

MEETING:	Penistone Area Council
DATE:	Thursday, 11 February 2021
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Held Virtually

AGENDA

- 1 Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

Minutes and notes

- 2 Minutes of the Penistone Area Council meeting held on 3rd December, 2020 (Pac.11.02.2021/2) *(Pages 3 - 6)*
- 3 Notes from the Penistone Ward Alliance held on 26th November, 2020 and 21st January, 2021 (Pac.11.02.2021/3) *(Pages 7 - 10)*

Performance

- 4 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Pac.11.02.2021/4) *(Pages 11 - 14)*
- 5 Performance Update (Pac.11.02.2021/5)

Items for decision

- 6 Procurement and Financial Update (Pac.11.02.2021/6) *(Pages 15 - 20)*

Items for Discussion

- 7 Superfast South Yorkshire - Julie Tattersall (Pac.11.02.2021/7) *(Pages 21 - 32)*
- 8 Principal Towns Update - Fiona O'Brien (Pac.11.02.2021/8)
- 9 Covid-19 Update - Cath Bedford/Lucy Butcher and Rana AlKubesi (Pac.11.02.2021/9) *(Pages 33 - 38)*

To: Chair and Members of Penistone Area Council:-

Councillors Barnard (Chair), Greenhough, David Griffin, Hand-Davis, Kitching and Wilson

Area Council Support Officers:

Matt Bell, Penistone Area Council Senior Management Link Officer
Elaine Equeall, Penistone Area Council Manager
Rachel Payling, Head of Service, Stronger Communities
Peter Mirfin, Council Governance Officer
Cath Bedford, Public Health Principal - Communities

Please contact Peter Mirfin on email governance@barnsley.gov.uk

Wednesday, 3 February 2021



MEETING:	Penistone Area Council
DATE:	Thursday, 3 December 2020
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Held Virtually

MINUTES

Present Councillors Barnard (Chair), Greenhough, David Griffin, Hand-Davis, Kitching and Wilson

1 Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

No Members declared an interest in any item on the agenda.

2 Minutes of the Penistone Area Council meeting held on 1st October, 2020 (Pac.03.12.2020/2)

The Area Council received the minutes of the previous meeting held on 1st October, 2020.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Penistone Area Council meeting held on the 1st October, 2020 be approved as a true and correct record.

3 Notes from the Penistone Ward Alliance held on 8th October, 2020 (Pac.03.12.2020/3)

The meeting received the notes from the Penistone Ward Alliance held on 8th October, 2020.

RESOLVED that the notes from the Penistone Ward Alliance held on 8th October, 2020 be received.

4 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Pac.03.12.2020/4)

The Area Council Manager introduced the item, referring to the report circulated. Members noted the total figure available for distribution in 2020/21, which included monies carried forward from the previous financial year, allocation for the current financial year and income from finance to support recovery from Covid-19. A total figure of £38,247.45 was available.

At the time of the report being published £24,808.25 remained for allocation, however Members noted that the Ward Alliance had recently met and recommended four applications for approval, which would further reduce this figure.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

5 Presentation on Performance (Pac.03.12.2020/5)

The Area Council Manager introduced the item referring to the great work undertaken by Age UK Barnsley supporting vulnerable and isolated older people in the Penistone area, prioritising those with few contacts.

83 Service user contacts had been made in quarter 2, with this slightly reduced from quarter 1 as restrictions eased.

25 volunteers had committed 278 hours, with some of this providing socially distanced face-to-face support where possible. As well as walking for health programmes being arranged when appropriate, home based activity programmes had been extremely positively received with 31 taking part.

17 service users had received information and advice with an estimated benefit gain of £12,753. Though the Community Car Scheme had recommenced for essential journeys, take up remained low.

Members noted some groups had recommenced in line with guidance, but had since been postponed. However, U3A had started some activities via Zoom. It was also noted that the SOPPA network had met virtually and discussed how to collectively provide support over winter.

The services provided by Age UK provided a valuable support for older and vulnerable, and also acted as a sign posting service. Members noted the activities planned, including the continuation of activities at home and the distribution of winter warmth packs.

During the restrictions Twiggs Grounds Maintenance worked in innovative ways to support 15 community groups, with assistance from 2 businesses. 36 individual projects had taken place. Some were only small but made significant impacts. This included clearing walkways to schools and restoring seating.

Members noted that the equipment bank had been established using Ward Alliance Fund finance to provide resources for residents and community groups to use in their clean and green work.

The information and advice service provided by DIAL had moved to being provided online and via telephone. With some additional funding from the National Lottery, this had also enabled the service to be provided over 4 of 5 days. There had been a significant rise in users, with 162 benefitting from support within the quarter. Within the quarter an estimated £27,939.60 in additional benefit had been gained. This had a significant impact on the wellbeing of clients, including improvements in the levels of anxiety in users, their health and wellbeing and reductions in their feelings of isolation.

Members heard of the performance of the CAB service in the area, which assisted 42 clients within the quarter against a target of 15. Noted was the return on investment of £17 per £1 invested. There had been a growth in the demand for legal advice in relation to families and neighbours. 6 volunteers had also supported delivery of the service. Since April 2019 the service had assisted the management of £70,015 debt and helped residents to claim £145,623 of additional benefits.

