

MEETING:	North Area Council
DATE:	Monday 22 May 2023
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Meeting Room 14, Barnsley Town Hall

AGENDA

- 1 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Minutes

- 2 Minutes of the North Area Council meeting held on 13 March 2023
(Nac. 22.05.2023/2) (*Pages 3 - 8*)

Item for Information

- 3 Housing and Cohesion Officer Introduction - Mark Griffiths and Neighbourhood Warden Update - Community Safety Coordinator (Nac. 22.05.2023/3)
(*Verbal Report*)

Items for discussion

- 4 10 Year Celebration - Area Governance Model (Nac. 22.05.2023/4)
(*Pages 9 - 12*)
- 5 Performance Report - 2022/23 Q4 (Nac. 22.05.2023/5) (*Pages 13 - 72*)

Items for Decision

- 6 Outcomes from the Cost of Living Workshop (Nac. 22.05.2023/6) (*Pages 73 - 84*)
- 7 Sports Van - Summer 2023 (Nac. 22.05.2023/7) (*Pages 85 - 86*)
- 8 Commissioning, Project Development and Finance (Nac. 22.05.2023/8)
(*Pages 87 - 94*)

Ward Alliances

- 9 Report of the Ward Alliance Fund (Nac. 22.05.2023/9) (*Pages 95 - 102*)
- 10 Notes from the Area's Ward Alliances (Nac. 22.05.2023/10) (*Pages 103 - 126*)
Darton East – held on 14 February 2023 and 14 March 2023
Darton West – held on 6 February 2023, 6 March 2023 and 17 April 2023
Old Town – held on 13 April 2023 and 12 March 2023
St Helen's – held on 23 March 2023 and 20 April 2023

To: Chair and Members of North Area Council:-

Councillors Leech (Chair), A. Cave, T. Cave, Crisp, Denton, Howard, Hunt, Lofts, Newing, Pickering, Tattersall and N. Wright

Area Council Support Officers:

Tom Smith, North Area Council Senior Management Link Officer
Rosie Adams, North Area Council Manager
Rachel Payling, Head of Service, Stronger Communities
Cath Bedford, Public Health Principal - Communities

Please contact Mel Bray on email governance@barnsley.gov.uk

Friday 12 May 2023

MEETING:	North Area Council
DATE:	Monday 13 March 2023
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Meeting Room 1 - Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present Councillors Leech (Chair), A. Cave, T. Cave, Denton, Howard, Hunt, Lofts, Platts and Tattersall

40 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest.

41 Notes of the North Area Council meeting held on 16 January 2023 and to approve the recommendations contained therein (Nac.13.03.2023/2)

The Area Council received the notes of the previous meeting held on 16 January 2023.

RESOLVED that the notes of the North Area Council meeting held on 16 January 2023 be approved as a true and correct record.

42 Area Governance 10 Year Celebration - Rachel Payling (Nac. 13.03.2023/3)

Members were provided with a presentation in relation to the 10 year celebration of Area Councils and Ward Alliances, in recognition of the significant amount of work that had been delivered to achieve the successes through the model.

The celebrations, which the Purple Cabinet had agreed to support, would continue throughout 2023. On 1 March 2023, the launch event had been held where display boards for each Area Council had been unveiled, and liaison had been made with members of the public regarding how they could become involved in the celebrations. Members were shown video footage from the launch event. The celebrations were scheduled to close with a series of floats during the Bright Nights event procession in November 2023.

There were a number of intended outcomes from the celebrations which included improving the understanding of the work of the Area Councils and Ward Alliances in local communities, the promotional opportunities and the awareness of where to access services, together with thanking and celebrating the local volunteers.

The LGA peer review, which was agreed as part of the 10 point plan, would be undertaken between 27 – 30 March 2023. A full report would be available after approximately 2 – 3 months, which would inform of the next steps.

RESOLVED that Members noted the presentation.

43 Environmental Priority Transition to Community Caretaker SLA - Matt Holdroyd (Nac. 13.03.2023/4)

A report was presented which appraised Members of the current position regarding future Environmental commissioning.

Following the agreement made by Twiggs GM Ltd and the North Area Council to conclude the current contract on 31 March 2023, a decision had been reached at the North Area Council meeting held on 16 January 2023 to change the direction and to develop a Community Caretaker model with BMBC Neighbourhood Service. An agreement had been made for a budget envelope of £125,000 p.a. over a two year duration, to commence from April 2023. The budget includes a contingency.

Discussions continued in relation to the TUPE implications with BMBC's Human Resources Department. It was envisaged that matters would quickly progress once the TUPE implications were fully understood.

