

PLACE BOARD

Area Priority	Outcomes/Actions	Progress/Updates
Support for local shopping centres	Improve physical environment in local centres	<p>A community litter pick took place in Houghton le Spring in October 2016. Ward Councillors, traders and volunteers were involved in the work in and around Houghton le Spring town centre.</p> <p>A mural to be installed on the gable end of 1 Market Street, Hetton is under development. Following consultation with traders, Councillors and residents, designs have been agreed and advertising consent applied for. Estimated timescales for completion July/August 2017.</p> <p>'Free Parking' signage has been installed in Houghton le Spring to direct shoppers to additional parking.</p> <p>A Town Centre Review is being carried out in Houghton le Spring by colleagues in traffic services. Houghton Traders instigated the review and have been consulted and fully briefed throughout the process.</p> <p>A parking improvement scheme has been developed for Barnwell, Penshaw shopping area. SIB funding will allow regularised parking bays to be installed, and a legal order to be developed.</p>
	Continue retail and business support for local and independent traders	<p>The Business and Innovation Centre (BIC) is delivering a two year Retail Support Programme on behalf of Area Committee. The SIB funded project commenced in February 2017. Tony Carlin, lead on the project has attended Place Board and VCS Network meetings to discuss development of the programme.</p> <p>Trader groups in Market Street, Hetton, Shiney Row and Houghton are being progressed and supported by the Retail Support Programme. A total of 9 businesses have received individual advice and support to date.</p> <p>Consultation with traders in Easington Lane and Fencehouses took place in November 2016 and nine businesses were supported to further develop their trade. A number of suggestions for future action were made and will be included in the new SIB funded Retail Support project for consideration.</p>
	Develop initiatives to increase footfall in local shopping centres	<p>The Shiney Christmas event delivered by Sunderland City Council, local traders and ShARP attracted over 500 new and regular shoppers to the area. A market consisting of 12 stalls sold a variety of goods to increase the shopping offer for local people.</p>

		<p>Building on the success of local markets, traders in Shiney Row are exploring the feasibility of holding regular 'themed' markets, as part of the Retail Support project.</p> <p>A 'Shop Local' campaign will be developed for all areas of the Coalfield to demonstrate the benefits of using local businesses.</p>
Environmental improvement and education	Continue delivery of Love Where You Live (LWYL) activities	<p>SIB funding was awarded to Groundwork NE to deliver the 'My Place, Our Space' project. The project will work with all primary and secondary schools, local traders and shoppers, voluntary and community organisations and local residents on a two year programme of work to improve local areas.</p> <p>8 voluntary and community organisations were awarded between £1,200 and £5,000 SIB to carry out local environmental improvement and education projects.</p> <p>A number of community clean up events have taken place throughout the year including a joint project with Gentoo at Easington Lane. 23 volunteers collected 28 bags of rubbish in a two hour period. Colleagues from Place Management collected and disposed of the rubbish.</p> <p>Over 40 children from 4 classes of Easington Lane Primary School took part in environmental education sessions with Groundwork NE. Pupils designed posters urging the community to take pride in their neighbourhood. Winning posters are displayed around the area.</p>
	Increase partnership working with Place Management Services to improve local sites and maintain improvements	Place Management colleagues are part of the 'My Place, Our Space' Environment Steering Group to offer support and advice to projects within the Coalfield area. Areas of concern will be highlighted and solutions discussed with the Group.
	Support 'Friends of' groups	<p>Friends of Herrington Country Park attend the VCS Network and promote activities and volunteer opportunities via the Information Sharing items. The Friends arrange regular clean ups in the park engaging volunteers from across the area. A bank of equipment including litter pickers supplied via Community Chest funding is held by the group for community use.</p> <p>Support is being given to the Friends of Hetton Lyons Park to carry out improvements in the park in partnership with Springboard and Sunderland City Council. Members are part of an Environment Steering Group set up by Groundwork as part of their SIB funded 'My Place, Our Space' project.</p> <p>Friends of Elba Park are being supported to hold a summer fun event for local families.</p>

	Encourage local residents to participate in maintaining the local natural environment and develop associated skills	47 primary school children and 10 young people from a local youth project worked with 4 volunteers from a community organisation to develop a community allotment. The volunteers passed on their knowledge and skills to the young people and helped them to grow produce which they used in a cooking class at their youth club.
Make better use of land and greenspace	Promote availability of greenspace for recreation and play	The Local Celebrations programme delivered during the summer, promoted the use of local greenspace for family activities. The four ward based events attracted a total of 331 residents.
	Support people to access greenspace for health benefits	Two SIB funded access to greenspace projects have been developed under the 'Social Isolation' priority. ELCAP and Groundwork North East are both running projects to encourage and support people to get out and about in local parks and greenspaces.
Celebrate local events and heritage	Support long standing and historical events and celebrations taking place in local communities	<p>Over 200 children from 8 local schools took part in art activities and music workshops in the weeks leading up to the 2016 Houghton Feast. Over 250 people performed at the opening ceremony, watched by an audience estimated at over 1500.</p> <p>Traffic management and road closures were put in place for four Miners' Banner Parades and three Remembrance Parades to enable marches to take place in local neighbourhoods.</p>
	Encourage and support local groups to plan and take part in local events	<p>Over 250 people took part in a series of 17 art and history workshops to celebrating mining heritage. The project created a lifesize sculpture of a miner for display across the Coalfield area.</p> <p>The SIB funded 'Stephenson Project' is underway and will deliver 26 workshops to over 300 people. Each participant will make a glass tile and learn about the important contribution George Stephenson's Hetton Railway made to the local area. The project is ongoing.</p> <p>All Calls for Projects are advertised and developed via the Coalfield Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Network. A number of local activities and events have been delivered by local groups using this process.</p>