Members were made aware of the work of the Area Team within the quarter. Links with community groups had continued to be maintained and advice provided in

relation to accessing Covid support funds and Ward Alliance Funds. In addition, advice had been provided in relation to the safe operation of groups that had recommenced.

The 'Healthy Holiday' provision had been piloted with Springvale Primary, School, working with Café Generation. There are plans to develop this further with other schools and with the Children and Family Service.

The team continued to work with the Targeted Youth Support Service to develop proposals to utilise finance from the ringfenced Working Together Fund budget.

Though it was not possible to arrange an event to celebrate volunteering, it was noted that space in Penistone Living had been utilised in order to praise volunteers and to promote services provided by the Area Council.

Members noted that the team had worked to re-establish community responder volunteers, with a number of requests for assistance being received. Support will continue to be provided where required and referrals made to other relevant services in more complex cases.

Work continued with Age UK and Public Health to coordinate the distribution of Winter Warmth Packs, which included information on falls prevention and warm homes, as well as activity packs and warm clothing.

Support continued to be provided to the Principal Towns programme, with two artists being recently appointed to lead on art installation and way marking. Members noted that the artists would be engaging the community in the new year.

Members heard of the recent appointment of a neighbourhood engagement officer, who would provide support in relation to Covid-19. This included providing guidance to licensed premises, gyms etc and supporting test and trace arrangements.

Those present wished to place on record their thanks to SPAR in Penistone and other local businesses for their support provided to services provided by the Area Council. Also thanked were all the volunteers involved in the area. In addition Members praised the continued hard work of the Area Team.

Questions were raised in relation to the use of the £10,000 hardship fund and it was suggested that this would support continuation of advice services in the area provided by DIAL and CAB.

Members discussed engaging residents who were not digitally enabled, and it was noted that this was being considered by the Area Team and was a reason space was taken in Penistone Living Magazine. In addition, Age UK helped to make residents aware of support who were not on the internet, and noticeboards around the area were also used for promotion of services

RESOLVED that the feedback on performance be noted.

6 Procurement and Financial Update (Pac.03.12.2020/6)

The Area Council Manager spoke to the report previously circulated. Members were reminded of the previous approval of the development of a further grant process to support vulnerable and isolated older people. In light of the recent lockdown and current restrictions, and that the demand was likely to rise during the winter period, it was suggested that the current services should be extended for a further six months. This would allow continuity for service users and in delaying the grant process would mean that proposals could more adequately reflect the impact of Covid-19.

It had been suggested that the Working Together Fund would be advertised widely, with a deadline for applications of 27th November, 2020. However, due to many organisations taking time to consider how to operate in light of the pandemic it was suggested that any deadline be removed and that the fund continue to be promoted.

A financial summary was provided, with an in-year budget of £50,225 remaining. However, with the approval to continue support services provided by Age UK for a further six months, this was reduced by £15,225.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the update on procurement be received;
- (ii) That the establishment of a grant scheme to support isolated older people be delayed in light of the Covid-19 pandemic;
- (iii) That the the Executive Director be authorised to complete any necessary paperwork to waive contract procedure rules so that the current contracts funded through the Supporting Isolated and Older People's Grant Fund be continued for a further period of six months at a cost of £35,000 to address the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on vulnerable older people in the Penistone area;
- (iv) That the update and the current financial position of the Penistone Working Together Fund be noted;
- (v) That the update on funds ringfenced within the Working Together Fund for activities to support young people be noted;
- (vi) That the updates on the Clean and Tidy contract be noted;
- (vii) That the financial position be noted.

Chair

**NOTES OF PENISTONE WARD ALLIANCE MEETING
Thursday 26th November 2020, Virtual Meeting**

1. Present: Cllr Robert Barnard, Jonathan Cutts, Joe Unsworth, Cllr David Greenhough, Mandy Lowe-Flello, Bob Blythe, Cllr John Wilson, Cllr Hannah Kitching, Ann Walker, Richard Leech

In Attendance: Tanya Dickinson, Rana Kubesi

Apologies: Cllr David Griffin, Barbara Lee, Graham Saunders, Ann Rusby, Pauline Ogden, Allen Pestell, Chrissie Yates

2. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-pecuniary Interest

Jonathan Cutts, Cllr John Wilson and Richard Leech declared non-pecuniary interests in the Silkstone Christmas Gifts Project application.

Jonathan Cutts and Cllr David Greenhough declared non-pecuniary interests in the St Andrews Church, Penistone, application.

3. Notes of the Meeting Held on 8th October 2020

Approved.

4. To Consider any Matters Arising from the Notes

None.

5. Ward Alliance Finances

Cllr Barnard confirmed Penistone Ward Alliance fund has an allocation of £24,808.35 remaining for the current financial year.

6. Penistone Area Council Update

Mandy Lowe-Flello volunteered to sit on the the next Penistone Working Together Fund panel.

