbreaks or serious public health incidents. Members were assured that a lot of valuable experience had been gained during the Covid-19 pandemic around situation reporting and communications with the public, businesses and workplaces providing guidance and support.

The Committee was also pleased to receive the Annual Report of the Director of Public Health for 2021–22. The report focused on the pandemic

and its impact on the wider determinants of health and health inequalities in Sunderland. The report provided a detailed overview of the key challenges as well as the work and initiatives taking place across the city to improve health outcomes for residents including around the key themes of the healthy city plan in starting, living and ageing well in Sunderland. The report also highlighted the partnership working that was being undertaken to develop a new alcohol strategy for the city, something Members requested for the Committee's work programme.

The draft alcohol strategy was also presented to the Committee, and this provided an opportunity for Members to look at the detail of the strategy. Members were reassured that service users were consulted, and their views considered when drafting the strategy. The Committee were interested to monitor the progress of actions within the strategy and have asked that an update report is submitted to the Committee, and this will be considered in work programming for next year.

The operational recovery of South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust remains an important issue for the Committee. Having received an overview of the recovery plan in 2021 the Committee were provided with an update on the current situation covering national guidance, key operational deliverables, cancer care and performance and major pressures. Members were particularly interested in the recruitment and retention of staff as well as the health and wellbeing support being provided for staff. The Committee will continue to monitor

the situation and following the most recent Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspection which rated the trust as 'requires improvement' we will look to monitor and seek assurances from the Trust on how it intends to respond to the findings from the CQC inspection.

In recognising the increasing importance of housing to health in light of urban growth, ageing populations, and climate change as well as the causal relationships between poor housing and health outcomes, the Committee received a presentation on some of the work being undertaken in Sunderland to improve housing conditions. This included work around cold and poor air quality in the home environment and fuel poverty as part of a Testbed programme with the findings being shared with other local authorities, housing providers and government ministers. The Committee also arranged a point of contact with the housing provider Gentoo for Members issues, to complement the existing relationships that many members have with Gentoo local area teams.

The North East Ambulance Service also provided the Committee with a detailed performance update including on response times, hospital performance and trust capacity. Members of the Committee raised a number of points around the performance in relation to response times and reference was also made to the recently published CQC inspection of the Trust. The Committee have requested that in future updates the ambulance trust keep members updated on improvements and progress made against the CQC inspection findings.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the committee, to thank Members, officers, partners and stakeholders who have contributed to the work of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee over the year. The health of our city and its communities is a key objective within Sunderland's City Plan and this Committee will continue to challenge and champion health providers and services across Sunderland.

Councillor Michael Butler
Chair of the Health and Wellbeing
Scrutiny Committee

The year ahead

While the majority of this report takes a reflective look back at the work of the various scrutiny committees, it also provides an opportunity to take a brief look forward at some of the key issues that could influence Scrutiny Committees in the 2023–24 Municipal Year.

Scrutiny continues to strengthen and develop relationships with our partners and outside bodies so that we are able to hold commissioned services both accountable and ensure a high standard of service.

Over the last few years we have seen these continued developments which allow Members to provide challenge and work collaboratively with key stakeholders. This will continue through the next Municipal Year and will remain paramount in looking at improvements in health, social and economic issues.

The North East devolution deal between County Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle, North Tyneside, South Tyneside and Sunderland which has been agreed in principle will see significant investment for the region.

This will also see additional powers being transferred from Whitehall to the local population, as well as additional jobs and private sector investment. It will be important to see how the various local accountability mechanisms, including scrutiny, can complement and work with the new combined authority.

Scrutiny will also continue to play an active role in the changing delivery of health services across Sunderland and the region, we have seen Clinical Commissioning Groups replaced by

Integrated Care Boards. The emphasis is to place based commissioning which we will continue to monitor and challenge through our own Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee, and also regionally through the North East Joint Health Scrutiny Committee.

Through these joint arrangements we can represent the concerns and needs of the Sunderland population and ensure that Sunderland residents views are represented and considered in looking at service reconfigurations that affect the region.

Work programming for the year ahead will take place in May-June 2023 and will, as always, be extremely important in identifying key issues for the year ahead, focusing on the delivery of the key priorities in the City Plan and the continued delivery of the recommendations arising from the review of the scrutiny function in Sunderland.