The Community Caretaker model with BMBC Neighbourhood Service would include scheduled maintenance programme directed by the Ward Alliances. The service will complement both the BMBC core service offer and the valuable contributions of independent community groups. The workload would be prioritised in terms of seasonality, whilst being more ward and area specific. Provision would be made for a joint stall with the Area Team at the community galas to liaise with the local residents.

RESOLVED:-

- i) that Members noted the current position;
- ii) that Ward Members work with the Area Manager to develop the Clean and Green Agreements for each Ward.

44 Update on the 10 Year Celebration Planning for the North Area (Nac. 13.03.2023/5)

The North Area Manager presented a report to ensure that Members were aware of the intention to hold a North Area 10 Year Celebration event and the opportunity to participate in the planning. The objectives of the event were to inform residents of the unique structure of the Area Councils and Ward Alliances by showcasing and celebrating the work that had taken place over the last 10 years. The event would also raise awareness of the positive work undertaken by the Area Councils and Ward Alliances during this time which contributed to the Barnsley 2030 priorities, whilst promoting and encouraging individuals to become involved in their local community.

Following a consultation with Councillors on potential dates, it had been determined that Friday 15 September 2023 was the preferred date. A planning meeting would shortly be held to identify a suitable community based venue.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that Members noted the report;
- (ii) that Members identified Ward Alliance funded projects to showcase.

45 Project Performance Update (Nac. 13.03.2023/6)

A report was presented which provided an aggregate picture of how all the North Council contracted services contributed to the achievement of each of the North Area Council's agreed outcomes and social value objectives, which reflected upon the information gathered from each contract for the period October – December 2022.

Members noted that the case studies within the Performance Management Report were fed into the Annual Service Report, which built a picture of the work undertaken across Barnsley. The report was also accessible via the Council website and was circulated to all partners throughout the north area. The Area Manager would provide all Members with an electronic link to the report.

RESOLVED that Members noted the contents of the Performance Management Report.

46 Anti-Poverty Priority (Nac. 13.03.2023/7)

The Area Manager presented a report to ensure that Members were aware of the budgetary implications of funding an Information, Advice and Guidance Service beyond June 2023 and to ensure that they were informed in their decision to commit further funding for this priority area.

Members of the Anti-Poverty Steering Group highly valued the service and the benefit that it provided to individuals together with the socioeconomic impact to the wider community.

To retain the existing service level provision, it was recommended to increase the budget envelope to £107,500 for two years. This would ensure a budget of £105,000 for 2023/24 and £110,000 for 2024/25.

The report presented two service delivery options with costings for a 12 month period for the existing full service at a cost of £105,000 or the four F2F sessions plus ad hoc telephone/digital service at a cost of £90,000. Members noted the current pressures of the cost of living crisis which continued to impact on businesses.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that Members noted the report;
- (ii) that Members agreed to continue with the existing full service delivery option. Delegating responsibility to the Area Council Manager to oversee the procurement of the service;
- (iii) that Members agreed to commit a budget of £107,500 p.a. for a period of two years from July 2023 – June 2025, with the option to extend for a further year.

47 Commissioning and Procurement Update including the Financial Position (Nac.13.03.2023/8)

The item was introduced by the Area Council Manager, which provided the financial position and forecast for expenditure based on the projects that had been proposed.

Members noted that interviews would shortly be held for two Housing and Cohesion Officer posts for both the Central and North areas.

A discussion ensued in relation to recommendation 2.4 of the report to agree to devolve £2,500 to each Ward Alliance to enable Cost of Living Support events/projects to be delivered during 2023/24. Members agreed to defer the recommendation, and for the matter to be discussed at a North Area priority and commissioning workshop.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the North Area Council noted the existing budget position and the existing funding commitments;
- (ii) that Councillors noted the discussion recommendations regarding the Anti-Poverty Outreach Provision Service. Full details were available at Item 7 of the agenda;
- (iii) that Councillors noted the update regarding the recruitment for the Housing and Cohesion Officer role;
- (iv) that Members agreed to defer the decision to devolve £2,500 to each Ward Alliance to enable Cost of Living Support events/projects to be delivered during 2023/24, for discussion at a North Area priority, budget and commissioning workshop;
- (v) that Councillors agreed to hold a North Area priority and commissioning workshop;
- (vi) that Councillors noted the updated projected spend at appendix 1 to the report.

48 Report on the use of Ward Alliance Funds (Nac. 13.03.2023/9)

A report was presented which provided an update on the financial position of the Ward Alliance budget for each ward for the 2022/23 period.

RESOLVED that each Ward in the North Area Council area prioritises the efficient expenditure of the Ward Alliance Funds 2022/23, in line with the guidance on spend.