7. Applications for Financial Assistance

a) Cawthorne Toddler and Baby Group - £1,600

A large element of the funding was to support Cawthorne Village Hall, it was thought an application from them directly would be better. No allocation was recommended.

b) Cawthorne Cricket Club - £2,170

When it is safe to continue members agrees this was an excellent project to support local young people to get healthy. An allocation of £2,170 was recommended.

c) Silkstone Christmas Gifts Project - £1,502

Excellent partnership project and potential for other areas to learn. An allocation of £1,502 was recommended.

d) Penistone Scouts – £827.26

All in favour. An allocation of £827.26 was recommended.

e) Tankersley in Bloom - £1,800

Excellent initiative from the Parish Council, following a successful model seen in other local villages. An allocation of £1,800 was recommended.

f) St Andrews Church, Penistone - £3,731.68

Whilst it was recognised that the church plays an important community function for Penistone concerns were raised about funding the religious elements of their work. It was agreed to break the proposed budget down and just fund certain, non-religious, elements. An Allocation of £1,043.68 was recommended.

8. Any other business

A discussion was had about the Silkstone Christmas Gifts project and whether this could be rolled out across the Penistone area for next year.

9. Date and time of next meeting

Members agreed that the next meeting would likely be virtual, date to be reviewed and agreed in advance.

NOTES OF PENISTONE WARD ALLIANCE MEETING
Thursday 21st January 2021, Virtual Meeting

1. Present: Cllr Robert Barnard, Chrissie Yates, Jonathan Cutts, Graham Saunders, Joe Unsworth, Cllr David Greenhough, Cllr Hannah Kitching, Cllr John Wilson, Richard Leech, Pauline Ogden, Mandy Lowe-Flello, Cllr Paul Hand-Davis

In Attendance: Tanya Dickinson, Rana Kubesi, Craig Taylor, Stephen Miller

Apologies: Cllr David Griffin, Barbara Lee, Ann Rusby, Allen Pestell, Bob Blythe

2. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-pecuniary Interest

Cllr David Greenhough declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Penistone Leisure Centre application.

3. Notes of the Meeting Held on 26th November 2020

Approved.

4. To Consider any Matters Arising from the Notes

None.

5. Ward Alliance Finances

Cllr Barnard confirmed Penistone Ward Alliance fund has an allocation of £17,465.31 remaining for the current financial year.

6. Penistone Area Council Update

The next Area Council meeting is in a couple of weeks and updates will be provided following this.

7. Applications for Financial Assistance

a) Penistone Leisure Centre - £3,560

Discussion was had about the amount of Ward Alliance support the organisation have had but also that they are successful in securing large amounts of funding from elsewhere. An allocation of £3,560 was recommended.

b) Penistone Cricket Club - £10,000

It was confirmed the club are actively fundraising in other ways and they were not expecting the full £10,000 from the Ward Alliance. It was recognised how difficult it had been for clubs and societies to fundraise due to the Covid-19 pandemic. An allocation of £1,500 was recommended.

c) Hoylandswaine Arts Group - £1,500

Questions raised about whether the project would be able to go ahead due to the Covid-19 pandemic and also whether other funders or commercial sponsors could be involved. An allocation of £750 was recommended.

d) Age UK – £1,485.50

A good partnership approach and welcome opportunities for the Ward Alliance members to get involved. An allocation of £1,485.50 was recommended.

e) Penistone FM - £1,500

Discussions about the amount of Ward Alliance support they have had and how diverse their grant funding stream is. Suggested to offer further support via Ward Alliance members and the Penistone Area Team. An allocation of £1,400 was recommended.

8. Any other business

A discussion was had about the access problems to the recycling centre at Springvale.

9. Date and time of next meeting

Members agreed that the next meeting would likely be virtual, date to be reviewed and agreed in advance.

2020/21 WARD FUNDING ALLOCATIONS

For 2020/21 each Ward will have an allocation of £10,000 Ward Alliance Fund.

50% of the funding requires a match-funding element of volunteer time that directly relates to the project in question, or other match funding resources (such as free room hire or donations of goods and equipment). This reflects the fact that the fund is intended to support volunteering and social action in our communities.

50% can be used for initiatives that have no volunteer element – such as the purchase and installation of benches, hanging baskets or other street furniture.

Area Councils have the option to allocate up to £20,000 from the Area Council budget to each of their Ward Alliances. This is discretionary to each Area Council, and Area Council's may also choose not to allocate any funding to ward level.

The carry-forward of remaining balances of the 2019/20 Ward Alliance Fund will be combined and added to the 2020/21 Allocation, to be managed as a single budget with the above conditions.

All decisions on the use of this funding need to be approved through the Ward Alliance.

2020/21 Final Ward Project Allocations**PENISTONE WARD ALLIANCE**

For the 2020/21 financial year the Ward Alliance have the following available budget.