The cost of living crisis may well feature as a key driver in a number of issues, and new and emerging legislation will influence policy and service delivery at the local level. The ongoing development within the Smart City and Carbon Reduction agendas will also remain a focus for scrutiny activity.

Also, the recent inspections of the North East Ambulance Service and South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Foundations Trusts will feature in work programmes as we look to seek assurances from both organisations on their plans for improvement.

Once again, I would like place on record our thanks to everyone who contributed to the work of scrutiny

over the last twelve months and look forward to having another productive year ahead.



Scrutiny on a page

The Scrutiny Coordinating Committee, the three thematic scrutiny committees, North East Combined Authority Scrutiny Committee (NECA) and the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC) tackle a large range of issues over a municipal year. To fully appreciate the variety and breadth of the subjects covered, below is an extensive, though not exhaustive, summary of the work of scrutiny in Sunderland.

- Alcohol Strategy
- Annual Low Carbon Progress Report
- Asylum Seekers Support for Children and their Families
- Budget Planning Framework and Financial Strategy
- Business Centres
- Capital Programme Review
- Child Obesity
- Children Services Customer Feedback
- City Plan Refresh
- Corporate Parenting
- Council's Risk Register
- Culture Sector and the Local Economy
- Dental Services Update
- Elective Surgery Update
- Environmental Services Update
- Events
- Future High Street Fund Programme
- GP Access Review Update
- Holiday and Activities Food Programme
- Housing Conditions and Standards and the Impact on Health and Wellbeing
- Housing Provider Consultation
- Housing Strategy
- Maternity Services Assurance Update
- Mental Health Charter Mark Award
- Mental Health Strategy Update
- North East Ambulance Service Annual Update
- Ofsted Fostering Inspection
- Performance Management
- Port Visit
- Public Health Annual Report
- Public Transport Update
- Prevention Bus
- Refugee Provision
- Residents Survey
- Revenue Budget and proposed Council Tax 23–24
- Review of Scrutiny
- Safer Sunderland Partnership Annual Report
- SEND – Areas for Deep Dive#
- Smart Cities
- Social Care Health Check
- Sunderland BID
- Sunderland Integrated Care Board
- Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report
- TfC Self Evaluation
- Youth Offending Service Review Outcome
- Winter Planning



Action Taken on Petitions

ACTION TAKEN ON PETITIONS

Council Members are asked to note the action taken in relation to the under-mentioned petitions which were presented to Council:-

1. Petition – Reopen The Pallion Shipyard**Request calling on Sunderland City Council to review the Council's strategy for the marine engineering economy.**

A petition signed by 387 signatories was received at the Council meeting on 16 November 2022 from former Councillor Bewick. The statement on the petition sheet was as follows:-

"We therefore call upon Sunderland City Council to use of the Council's Compulsory Purchase Order ("CPO") powers pursuant to section 226 (1) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 ("the 1990 Act") to facilitate the development of the Pallion shipyard and associated area into a Marine Engineering Centre of Excellence creating up to 3 thousand jobs within 5 years within the Northeast and Sunderland."

Council Officers have considered the petition.

The Pallion Shipbuilding Yard closed to commercial shipbuilding in December 1988 and no shipbuilding activity has taken place at this facility since that time. It was considered that without sight of a business plan detailing confirmation (or otherwise) of potential support by the site owner for the proposals and confirming the feasibility of the proposals in both economic and environmental terms, a Compulsory Purchase Order would not realistically facilitate the successful development of the Pallion Shipyard site for maritime related investment.

Any future plans for the Pallion shipyard site, which is privately owned, will presumably be subject to the site owner's own internal investment appraisals and the commercial appetite of such an investment for potential users of the facility.

The City Council has repeatedly requested sight of a business plan (from various groups and organisations) however this has not been forthcoming.

Therefore, the petition was declined on the basis set out above.

The Ward Councillors and Lead petitioner have been advised of the outcome.

2. Petition – Princes Avenue

Request to consider alternative measures instead of road closures.

A petition signed by 118 signatories was received at the Council meeting on 23 March 2022 from Councillor Hartnack. The statement on the petition sheet was as follows:-

“We the undersigned object to any changes to surrounding roads, mainly Princes Ave/Douglas Road in the interest of safety for all residents without full consideration.