49 Notes from the Ward Alliances (Nac. 13.03.2023/10)

The meeting received the notes from the Darton East Ward Alliance held on 13 December 2022 and 10 January 2023; Darton West Ward Alliance held on 9 January 2023; and St Helen's Ward Alliance held on 26 January 2023. The Old Town Ward Alliance had not met during 2023 due to extenuating circumstances.

Councillor Hunt referred to the work undertaken by the Darton East Ward Alliance together with the support provided to a number of projects which included the activities at the pop in club, the awards night, cost of living events, North Gawber grass roots football, spring bulb planting, together with 48 hanging baskets (43 of which had been sponsored) and a swing set which had been installed at Bluebell Park, Woolley Colliery.

Councillor Howard referred to the work undertaken by Darton West Ward Alliance which included refurbishment of the notice boards. A fourth History Board had been implemented at Gawber Community Centre, and a fifth History Board was being developed by Gawber Primary School. Liaison had been made with the Safer Neighbourhood Team to resolve the issue of dog fouling opposite Vets4Pets. The Stars Awards event had been rescheduled to 17 March 2023 due to the inclement weather.

Councillor Tattersall referred to the work undertaken by St Helen's Ward Alliance during the past year which included the celebration of the Platinum Jubilee of Elizabeth II, installing approximately 40 hanging baskets around the area, the summer gala, repainting of the youth shelter, the cost of living event and Stars Awards event, installation of Christmas trees, and the training provided to the community volunteers. The women's support group and the Jolly Boys Club continued to go from strength to strength. Councillor Tattersall expressed her thanks to the volunteers and community groups for the work undertaken.

Councillor Leech referred to the memorial bench event. The Yorkshire Regiment had requested interested parties to contact them, with a view to memorial benches being situated in each village across Barnsley.

Grading work was currently underway to ascertain which lamp posts could be utilised for the installation of hanging baskets. The topic of Councillors sponsoring hanging baskets was raised. Councillor Howard advised that she intended to seek clarity on the subject and would update Members subsequently.

Members noted that this would be the last meeting prior to the election period. Councillor Leech wished everyone well during the election period. On behalf of the Council, Councillor Leech expressed his thanks to Councillor Platts for all of her work provided to the St Helen's Ward Alliance and he wished her well during her retirement.

Councillor Tattersall expressed her thanks to the Area Team for all of the work undertaken and the support provided to Members.

RESOLVED that the notes and feedback from the respective Ward Alliances be received.

Chair

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BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

North Area Council Meeting:
22nd May 2023

Agenda Item: 4

Report of North Area Council
Manager

Area Governance – North Area 10 Year Celebration

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 To ensure that Members are aware of the intention to hold a North Area 10 Year Celebration event and the opportunity to participate in the planning.

2. Recommendation

2.1. **Members note the report.**

2.2. **Members are requested to identify Ward Alliance funded projects to showcase and confirm this at the July 2023 Area Council meeting.**

3. Background

3.1. The current Area Governance arrangements were introduced in 2013.

3.2. Following the Covid Pandemic as part of the recovery steps the Stronger Communities have been working through a plan to re-connect with communities and promote the contributions of everyone involved in the local area arrangements.

3.3. 10 years is a significant milestone and an excellent opportunity to reflect on the significant contributions of the Ward Alliances and the wider voluntary and community sector.

3.4. Objectives

- To celebrate and inform residents about our unique structure of Area Councils and Ward Alliances and to celebrate the last 10 years, when the model was first introduced. Showcasing the great work that has taken place in the last ten years.
- Raise awareness of Area Councils and Ward Alliances and the positive work they have done over the last 10 years to contribute to the Barnsley 2030 priorities
- Encourage more people to get involved in their local community and promote how they can do that

3.5. There will be a series of centralised events and engagement opportunities.

3.6. There is also a requirement to deliver an area-based Volunteer Celebration Event. With a focus on recognition of significant contributions.

4. Shaping the Celebration

- 4.1. The North Area Team has been tasked with arranging the event. To ensure that Members are empowered to contribute in their Community Leadership role, an elected Councillor from each ward and the Area Chair have volunteered to assist with event planning:

Chair:	Cllr Dave Leech
Darton East	Cllr Dickie Denton
Darton West	Cllr Alice Cave
Old Town	Cllr Jo Newing
St. Helen's	Cllr Sarah Tattersall

- 4.2. The planning group will work collaboratively to agree key considerations: date, time, venue, catering and entertainment.
- 4.3. Ward Alliances are also requested to identify projects they have funded to be showcased. It is intended to invite a short presentation for each project. Support is available from the North Team to ensure that any barriers are overcome.