£20,000.00	base allocation
£16,970.05	carried forward from 2019/20
£1,277.40	Covid Income
£38,247.45	total available funding

Project	Allocation	Match funding element of allocation	Non Match funding allocation remaining	Allocation Remaining
			£19,123.73	£38,247.45
Love Thy Penistone Card Readers - Covid 19	£501.40	£4053	£19,123.73	£37,746.05
Springvale Community Garden	£2,607.80	£1945	£19,123.73	£35,138.25
Royd Garden Community group	£2,000	£405	£19,123.73	£33,138.25

Project	Allocation	Match funding element of allocation	Non Match funding allocation remaining	Allocation Remaining
Wortley Community Church and Notice Board	£1,077.70	£0	£18,046.02	£32,060.55
Thurgoland Bowling Club	£3,626.72	£4,323	£18,046.02	£28,433.83
Thurgoland Village Hall	£2,000	£108	£18,046.02	£26,433.83
Penistone Archive group	£236.38	£378	£18,046.02	£26,197.45
Twiggs Volunteer Bank	£613.20	£500	£18,046.02	£25,584.25
Cawthorne Cricket Club	£2,170	£896	£18,046.02	£23,414.25
Silkstone Craft Group - Christmas Gifts for Children	£1,502	£1,553.65	£18,046.02	£21,912.25
St Andrews Church	£1,043.68	£1,170.87	£18,046.02	£20,868.57
Tankersley in Bloom Volunteer Group	£1,800	£4,448.48	£18,046.02	£19,068.57
Penistone Scouts Face to Face	£827.26	£607.95	£18,046.02	£18,241.31
Penistone Leisure Centre	£3,560	£756.56	£18,046.02	£14,681.31
Penistone Cricket Club	£1,500	£0	£16,546	£13,181.31
Hoylandswaine Arts Group	£750	£671	£16,546	£12,431.31

Project	Allocation	Match funding element of allocation	Non Match funding allocation remaining	Allocation Remaining
Age UK	£1,485.50	£472.85	£16,546	£10,945.81
Penistone FM	£1,400	£540.40	£16,546	£9,545.81

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BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

**Penistone Area Council
February 11th 2021**

**Summary report of the
Penistone Area Council Manager**

Penistone Area Council Procurement and Financial updates

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 This report provides members with a summary update on the following commissioning and procurement activity:

- Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older people service
- Working Together Fund
- Supporting Young People Fund
- Clean & Tidy Service

1.2 The report outlines the 2020/2021 financial year position for Penistone Area Council and current budget update, including the projected financial year end position.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 That members receive the update on the procurement activity.

2.2 That members note the update of contracts funded by the existing Supporting Isolated and Older People Grant fund from within this report.

2.3 That members note the proposed grant procurement timetable to establish future provision to support vulnerable and isolated older people in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic.

2.4 That members receive the update and current financial position of the Penistone Working Together Fund.

2.5 That members receive the update on ringfenced funds within the existing Working Together Fund to establish specific activities that will support young people in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic

2.6 That members note the updates on the new Clean and Tidy contract started in April 2020 from within this report.

2.7 That members agree to the continuation of the Clean and Tidy commissioned service to year two of the contract from April 2021 with a full update of the service to date presented to PAC at it's meeting in June 2021.

2.8 That Members note the financial year end position for the 2020/21 budget

3.0 Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older People Service

- 3.1 The current grant contracts held by Age UK have continued to perform satisfactorily, however these contracts have been flexed during the Covid-19 period which is reflected in the performance reporting presented within this meeting.
- 3.2 At the PAC meeting 1st October 2020 members were advised that current contracts to provide the existing service are due to end in January 2021, and it was agreed that £70K is made available from the 2020/21 Area Council budget to set up a further 'Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older People Fund' (SVIOP) with devolved responsibility for the formal approval of the grants to the Executive Director for Communities, following recommendations from the grant fund Panel Members.
- 3.3 In light of the ongoing impacts of the of Covid-19 pandemic, and the need to provide continuity of service to vulnerable members of the Penistone Community, members agreed at PAC December 3rd 2020 to the allocation of £35k from the 2020/21 PAC budget to allow a six month extension to current contracts held by Age Uk .
- 3.4 Members are advised that a grant fund outline to invite applications for future services to support vulnerable and isolated older people will be available for comment by early March. The grant will be open for applications for a one month period following this and a grant panel decision will be required by early May 2021, with view to starting newly awarded contracts by mid June 2021.

4.0 Penistone Area Council Working Together Fund

- 4.1 At the Area Council meeting of October 1st 2020 members agreed that the Working Together Grant should be promoted to accept applications to fund activities which will support covid recovery intentions with a deadline of 27th November 2020.
- 4.2 Members are advised that to date two applications have been received and subsequently approved by the Grant Panel to fund a continuation of the debt advice service to be delivered by Citizens Advice Bureau at a cost of £8,118 and an information and advice service to be delivered by DIAL at a cost of £10,136.
- 4.3 Members are advised that financial hardship funds have been made available to the Area Council outside of the 2020/21 PAC budget and will be used to supplement funding applications for information and advice services to enable extended provision to support higher demand.
- 4.4 The Working Together grant will continue to be promoted by the Area Team to encourage further applications.