We are concerned the impact this will cause on the surrounding streets and want alternative measures to be explored instead of road closures”.

Council Officers have considered the petition.

As part of the Section 106 planning agreement with the Avant Homes Lowry Park development, funding was allocated to the Council to investigate and develop a scheme on Princes Avenue.

Reports and requests were also made to the Council in relation to “rat-running” and speeding along Princes Avenue and a scheme was designed to remove or at least reduce the majority of the reported issues. The proposed scheme consisted of closing the existing junction at Seaburn Terrace/Sea Lane with Princes Avenue. In addition, part of the junction modifications consisted of collapsible bollards and dropped kerbs to allow the junction to be opened for periods during events on the Seafront.

An initial public engagement was carried out between 24 January and 25 February 2022 in respect of Princes Avenue and the nearby surrounding streets. Residents were asked to submit any comments by email or telephone.

Results from the consultation showed that from the 198 properties engaged with, 21 properties were for the scheme going ahead and 39 properties were against the scheme. However, when taking into account the votes for Princes Avenue only, 14 properties were for the scheme going ahead and 3 properties were against the scheme. Considering the overall vote and lack of support from other nearby streets it was decided that this particular scheme would not be progressed.

Therefore, Officers have produced a new proposal consisting of three new sets of speed cushions on Princes Avenue. A new public engagement process was carried out for the new proposals between 27 July and 19 August 2022. Although some residents still raised concerns regarding these proposals, there was much less resistance to the scheme, with the majority of residents engaged with, specifically those on Princes Avenue, in favour of the scheme going ahead. Following discussions with local Ward Councillors, an update letter was sent out to the same residents informing them that the

Council plans to proceed with the proposed traffic calming on Princes Avenue. Officers are now working with the legal team to progress through statutory consultation with the traffic calming notice. Statutory consultation ended on 20 February 2023 with no objections received. Officers are now working with contractors to have the works installed at the earliest opportunity.

As the traffic calming scheme as detailed above was in progress, the petition is declined.

The Ward Councillors and Lead petitioner have been advised of the outcome.

3. Petition – Holiday Inn

Response to petition in relation to the use of the Holiday Inn in Ayton, Washington

A petition was received at the Council meeting on 22 March 2023 from Councillor Hartnack.

Council Officers have considered the petition.

The Council does not currently use the Holiday Inn for homeless referrals. During the Covid Pandemic, the Council used the Holiday Inn to meet the needs of local people experiencing homelessness. This was a response to specific guidance issued by Government under their “Everyone In” campaign. Once the Covid Pandemic eased and the Government guidance changed, the Council stopped use of the Holiday Inn by its Housing Options Team for homeless clients.

The Holiday Inn has been used by the Council as emergency response to wider issues such as responding to the accommodation needs of Ukrainian families.

The petition outlines an increase in anti-social behaviour in the area. These issues would need to be reported to the Police so that they can be fully investigated appropriately. As the Council do not refer homeless clients into the Holiday Inn these issues cannot be attributed to Sunderland Council’s homeless clients.

There are occasions when some other Local Authorities place their homeless clients in the Holiday Inn. They inform the Council when this happens with a Section 208 Notice. Gateshead Council has been stated in the petition with regards to a recent incident. The Council have raised the process of risk assessments with Gateshead Council and the provision of a detailed Section 208. In addition, the Council did facilitate a meeting with a local resident with Gateshead Council to discuss concerns.

As a Council we have also raised the issue of out of area placements with the Regional Local Authority Group to ensure when this does happen appropriate risk assessments are undertaken.

4. Petition – Cole Kitchen

Petition calling on Sunderland City Council to support the application for a hot food takeaway at Cole Kitchen, Side House, Saint George's Terrace, Roker, Sunderland, SR6 9LX

A petition from Councillor Lynn Vera was presented at the Council meeting on 25th January 2023 calling on Sunderland City Council to support the application for a hot food takeaway at Cole Kitchen, Side House, Saint George's Terrace, Roker, Sunderland, SR6 9LX.

The petition was signed by approximately 4726 persons from addresses throughout Sunderland and other towns and cities in the region and further afield calling on the City Council to support the application for a hot food takeaway at Cole Kitchen, Side House, Saint George's Terrace, Roker.