5. Purpose, date and venue

- 5.1. The North Area has a history of celebrating success and community contribution at ward level but it is many years since the last North Area Commissioning and Ward Alliance networking event was held.
- 5.2. The date of the event is now confirmed as **Friday 15th September.** Dates have been added to Councillors diaries.
- 5.3. Following consideration of requirements and value for money, the venue has been booked and the event will be held at New Lodge Working Men's Club.

6. Cost Implications

- 6.1. There are no budget implications to the North Area Council at this time. A budget of £1,500 has been allocated to each locality to host an event.
- 6.2. Event shaping may lead to increased costs.

7. Recommended Next Steps

- 7.1. The Area Manager will arrange to meet with the working group monthly to work through the planning and preparation of the event. An update will be provided at Area Council meetings.
- 7.2. A programme for the evening will need to be mapped out.

7.3. Members are requested to confirm at the July Area Council meeting, which Allard Alliance led and/or funded project they wish to showcase.

Officer Contact:

RosemarieAdans@barnsley.gov.uk

Date:

10th May 2023

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BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

North Area Council Meeting:

22nd May 2023

Agenda item: 5

Report of
North Area Council Manager

North Area Council – 2022/23 Quarter 4 (January – March 2023) Performance Management Cover Report for Commissioned Projects and Stronger Communities Projects

Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- 1. Members note the contents of the Performance Management Report Attached, Appendix 1.**

Background

A comprehensive North Area Council Performance Report for the period October - December (2022/23 Quarter 4) has been produced and is attached, Appendix 1.

Performance Management Report (attached at Appendix 1)

The North Council Performance report provides North Council members with an aggregate picture of how all the North Council contracted services contribute to the achievement of each of the North Area Council's agreed outcomes and social value objectives.

The information provided reflects information gathered from each contract for the period January – March 2023.

Contracted Service Providers:

- CAB & DIAL – Community Outreach Project
- Twiggs Grounds Maintenance – Creating a cleaner, greener environment in partnership with local people

Extended Grant – Youth Resilience Grant

- YMCA
- Ad Astra

Extended Grant – Connecting Communities Grant

- DIAL
- Reds In The Community
- Age UK

Area Council Funded Posts

- Housing and Cohesion Officer (Post Vacant)

A summary of the performance management report for each of the contracted services for 2022/23 Quarter 4 (January -March). The report provides RAG ratings plus updated information from all North Area Council Providers, following submission of their quarterly reports and subsequent quarterly contract monitoring/management meetings.

The report provides a link between the commissioned services and the Public Health Outcomes: <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/public-health-outcomes-framework>

The report also provides a summary of performance information from the 12-month grants - Stronger Communities Grants Projects.

In addition to the information provided in the summary reports, more detailed information is available on request, including case studies with photographs for each contracted service, and some performance data on a ward basis.

Performance Report –Issues

Two of the North Area Council contracts continue to perform well. The CAB and DIAL contract is consistently running over capacity. This is a risk considering the current cost of living challenges.

The commencement of the Reds In The Community project was delayed due to recruitment challenges. As a result, the project will run into 2024/25 Q1.

Appendices

Appendix 1: North Council Performance Management Report - Quarter 3 2022/23 (October – December) – prepared by North Area’s Project Officer.

Officer Contact:
RosemarieAdams@barnsley.gov.uk

Date:
9th May 2023

North Area Council

Darton East, Darton West, Old Town, St Helens

Project Performance Report

Q4 - 2022/23 (January - March 2023)

Support for raising costs of living

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Council Priorities

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Report

April 2022 -
March 2023

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Community
Grants Summary
Performance
Management
Report

April 2022 -
March 2023

Front cover and photo to the left taken by
Leyla Nayeri
thestoryofyou.co.uk



North Area Council Priorities



Anti Poverty



Improving the local environment



Health & Wellbeing



Economic Regeneration



Opportunities for young people



Changing the relationship

Contributing to the following Corporate Priorities and Outcomes:

Barnsley - the place of possibilities





















Healthy Barnsley	Learning Barnsley	Growing Barnsley	Sustainable Barnsley
People are safe and feel safe	People have the opportunities for lifelong learning and developing new skills including access to apprenticeships	Business start ups and existing local businesses are supported to grow and attract new investment, providing opportunities	People live in great places, are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their community.
People live independently with good physical and mental health for as long as possible	Children and young people achieve the best outcomes through improved educational achievement and attainment	People have a welcoming safe and enjoyable town centre and physical towns as destinations for work, shopping leisure and culture	Our heritage and green spaces are promoted for all people to enjoy
We have reduced inequalities in health and income across the borough	People have access to early help and support	People are supported to have safe, warm sustainable homes	Fossil fuels are being replaced by affordable and sustainable energy and people are able to enjoy more cycling and walking

Enabling Barnsley

We are a modern, inclusive, efficient, productive and high-performing council

Contractual Overview

Table 1 below shows the Providers that have now been appointed to deliver a series of services that address the priorities and deliver the outcomes and social value objectives for the North Area Council.