4.5 Total allocations to date

Penistone FM	£ 15,627.00
Penistone Round Table	£ 11,660.00
Penisone Scout Group	£ 8,050.00
Sporting Penistone	£ 16,230.00
DIAL (Information and Advice service 2017)	£ 4,275.00
Barnsley Market – BMBC Market Barn additions lighting and Wi-fi	£ 6,740.00
Penistone Youth Project (TYS)	£ 8,730.00
The People Focussed Group (Bumping spaces)	£ 19,836.00
Cycle Penistone CIC	£ 5,990.00
Penistone FM Community Radio Older people	£ 19,840.00
South Pennine Community Transport CIC 2017 pilot	£ 5,000.00
Trans Pennine Trail Conservation Volunteers Penistone Station project	£ 6,630.00
Allocation to Ward Alliances	£ 10,000.00
DIAL (Information and Advice service 2018)	£ 4,395.00
South Pennine Community Transport CIC 2017 Pilot extension	£ 6,538.00
South Pennine Community Transport CIC Service Delivery 2018/19	£ 20,000.00
TPT conservation volunteers Penistone Station project extension	£ 2,890.00
Penistone FM Young Voices	£ 7,644.00
DIAL (Information and Advice service 2019 with option to extend to 2020)	£ 9,700.00
CAB Barnsley (Information and Advice Debt support 6 month Pilot to Sept 2019)	£ 2,115.00
South Pennine Community Transport CIC Service Delivery contribution 2019/20	£ 14,000
Barnsley CAB debt advice service operational costs to September 2020	£ 3566
Barnsley CAB debt advice service operational costs to September 2021	£8,118
DIAL (Information and Advice service 2021 with option to extend to 2022)	£10,136
Total Allocations to date	£227,710

<i>Current Amount remaining for allocation</i>	£42,776
<i>Applications to Working Together grant currently pending</i>	
<i>Penistone FM 'Talk.Just Talk' young people project (still on hold pending further information)</i>	£ 9,208

5.0

5.1

Working Together Grant fund – Supporting Young People

5.2 At PAC meeting October 1st 2020 members agreed to an additional £40k allocated from within the current 2020/21 PAC commissioning budget to be ringfenced within the Working Together Fund and promoted solely for the use of activities which will support the physical and mental wellbeing of young people.

5.3 Members are advised that the Area team is continuing to research and scope the needs of Young People in the Penistone area in light of new evidence resulting from the impact of the pandemic and work is ongoing to develop a brief for this new Working Together Young People's Support Fund which will be shared with members before being widely advertised.

Members will be invited to provide grant panel representation when the grant is established.

6.0

6.1

Clean, Green and Tidy Service

6.2 Following a robust procurement process, in which members participated, Twiggs Ground Maintenance Ltd were successful in being appointed as the preferred provider for the Penistone Clean, Green and Tidy service and started their contract on the 1st April 2020 at a cost of £100,000 for this year from within the current area council budget allocation.

6.3 The current Clean Green and Tidy service contract started during the lock down period for Covid-19 and as a result it has been agreed to flex this to meet immediate needs during the crisis period. The contract performs satisfactorily within the flexed terms and performance highlights are presented within this meeting.

7.0 Members are asked to agree to the continuation of this service to year two of the contract from April 2021, and it is recommended that a full update is provided by this service to Members at the PAC meeting in June 2021.

7.1

Current Financial Summary Position

Following member approval of recommended funding allocations at PAC December 3rd 2020 for the Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older People Grant extension of £35k , a total working budget remains of £15,225. As no further urgent spend is required at this point,

7.2 this leaves a final year end total of **£15,225** which will be carried forward for spend in the 2021/2022 financial year.

2020/21 Budget allocations

Approved spend items in operation in 2020/2021	Current approved expenditure from 2020/2021 budget
New Clean Green and Tidy contract	£100,000
Supporting Older people Fund extension to Jan 2021	£ 52,000
New Supporting Older people grant (defer to 2021/22 procurement)	£ 70,000
Working Together Grant fund Supporting Young People	£ 40,000
Penistone Living Magazine content space	£ 3,000
Existing SVIOP Fund contract extension to June 2021	£35,000
Total allocated spend to date	£300,000
Budget 2020/21	
Base budget	£200,000
Additional income to base budget	
Underspend from 2019/20 budget	£21,829
Underspend from cumulative lack of draw down from allocated spend	£93,396
Total budget available for spend 2020/21	£315,225
Total remaining to carry forward to 2021/22 Budget	£15,225

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Penistone Area Council Manager

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Superfast South Yorkshire & Accelerating Digital Barnsley



What is Superfast South Yorkshire?

- **SFSY Team** is a partnership of;
 - Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield councils.
 - BDUK (Building Digital UK, part of DCMS)
 - Openreach (the infrastructure part of BT, but legally separate)
 - SCR LEP (Sheffield City Region Local Enterprise Partnership)

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We've

- Boosted availability of superfast broadband to over **98%** (from **80%** in **2014**)
- Brought **119,916** new connections to SY, **71,245** are in use every day ~(**60%**)
- Provided support to SMEs across SCR relating to connectivity and getting the most out of connectivity
- Advised on digital connectivity and infrastructure to developers & planning depts

SFSY's current activity

- Contract with Openreach to deploy FTTP to **8,000** homes in SY
- Working with communities to use government voucher schemes
- Forming a rural broadband action group
- Inputting into the BMBC Digital Strategy & the SCR Digital Infrastructure Strategy
- Consultees on digital connectivity with LA planning depts
- Maximising the take up of SFSY deployment
- We can “claw back” the public subsidy and reinvest in the region
- Preparing for “Outside In” – BDUK’s next big programme,