Council Officers have considered the petition.

A planning application for change of use of Cole Kitchen from a café to a hot food takeaway was validated by the Council as Local Planning Authority on 3rd November 2022. The hot food takeaway use was already occurring at the premises and so planning permission was being sought retrospectively. The planning application reference is 22/01391/FUL.

The planning application was refused by Officers, under delegated powers, for the following reasons:

- 1. The hot food takeaway is located within an electoral Ward (Saint Peters) where the obesity level of year 6 pupils is higher than 21%, consequently it is considered that the use will not support or improve the health and wellbeing of local communities and is therefore contrary to policy VC4 of the Council's Core Strategy and Development Plan and the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework.*
- 2. The hot food takeaway use has an unacceptable impact on the amenity of the area and the local environment by virtue of the generation of noise, disturbance and odour, contrary to the requirements of policies HS1 and BH1 of the Council's adopted CSDP and the NPPF.*

The refusal of planning permission was confirmed via notice dated 19th December 2022.

To clarify, policy VC4 of the Council's adopted Core Strategy and Development Plan sets out that in order to promote healthier communities, the Council will prevent new hot food takeaways in electoral Wards where the prevalence of

obesity is more than 21% for Year 6 pupils and more than 10% for Reception pupils.

In the case of St. Peter's Ward, in which the application site is located, Year 6 obesity rates are above the 21% threshold.

Policies HS1 and BH1 of the CSDP, meanwhile, are concerned with maintaining acceptable standards of amenity, taking into account matters such as noise, disturbance and odour. In this case, Officers were concerned that the proposed use of the premises was causing significant harm to the amenity of neighbouring properties and the locality.

Given the identified conflict with policies VC4, HS1 and BH1 of the CSDP, Officers determined that the planning application should be refused.

As the use of the premises as a hot food takeaway was already taking place, following the refusal of planning permission, the Council's Planning Compliance team issued an enforcement notice, dated 19th December 2022. The notice required the cessation of the use of the premises as a hot food takeaway by no later than 19th January 2023.

The applicant has since exercised their right to appeal the refusal of planning permission and the issuing of the enforcement notice with the Planning Inspectorate. Appeals were lodged with the Planning Inspectorate on 19th January 2023; however, the Council is, at present, awaiting the Planning Inspectorate's confirmation that the appeal process has formally started.

Given the above, at present there are no live planning applications or planning appeals against which the petition can be considered. The Council as Local Planning Authority has determined the planning application for the hot-food takeaway at the premises and has issued an enforcement notice. Upon being notified that the appeal process has started, Officers will provide the Planning Inspectorate with a copy of the petition, so that the petition can be considered by the Planning Inspectorate as part of the appeal process.

5. Petition - To support and help Luciano's in relocating and to remain in the area they have become popular with over 3 decades.

Request calling on Sunderland City Council to support and help Luciano's in relocating and to remain in the area they have become popular with over 3 decades.

An online petition signed by 4,714 customers was submitted to Council by Councillor Antony Mullen on 28th January 2022.

Council Officers have considered the petition from Councillor Antony Mullen presented at full council calling on Sunderland City Council to find an alternative city centre location for Luciano's long-established business.

The Council recognises that Luciano's is a popular restaurant and a place that holds strong memories for lots of people in the city. However, ambitious cities develop and change.

Sunderland's transformation programme will require some businesses to relocate to facilitate new development. The city's new Culture House will be a world-class venue that will inspire, excite and complement the wider retail and leisure offer. The Council acknowledges residents of Sunderland also share the Council's excitement and desire to see this happen through feedback received.

The Council has fully supported Luciano's over the years, particularly seven years ago when Luciano's lease on the building became unsecured. The Council agreed to a significant reduction in rent in recognition that they could not guarantee Luciano's could remain in this location in the long term.

The Council's City Development team assisted Luciano's' management team, initially pulling together lists of available premises in the city centre in both public and private ownership. City Development colleagues have met with the owners on a number of occasions to offer informal assistance and advice.

The Council also granted a further short-term Tenancy at Will to allow Luciano's to continue trading from the premises on High Street West while awaiting bookings for service disconnections in readiness for demolition.