Service	Priorities	Provider	Contract Value (per year)	Start Date	Updates
Anti Poverty Outreach Page 8	 Economic Regeneration  Health & Wellbeing  Anti Poverty	 	£190,000 2 years (+1 year)	14th September 2017	Contract Live Contract extended
Environmental Education Page 14	 Improving the environment  Health & Wellbeing  Young People		£169,932 2 years (+1 year)	1st April 2021	Contract ended on 31/05/23
Economic Regeneration	 Improving the local economy				Current gap in provision
Housing & Cohesion Officer Page 23	 Improving the environment  Changing the Relationship  Economic Regeneration  Anti Poverty  Health & Wellbeing		£35,500 12 month contract	19th October 2020	Post currently vacant
Youth Resilience Page 25	 Improving the environment  Health & Wellbeing  Young People		£90,000 2 years (+1yr)	1st November 2020	Funding confirmed until 31/10/2024

**Our Council Plan
2021 -2024**

COMMISSIONS

Anti-Poverty
Outreach

Environmental
Education

Connecting
Communities

Housing &
Cohesion &
Officer

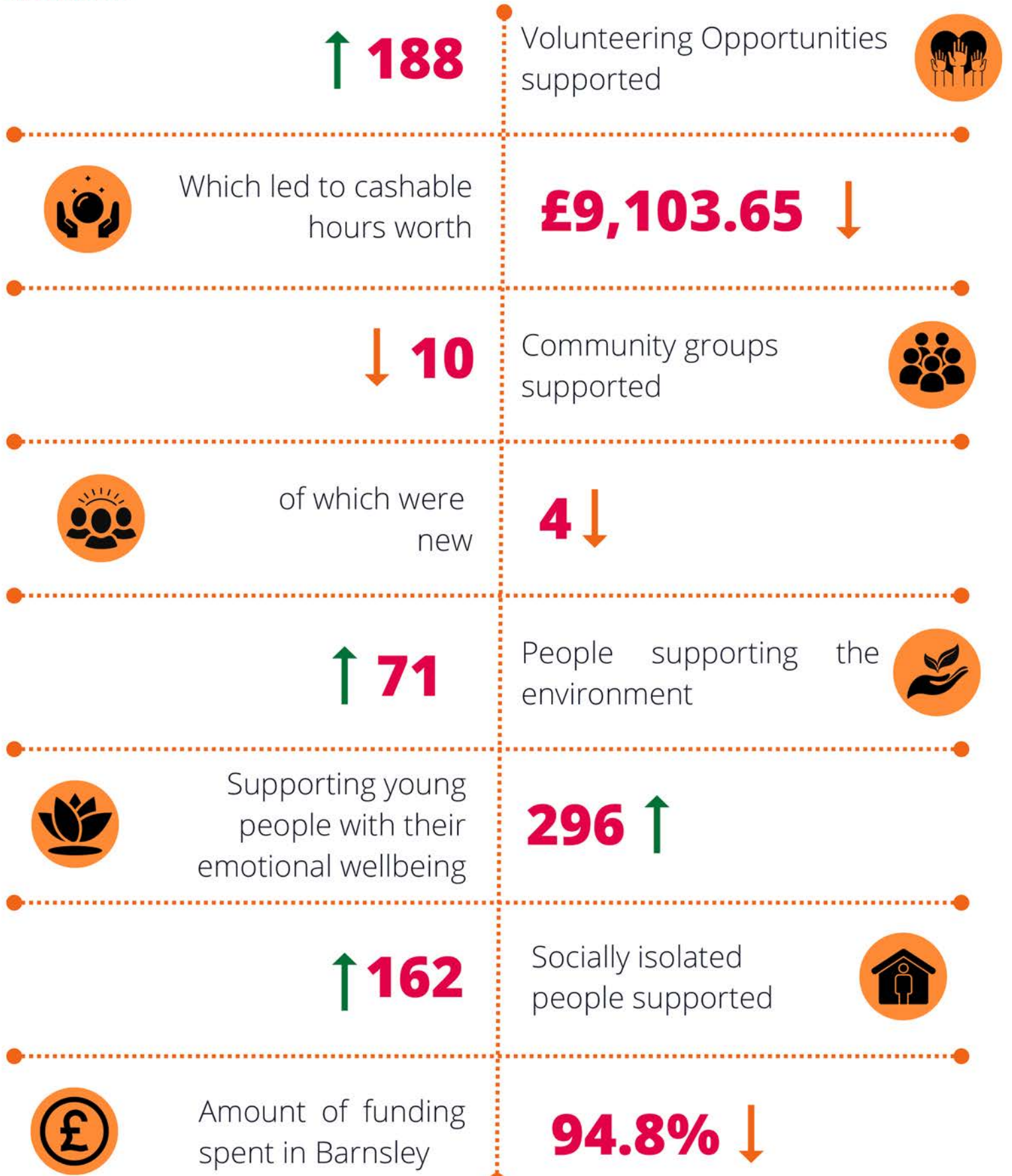
Social
Inclusion &
Cold Homes

Youth
Resilience

Healthy Barnsley	People are safe and feel safe	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
	People live independently with good physical and mental health for as long as possible	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	We have reduced inequalities in health and income across the borough	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Growing Barnsley	Business start ups and existing local businesses are supported to grow and attract new investment, providing opportunities			✓			
	People have a welcoming safe and enjoyable town centre and physical towns as destinations for work, shopping leisure and culture			✓			
	People are supported to have safe, warm sustainable homes	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Learning Barnsley	People have the opportunities for lifelong learning and developing new skills including access to apprenticeships		✓	✓			✓
	Children and young people achieve the best outcomes through improved educational achievement and attainment		✓				✓
	People have access to early help and support	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Sustainable Barnsley	People live in great places, are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their community.	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
	Our heritage and green spaces are promoted for all people to enjoy		✓				✓
	Fossil fuels are being replaced by affordable and sustainable energy and people are able to enjoy more cycling and walking						

Stronger Communities Key Performance Indicators

Table 2 below shows the Providers contribute towards the Key Performance Indicators and deliver the outcomes and social value objectives for the Stronger Communities directorate



Part A: Overview of performance

3 contracts have formally completed their contract monitoring/contract management reporting for Q3 2022/23. The following tables, therefore, reflect the overview of the performance of **3 live contracts** only.

These contracts are:



CAB & DIAL
Second Contract
Year 8
Q2

Anti - Poverty



Twiggs
Second Contract
Year 2