Deployment in the Penistone Area Council

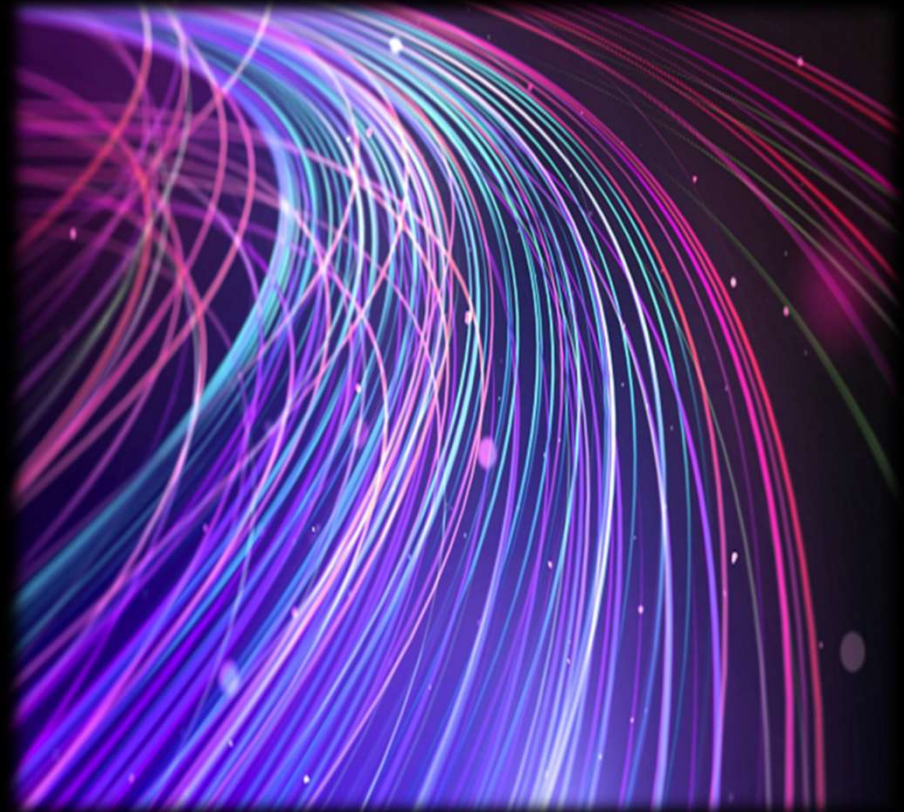
SFSY Deployment:

	Number of properties ready for service	
Penistone	SFSY Contract 1, Phase 1 & 2 FTTC – Superfast broadband, 24 to 30Mbps	SFSY Contract 2, Phase 3 FTTP – Ultrafast broadband, 100Mbps (Subject to survey & funding)
Penistone East	3478	115
Penistone West	1923	0
Total	5401	115

Virgin are planning the upgrade of their networks in the future

Accelerating Digital Barnsley:

- Increase gigabit-capable broadband from commercial infrastructure providers, facilitating deployment, stimulating demand e.g. CityFibre
- SFSY full fibre and Superfast programmes, support deployment, demand stimulation, Gigabit Voucher Scheme (rural areas)
- Ensure all new residential and commercial sites have gigabit-capable infrastructure



Accelerating Digital Barnsley:

Progressing IoT (Internet of Things):

- **Sensors installed on council assets to collect data to be used internally for strategic decision making, can also be provided externally for business use**
- **Working group established**
- **Pilot Scheme in development**
- **Links with:**
 - **IoT Tribe at DMC**
 - **Uni Of Sheffield 'SELA' students**
 - **Digital Tech Leaders Group**

Accelerating Digital Barnsley

5G Mobile Network Operators:

- Networks to share their 2-year plan of roll-out across South Yorkshire
- Decisions about roll-out are based on demand for services
- Planning will play a key role, the smooth and timely processing of applications supports roll-out
- Barnsley to consider adoption of Sheffield's 5G planning process which was developed with the Mobile Network Operators

Accelerating Digital Barnsley:

- Social value opportunities created through infrastructure deployment
- Create strategic linkages to ensure that digital connectivity and inclusion are acknowledged in all aspects of the council's activities:

- Increase access to digital connectivity & Adult skills
- Review of digital activity, connectivity and inclusion
- Creating connections between teams
- Opportunities for joint working
- Sharing of resources
- Avoiding duplication
- Creating efficiencies



Accelerating Digital Barnsley – Examples of Activity

Care Homes: Digital exclusion of residents unable to video-call during Covid-19 restrictions:

- Report on broadband connections: speeds/suppliers available/in scope for deployment or Voucher Scheme, offer of support
- Created links with Digital Champions, Adult Skills, device support, NHS Connectivity Scheme, Library Service

Digital Exclusion – Poverty Working Group – Bi-monthly:

- Lots of activity across BMBC around digital exclusion, opportunity to join up, add value, create efficiencies, share information and learning
- Audit carried out to identify activity across BMBC and partners

Accelerating Digital Barnsley:

Covid-19: Connectivity and Device Support:

Children's Remote Learning:

- 'DfE Connectivity Offers' from suppliers: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/get-help-with-technology-for-remote-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19>
- 'Laptops for Kids scheme': <https://www.ltfk.co.uk/>
- Covid-19 Support from Telecoms Providers: <http://www.superfastsouthyorkshire.co.uk/sfsy-news>

Low-cost broadband connections:

- BT Basic Broadband: <https://btplc.com/inclusion/ProductsAndServices/BTBasic/ApplyingforBTBasic/index.htm>
- Virgin Media Broadband: <https://www.ispreview.co.uk/index.php/2020/08/virgin-media-uk-launch-cheap-15mbps-broadband-for-universal-credit-users.html>
- Broadband stats and information: <https://www.thinkbroadband.com/information>
- Broadband speeds boost home values: https://www.gov.uk/government/news/broadband-speed-boost-sees-home-values-jump-by-3500?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=dd4c4b36-963d-4eb0-88ee-0d487d5b1939&utm_content=daily



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Area Council Update – COVID 19 Briefing

Public Health

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

We hope members will find this helpful as part of a regular update on the Council's Public Health response to the pandemic.

The information provided covers a wide range of work undertaken across the Council. Members will also appreciate the pace of change during the pandemic, so we will aim to provide as up to date information as possible.

Any specific questions on areas of work will be taken back to the appropriate lead for further detail, if appropriate.

1. Purpose of Report

To provide a summary of actions/progress to members in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic.

2. Key Themes

Headlines as at 3rd February 2021

- Continue to observe national lockdown measures. We are starting to see a slow decline nationally, and this trend is also observed in Barnsley. This is good news, but we must remain vigilant.
- Working age adults have the highest case rates. Although most cases are in 50-59-year olds and 20-29s, testing access is greater in those in their 50s and as such a difference in positivity is likely between older and younger working age adults.
- Most neighbourhoods have similar cases rates that are either relatively stable or declining.
- Whilst there has been recent signs of some increase in cases of COVID-19 across Barnsley since the middle of January across all ages, the current 7-day case rate is stable and suggests a slow fall in numbers.
- At the moment, borough wide intelligence is considered the best approach to data sharing due to continuously and rapidly changing nature of the data;
- The team who are currently analysing COVID data have reiterated that they will highlight with councillors and area teams if there are specific ward issues of concern, and will also receive updates on the Tuesday and Friday briefings.

Public Health Messages

- Reinforcing government guidance;
 - HANDS - Wash hands regularly.
 - FACE - Wear face coverings in enclosed spaces,
 - SPACE - Stay at least 2 metres apart or 1 metre with a face covering.
 - Let Fresh Air in – during winter months

Intelligence

COVID Situation Report (Sit-Rep)

- Twice weekly 'situation report' meetings are held to review line listing data and map any reoccurring issues in specific areas.
- New cases are distributed across the whole borough and areas with the highest number of cases tends to vary on a weekly basis.
- Any local community intelligence on these areas is fed into this group and would be useful.

Covid Marshals/Community Observations

- 16 marshals appointed to advise and support the public/local businesses to follow guidelines, manage queues and promote social distancing in crowded areas. Whilst no formal enforcement powers, they regularly link to the Police/Regulatory Services who do have those formal enforcement powers.

Main themes from current community observations:

- Footfall and traffic across the borough has reduced during lockdown however not to the levels observed in April 2020. Parks and open spaces have been noted to be busier than expected.
- Concerns regarding lack of social distancing inside retail settings such as supermarkets. SNS, Covid Marshals and NEOs are supporting Regulatory Services in undertaking supermarket visits.
- Congregations of youths (including a gathering of 30 youths in the town centre) in outdoor public spaces with variable response to Marshals advice
- We've heard 2 reports of queues at vaccination primary care venues and have shared this with the CCG to support practices in safe vaccine delivery.

If you note anything that requires direct attention by the COVID marshals or our joint operations with SYP please do not hesitate to contact

COVIDmarshals@barnsley.gov.uk.

Neighbourhood Engagement Officers

Each NEO is assigned to their respective areas but with flexibility to move if needed. Line managed by Area Council Managers and their Public Health link is Kaye Mann. They can do what is needed in that area to support residents and business to adhere to guidance, very much a supportive role not enforcement. All 6 NEOs are now in post:

- Leyla Brooke – North
- Craig Aubrey - Dearne
- Kay Tinkler – South
- Laura Dixon – Central
- Louise Hunt – North East
- Rana Al Kubesi – Penistone

Community Insights – Additional Funded Work

- Magpie ‘Behavioural Insights’ campaign underway to understand and increase COVID compliance in Barnsley.
- Conversation workshops ran 21st January until 1st February 2021 for a number of targeted groups: (see Appendix 1) – 200 people signed up.
- Specific workshop planned for elected members on 2nd February 2021.
- Also hoping to access funding for additional support to BAME/Disabilities groups who have been disproportionately affected by COVID 19.

Outbreak Management – Local communities

- We commission a number of services to support ‘Vulnerable Communities’ e.g. Homeless/Rough Sleepers, Gypsy/Travellers, Substance Misuse, Domestic Abuse, HMOs, Asylum Seekers/Refugees – PH in communities have identified settings specialists to disseminate information and support with outbreak monitoring, relating to these groups.
- There is a weekly outbreak management group which also covers outbreaks in these community settings as well as Schools, Care Homes, Workplace/Commercial settings, Healthcare etc.