The petition has been declined on the basis that the Council has fully supported Luciano's over the years having provided Luciano's with lists of available premises in the city centre and also having met with the owners on a number of occasions to offer informal assistance and advice.

The Council will continue to offer assistance and advice as required.

Report

**Local Government Boundary Commission for England
Electoral Review of Sunderland**

Report of the Chief Executive

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1** The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (the Commission) contacted the Council in July 2022 to advise that it intended to carry out a review of the overall composition of the Council, looking at its total number of Councillors and its ward arrangements.
- 1.2** This report updates Council on the process to be carried out by the Commission at stage two of their review, which relates to the development of a new pattern of wards for Sunderland, and potentially new ward names.

2.0 Background

- 2.1** At an Extraordinary Meeting on 22 February 2023, the Council approved a submission to the Commission in relation to Council size. The Council submission recommended that the Council size remained at 75 members.
- 2.2** The Commission wrote to the Council on 9 May 2023 and confirmed it was minded to recommend that 75 Councillors should be elected to the Council in the future. The Commission also gave formal notice of the start of its next stage of public consultation, inviting proposals for the development of a new pattern of electoral wards for Sunderland.
- 2.3** Further background to the Commission's review, and the process carried out by the Council to date can be found in the reports to Council on 16 November 2022, 25 January 2023 and 22 February 2023.

3.0 Ward Patterns review

- 3.1** The Commission has now invited proposals from residents and organisations on the pattern of electoral wards in the City, based on a Council size of 75 members. This public consultation is running from 9 May 2023 to 17 July 2023. In drawing up a proposed pattern of electoral wards, the Commission will seek to:
- ensure that, within an authority, each Councillor represents a similar number of electors;
 - reflect the electoral cycle so that each ward is represented by three Councillors;
 - create boundaries that are appropriate, and reflect community ties and identities; and
 - deliver reviews informed by local needs, views and circumstances.

- 3.2** Following the close of the consultation period the Commission will test proposals made to them against the above criteria, before drawing up its own proposals.
- 3.3** On 16 November 2022 the Council agreed to establish a politically balanced Boundary Review Working Group of Members, to assist with the formulation of the submission to the Commission relating to Council size. This Working Group was made up of seven members, supported by relevant officers, and met on 3 occasions. The terms of reference agreed by the Council provided for meetings of the Working Group to continue up until submission of the Council size proposal.
- 3.4** The work involved at stage two of the Commission's review involves formulating proposed ward boundaries in a way that meets the Commission's criteria, which is significantly more complex, and potentially more subjective, than the processes involved in preparing a submission in relation to Council size.
- 3.5** Given the potential number of varying approaches to warding patterns, the different criteria which the Commission will take into account, and the relatively short period for the public consultation, it is considered impractical to prepare multiple alternative proposals of ward patterns and ward names for Members and/or their group representatives for consideration, with a view to reaching a consensus and an agreed Council submission.
- 3.6** The Commission has invited proposals from all interested parties and members of the public on the pattern of electoral wards, and as such, each political group, and individual Members may wish to make their own submission to the Commission at this stage of the consultation. The Council is also bringing the consultation to the attention of residents and community groups. It is not however intended that there will be a single agreed Council submission to the Commission, and consequently it is not proposed that the Working Group is reconvened for this or the remaining stages of the review.
- 3.7** Officers from Electoral Services, Governance Services and Corporate Affairs will develop a 'base' scheme which sets out potential new ward patterns, with mind to the current and forecast electorate figures for each ward, and the Commission's requirement that each Councillor represents a similar number of residents. This will not be submitted to the Commission, but the exercise will enable Council officers to properly analyse the Commission's own proposals on ward boundaries as and when they are received, and consider a potential Council response to the next stage of public consultation on the proposals, which is currently scheduled to take place between October 2023 and December 2023. When complete, the base scheme developed by Council officers will be made available to interested parties on request.
- 3.8** An interactive map of current ward boundaries and analysis of current electorate data is available to all interested parties at <https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/sunderland>. This includes a breakdown of the current electorate and the 2029 forecast electorate population by reference to current ward boundaries and polling districts. Further technical guidance on electoral reviews together with tips for individuals, local groups and organization on giving their views can be found at <https://www.lgbce.org.uk/changing-wards-number-councillors-council-has>.