Q4

Environmental
Education

Two providers are currently delivering the Youth Resilience Grant



Ad Astra
YMCA

Youth Resilience
Fund


The North Area also funds contracted posts:



The post is
currently vacant

Housing and
Cohesion Officer

Three providers are delivering the connecting communities grant



Age UK
DIAL
Reds in the
Community

Connecting
Communities



Economic
Regeneration



Health &
Wellbeing



Anti Poverty

Anti-Poverty Outreach



606

Number of clients this
quarter

82%

Local people feel more
able to manage their own
affairs

83%

Local residents
experienced improved
health and wellbeing

- Satisfactory quarterly monitoring report and contract management meeting.
- Milestones achieved
- Outcome indicator targets met
- Social value targets met
- Satisfactory spend and financial information
- Overall satisfaction with delivery against contract

Service Outline

Delivered by Citizens Advice Barnsley and DIAL Barnsley, the NAC Outreach service advises local people on all the issues they face. Their services are free, confidential, impartial & available to everyone.

Both providers deliver AQS quality marked advice that is independently and externally audited. They advise on all categories of law including debt and money worries, in-work, out-of-work and disability benefits; housing and homelessness; employment; relationship and consumer issues. This breadth of knowledge means they are uniquely qualified to provide wrap-around services to support people with multiple interlinked issues. They help clients sort out problems before they reach crisis point and through income maximisation & debt management, they help stabilise people's finances to prevent and reduce the impact of poverty. The client feedback they gather shows this advice work helps to improve health and wellbeing and reduces stress.



Economic
Regeneration



Health &
Wellbeing



Anti Poverty

Anti-Poverty Outreach



£306,930

Overall benefit gain (in £)

£21,488

Amount of debt managed

£13

Return on investment (for
every pound spent)

Extract from performance report

In the period 1st January to 31st March 2023, advisers from both organisations have provided information and advice to 745 client contacts, supported clients to claim £306,930 of welfare benefits and managed £21,488 of debt. In addition to this, CAB has provided fuel and food vouchers to a total of £324 for 5 clients, an average of £65.

As in previous reports, the majority of clients for both organisations accessed the service for help with benefit-related issues. The generalist adviser from CAB has also supported clients with a range of other issues, including employment, housing, utilities & communication, debt, legal, charitable support & foodbanks, consumer, relationship and family issues, health & community care, immigration & asylum, financial services & capabilities, travel and transport, tax and other issues.

Of the 745 client contacts this quarter, 228 have required help with form filling – a total of 31% of the clients, the majority of which are related to the benefits system. DIAL forms are completed face-to-face with the clients and not over the telephone.