COVID Support Service

- Team now in place making outbound welfare calls to all positive cases in Barnsley and offering support during self-isolation. The team also undertake Test and Trace calls for uncontactable residents who have missed 10 phone calls from the National NHS Test and Trace programme.
- Positive response and feedback from the service – welfare calls are appreciated by residents.
- COVID-19 Support Service are undertaking house visits for residents with a positive result where the service has been unable to make phone contact. These visits have gone well, and South Yorkshire Police have also worked efficiently with the team on two occasions.
- The team is also supporting the Community Testing Centre at the Metrodome. Individuals with a negative result will be contacted and advised to follow national guidance and book another test in the future. Those with a positive result will be advised to get a PCR test and to start self-isolating, identify their contacts, and share this with the NHS Test and Trace system.

Testing

Symptomatic Testing

- Testing provided at; County Way lower Courthouse car park, Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre car park, and Wombwell Summer Lane car park for symptomatic residents.
- There is capacity at the sites, so please encourage anyone with symptoms to get a test.
- Mobile Testing Unit (MTU) site available -

- Queen Street car park, Goldthorpe, S63 9ND. Open every day until Sunday 7 February, from 9am to 3pm from 2nd-9th Feb 2021. This is a 'Drive to' AND 'Walk in' service.
- The MTU is site decided on a weekly basis, and considers which areas have the greatest need.

Asymptomatic/Mass Community Testing

- Lateral Flow Testing pilot, initially for BMBC asymptomatic frontline and critical worker staff at the Metrodome, has now been rolled out wider to any critical worker living or working across the borough. Currently 11 positive cases have been identified in asymptomatic individuals.

School Testing

- Primary and Secondary schools have closed following the government announcement January 5th, with exceptions for vulnerable children and the children of some key workers.
- Both primary and secondary schools across the borough now have LFT (Lateral Flow testing) through the National Programme. Early Years settings have access to the Metrodome community testing provision.

Vaccinations

- Local NHS is leading the vaccination rollout in Barnsley, and confirmed last week that over 18,000 people have received a COVID-19 vaccine since the programme was rolled out a month ago across the borough.
- Priority groups identified by the Joint Committee of Vaccination and Immunisation.
- Groups of GP practices are working together to vaccinate people aged over 80, health care workers, care home residents and staff. So far practices have vaccinated over half of the over 80s and the majority of care home residents and staff.
- Residents will be contacted by the NHS when it is their turn to have the vaccine, either via phone or a letter from GP or the national booking system.
- People urged not to call their GP or NHS services about when they will get the vaccine, as services are inundated at the moment and will not be able to respond.
- Vaccinations being delivered at Priory Campus and two other sites as part of the initial vaccination programme and are supported by some of our Community responder volunteers.
- For those who are in priority groups but housebound, the vaccination team will start taking the vaccine out to people in their home. People will be contacted directly to book their appointment.
- Barnsley Hospital and South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust are also successfully vaccinating their staff as well as some of the wider health and care workforce.
- While the vaccine will protect those who have it from being very sick, the virus is still being transmitted. We must all continue to adhere to the Hands, Face,

Space guidance and limit contact with others as much as possible to prevent further infections, even if you have received a vaccination.

- Reports of some people in the priority cohorts having received invitations to the large-scale vaccination site across the region, offering more choice of venues. Residents can turn down the offer if they cannot travel to the large-scale vaccination sites or would prefer to be vaccinated in Barnsley, and will not be removed from the vaccination list. They would not need to do anything with the letter and their GP practice should call over the following few weeks.

Recommendations

Members to note the information in the report and consider the following;

- Continue to encourage local communities to get tested, especially if they have symptoms
- Extend and encourage local connections with NEOs/COVID Marshals to feedback any community-based intelligence especially in relation to increased levels of cases in particular areas
- Make any further comments on this report and its format/content

Officer Contact:

Date:

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03/02/2021

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03/02/2021



Barnsley, let's fight this virus together!

We've heard you make an impact in your community and would like you to help us reach as many Barnsley people as possible.

In January we want to hold some workshops with one aim: **How do we make sure Barnsley comes through COVID-19 stronger, united and ready to thrive?**

These workshops need to represent everyone living in Barnsley so as well as signing up to the workshop yourself [here](#), we'd like you to spread the word.

The attached PDF explains all. Feel free to send this PDF and information on to the people of Barnsley so together we can make sure no voice in Barnsley is left unheard.

In Barnsley, we stick together, and we help each other out. In Barnsley, we don't just talk about things, we do them. Thank you for being part of the solution.

If you'd like to share this on your social media channels, attached are some images and you can use the suggested text below:

- 1) How do we make sure Barnsley comes through COVID-19, stronger, united and ready to thrive? Sign up to a workshop and tell us how: <http://bit.ly/C19barnsley>.
- 2) You're all invited, have your say on how Barnsley makes it through COVID-19. Join the workshops here: <http://bit.ly/C19barnsley>.