3.9 The Commission will consider representations issued to them during this stage of the consultation process, before drawing up its own warding proposals. The timetable currently published by the Commission for their review is as follows:

- 9 May 2023 - the Commission decide how many Councillors there should be
- 9 May - 17 July 2023 - initial public consultation open
- TBC - Commission presents its own warding proposals
- 3 Oct - 11 Dec 2023 - Commission carry out a public consultation on its proposals
- 27 February 2024 - Commission publish its recommendations
- TBC - Commission asks Parliament to approve its recommendations
- May 2026 - New arrangements apply to local elections

4.0 Financial Implications

There are no additional direct financial implications that arise from this report. The development of the Council base warding scheme will be supported through existing officer working arrangements.

5.0 Reasons for Decision

- 5.1** At the Extraordinary Council meeting on 22 February 2023, Council was advised that further reports to Council would be submitted as the Commission's review progresses, and it begins the process of reviewing the ward arrangements.
- 5.2** The aim of this process is to deliver electoral equality across the City of Sunderland, by ensuring Councillors represent a similar number of electors, and that future ward boundaries are appropriate and reflect community ties.
- 5.3** At this stage of the Commission's review, it is considered impractical and unrealistic for multiple alternative proposals of ward patterns to be developed and submitted to Members, with a view to trying to reach a consensus on an agreed Council submission.
- 5.4** The Council will have an opportunity to respond to the next stage of public consultation on the Commission's proposals, which is currently scheduled to take place between October 2023 and December 2023

6.0 Alternative Options

6.1 There are no alternative options presented as part of this report.

6.2 The Council is not legally required to submit a response to the Commission as part of the public consultation. However, under s56(9) of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009, the Council must provide the Local Government Boundary Commission for England with any information that it reasonably requires in connection with a review of electoral arrangements if requested to do so. No such request has been received to date, and the work to be carried out by officers as referred to at section 3.7 of this report will enable the Council to provide a timely response to the Commission if ultimately required.

7.0 Background Papers

The Commission's briefing papers to the Council on the process of the review.

8.0 Recommendations

To recommend to Council that it:

- i) notes the response of the Commission to the initial part of its review, and that the Commission is minded to recommend that 75 Councillors should be elected to the Council in the future.
- ii) notes the approach to the public consultation at this stage of the Commission's review, and the resource that will be made available to any interested parties who wish to submit a response.

Report

COUNCIL

14 JUNE 2023

Update on Special Urgency Decisions

Report of the Leader

The Council's Constitution requires that a quarterly report be submitted to Council on executive decisions which have been taken as a matter of special urgency. The relevant provisions are now contained in Regulations 11 and 19 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

These are the special urgency provisions under which key decisions may be taken by the executive, although not contained in the 28 day Notice of Key decisions (whether proposed to be taken in public or private), where compliance with Regulation 10 (the general exception) was also impracticable.

There have been no such instances since the last report.

Recommendation

That the Council notes the content of this report.

Motions on Notice

MOTIONS ON NOTICE

Council Members are asked to consider the under-mentioned Motions:-

1. Notice of Motion - Happy Birthday – NHS

This Council notes that on the 5th July 1948 an historic moment occurred in British history, a culmination of a bold and pioneering plan by the then Labour Government to make healthcare no longer exclusive to those who could afford it but to make it accessible to everyone. The NHS was born.

However, the new Minister for Health, Aneurin Bevan had to work hard to overcome opposition to the NHS ranging from the BMA through to the Conservative Party then led by Winston Churchill.

In spite of all opposition, the National Health Service came into being as part of a series of reforms which aimed to use money from taxes to provide support from the cradle to the grave.

In terms of healthcare the NHS brought many changes to Britain's health system.

These included:

- free medical treatment for all British citizens
- the nationalisation of hospitals under the Ministry of Health and organised into regional health authorities.
- The creation of health centres to provide services like vaccinations, maternity care, district nurses etc
- a better distribution of doctors around the country with GPs (general practitioners), opticians and dentists in every area

This council therefore proposes:

- To continue working with our colleagues in the NHS on how best to celebrate the 75 years that have brought great improvements to the health of our residents, inclusive of encouraging our schools and voluntary groups to actively participate in these celebrations.
- To help put steps in place to arrange for as many buildings, historic monuments and other high-profile sites across the city to 'light up' blue on the evening of 5 July.