Citizen's Advice Barnsley

Case Study



Background

When Kenneth* came into the Citizens Advice Barnsley outreach near his home, he was already anxious; his much-loved wife, in her eighties, was battling cancer and becoming increasingly frail. She was having all of her treatment at home, and, despite his age, Kenneth wanted to keep her at home as long as possible. However, she needed constant care and assistance - from supervising her medication, personal care, and help to mobilise safely.

He had asked Macmillan about additional benefits, but he and Moira* were not eligible for means-tested benefits. It had been suggested that they ask Citizens Advice Barnsley about Attendance Allowance and whether that suits their situation. If so, he explained to the adviser that they could help him with the application form.

The adviser carefully explained the criteria for Attendance Allowance both during the day and at night and demonstrated the two different payment rates. Giving Kenneth the telephone number he needed to request an application form, she explained that it was best to telephone as a successful claim would be backdated to the date of that request.

While waiting for the form to arrive, she suggested that Kenneth keep a diary of tasks that he assisted Moira with and how long they took, as this would help in thoroughly completing the form.

While completing the form, the adviser was happy to recommend that Kenneth come back to an outreach session to see an adviser from DIAL.

Finally, the adviser explained that it could be some time before Kenneth received a decision letter - but she gave him the telephone number of the Attendance Allowance Helpline so that he could check if he were worried about the delay.

She also reminded him about the Macmillan website as a good source of finding local help and support.

Kenneth really appreciated the clear, practical help he received from the Citizens Advice Barnsley adviser; when life is complex and demanding, it's good to have someone to assist with practical issues.

DIAL

Case Study



“

“I knew it couldn’t be right to hold my benefits until my tribunal and then say I had too much because of how long they took. I didn’t think to explain to the Council that is why I had so much savings, I thought they knew. It was shocking how I felt receiving a debt recovery letter and I went straight Duncan as I knew he’d know what to do. He’s a star”.

Mr. T

”

Before DIAL

Mr A attended the North Area Outreach Session with his father for support to complete an Attendance Allowance form.

Advice provided by DIAL

The DIAL Advisor at outreach helped to complete the Attendance Allowance form and undertook a comprehensive benefit check for his father. She also checked Mr A’s current situation as he is the main carer for his father. We advised Mr A about Carers Allowance which can be claimed if his father is awarded Attendance Allowance and how this would be beneficial for an increase in his overall income. He currently receives Universal Credit and if he receives Carers Allowance it will be deducted from his Universal Credit but he will still be better off as a Carers Element will be included in his Universal Credit calculation before the amount of Carers Allowance is taken off. Mr A also has difficulties with his mental ill health, so she advised him to make a claim for Personal Independence Payment and supported him to make an application.

After DIAL

Mr A’s father received his Attendance Allowance, and the Carers Allowance has been awarded to Mr T. Both have an increase in their weekly income. He is still awaiting an update from his Personal Independence Payment application.



Economic
Regeneration



Health &
Wellbeing



Anti Poverty

Anti-Poverty Outreach



How does the commission meets the Council Plan?

Our Council Plan
2021 -2024

Healthy Barnsley

- People are safe and feel safe
- People live independently with good physical and mental health for as long as possible
- We have reduced inequalities in health and income across the borough

Learning Barnsley

- People have access to early help and support

Sustainable Barnsley

- People live in great places, are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their community.

Growing Barnsley

- People are supported to have safe, warm sustainable homes

*CAB & DIAL contribution to public health outcomes

Improving the wider determinants of health

Objective 1: improvements against wider factors which affect health & wellbeing and health inequalities

1.09 | Sickness absence rate

1.15 | Statutory homelessness

Health improvement

Objective 2: people are helped to live healthy lifestyles, make healthy choices and reduce health inequalities

2.23 | Self-reporting wellbeing

Health public health and preventing premature mortality

Objective 4: reduce numbers of people living with preventable ill health and people dying prematurely, whilst reducing the gap between communities

4.13 | Health related quality of life for older people

4.15 | Excess winter deaths

Do you live or work in the North Area?

Do you need advice?

We can help with Debt & Money Worries, Benefits, Housing, Employment, Relationship, Consumer & Energy issues

Our advisers will be providing free, impartial and confidential advice at the following times:

Emmanuel Church, Huddersfield Road, S75 1DT

Every Monday, 9am - 1pm

Mapplewell Village Hall, Darton Lane, S75 6AL

1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month, 4.30pm - 7.00pm

Roundhouse Lifelong Learning Centre, Laithes Crescent, S71 3AE

2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month, 2.30pm - 5.00pm

Mapplewell Village Hall, Darton Lane, S75 6AL

Every Wednesday 1.00pm - 5.00pm

The Darton Centre, Huddersfield Road, S75 5ND

Every Thursday 9.00am - 1.00pm

Roundhouse Lifelong Learning Centre, Laithes Crescent, S71 3AE

Every Friday 9.00am - 1.00pm

No appointment needed
You can just drop-in!