Proposer	Councillor Kelly Chequer
Seconder	Councillor Fiona Miller

Additional Signatories

Councillor Graeme Miller	Councillor Beth Jones	Councillor Jimmy Warne
Councillor Claire Rowntree	Councillor Alison Smith	Councillor Iain Scott
Councillor Kevin Johnston	Councillor Catherine Hunter	Councillor Joanne Chapman
Councillor Lindsey Leonard	Councillor Linda Williams	Councillor Michael Walker
Councillor Dianne Snowdon	Councillor Paul Stewart	Councillor John Price
Councillor James Blackburn	Councillor Stephen Foster	Councillor Peter Walker
Councillor John Usher	Councillor Ehtesham Haque	Councillor Phil Tye
Councillor Pat Smith	Councillor Michael Butler	
Councillor Juliana Heron	Councillor Sean Laws	

2. Notice of Motion – Nuisance motorbikes

Sunderland Council notes that:

- It is increasingly common to see motorbikes and quadbikes which do not have a registration plate riding around our area;
- These motorbikes and quadbikes are often being ridden around our parks and open spaces, on pavements and on the public highway;
- Residents of Sunderland, Houghton, Hetton and Washington are experiencing regular disruption as a result of these motorbikes and quadbikes;
- Despite some police resources being committed to dealing with the problem, residents are losing faith in the ability of the police to address the problem;

Sunderland Council therefore resolves to:

- Invite the Cabinet to present an action plan to full council no later than 31st January 2024 detailing how it will restrict access for motorbikes and quadbikes to our parks and open spaces in problem areas of the city;
- Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Police and Crime Commissioner to ask that more resources are devoted to addressing the issue of motorbike and quadbike antisocial behaviour in Sunderland, Houghton, Hetton and Washington;
- Invite the Police and Crime Commissioner to attend a meeting of Sunderland City Council to report back on the progress being made to address the issue of motorbike and quadbike antisocial behaviour. This invite will be for a meeting which will take place no later than 31st January 2024;
- Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Home Secretary and ask the Government to ensure that local Police are equipped with the powers and the funding necessary to enable them to tackle motorbike and quadbike anti-social behaviour.

Proposer Councillor Paul Edgeworth
Seconded Councillor Ciaran Morrissey

Additional Signatories

Councillor Malcolm Bond
Councillor Margaret Crosby
Councillor Allen Curtis
Councillor Heather Fagan
Councillor Paul Gibson
Councillor Martin Haswell
Councillor Niall Hodson

Councillor Colin Nicholson
Councillor Stephen O'Brien
Councillor Julia Potts
Councillor George Smith
Councillor Peter Walton
Councillor Andrew Wood

3. Notice of Motion – School Crossing Patrols

Sunderland City Council has failed to recruit a sufficient number of school crossing patrol wardens to meet the needs of local children and parents.

Notwithstanding the length of time to acquire DBS checks at the enhanced level, Council notes that the role – pro rata, term time and limited hours – will only appeal to a small number of people and, coupled with this, the Council's recruitment process has been overly complicated for the role, with application packs spanning tens of pages. Creative ways of addressing the problem are required.

The Council therefore resolves to address this by asking the Chief Executive to explore two options and report to HR Committee.

- To create – over time – new, full-time parking enforcement staff whose role will also include undertaking school crossing patrols during term time to work alongside (not to replace) existing crossing patrol staff. When not undertaking crossing patrols, these staff members will then undertake enforcement work relating to parking.
- To consider the possibility of seconding existing members of staff (especially those with enhanced DBS checks) to undertake one crossing patrol per week as part of their existing role as a short-term solution to fill gaps whilst full-time staff are recruited.

Council also notes that there is a greater necessity to pay a market supplement premium to existing crossing patrol staff to maintain their services, rather than to Chief Officers.

Proposer Councillor Greg Peacock
Seconded Councillor Lyall Reed

Additional Signatories

Councillor Sam Johnston
Councillor Lynn Vera
Councillor Simon Ayre
Councillor Antony Mullen
Councillor Richard Dunn
Councillor Michael Dixon
Councillor Michael Hartnack