North Area Council

Darton East, Darton West, Old Town, St Helens





**Improving the
local
environment**



**Health &
Wellbeing**



**Opportunities
for young
people**

Environmental Education

TWIGGS
Grounds Maintenance LTD

How the commission meets the Council Plan?

**Our Council Plan
2021 -2024**

Learning Barnsley

- Children and young people achieve the best outcomes through improved educational achievement and attainment.
- People have the opportunities for lifelong learning and developing new skills including access to apprenticeships.

Sustainable Barnsley

- People live in great places, are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their community.
- Our heritage and green spaces are promoted for all people to enjoy.

- Satisfactory quarterly monitoring report and contract management meeting.
- Milestones achieved
- Outcome indicator targets met
- Social value targets met
- Satisfactory spend and financial information
- Overall satisfaction with delivery against contract

Purpose and Function Overview

The North Area Clean and Tidy Team's focus is on building independence and increasing resilience within communities. Working with residents, schools and local businesses. The Clean and Tidy Team's performance is measured on the work that they do with volunteers and attracting new people to help keep the North Area clean, green and tidy for many years to come.

There is a strong emphasis on proactive work and transfer of horticultural skills to volunteers. This is an educational based contract. N.B. Twiggs do not have a maintenance contract for North Area. BMBC Neighbourhood Services retain this function and every effort must be made to prevent duplication.

The North Area Council would like to express the sentiments shared during the March 2023 Area Council meeting. We extend our gratitude to the entire team at Twiggs Ground Maintenance for their unwavering commitment, tireless efforts, and invaluable assistance.



**Improving the
local
environment**



**Health &
Wellbeing**



**Opportunities
for young
people**

Environmental Education

Performance Indicator	Yr 1 Target	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Cumulative
Number of community clean-ups	40	69	65	59	60	253
Twiggs social action events	10	0	-	-	-	0
New community groups supported	4	4	2	0	4	10
No. of sustained volunteers (recruited and retained)	80	63	134	144	129	470
Number of new volunteers at Twiggs events	120	6	8	151	24	189
Areas of blight targeted	100	42	48	21	95	206
Local business engagement	50	8	16	30	22	76
Number of volunteers trained (6 week active volunteer course)	40	30	27	6	10	73
Local spend	90%	90%	/	95%	95%	93.3%

Performance Indicator	Yr 2 Target	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Cumulative
Number of community clean-ups	40	94	61	68	30	253
Twiggs social action events	10	0	0	22	19	41
New community groups supported	4	0	1	1	0	2
No. of sustained volunteers (recruited and retained)	80	172	28	88	61	349
Number of new volunteers at Twiggs events	80	146	53	12	10	221
Areas of blight targeted	10	119	59	62	40	280
Local business engagement	50	0	6	4	2	12
Number of volunteers trained (6 week active volunteer course)	38	38	46	28	18	126
Local spend	90%	95%	95%	95%	95%	95%



**Improving the
local
environment**



**Health &
Wellbeing**



**Opportunities
for young
people**

Environmental Education

Update for each ward: 2 priorities by Steering Group



Mapplewell Park - During the Quarter, a few Greenspace volunteers attended one of the sessions and cleared litter whilst the team reinstated footpaths. Along with this, we had GXO volunteers who carried out a 5-hour volunteer day with our support. GXO cleared leaves, litter-picked the whole park, reinstated footpaths and cleared brambles

Ibberson Gardens - We were supported with the upkeep of the gardens by Cllr Hunt and a regular volunteer, plus a new volunteer whom we have nurtured and learnt new skills which have helped Twiggs across the borough.

Longfields - Numerous visits were paid to this area but very little volunteer support attended apart from one volunteer early February.



Kexborough Memorial Garden - During the quarter we worked with Darton Astrea Academy gardening club on the schools memorial garden to plant a vast array of spring flowering bulbs. During the sessions the pupils were given a lesson on how to plant bulbs and the knowledge of what bulbs they were planting, why they were planting them and the family that each variety belonged to.

Public Footpaths - Many hours dedicated to tidying up the footpaths on the priority schedule but with minimal / no volunteer uptake.

Old Quarry - Many hours spent at the quarry but only one volunteer that Twiggs has nurtured came along to support the team.

West Road / 4T's - Numerous volunteer opportunities were advertised but very little uptake from locals. During community development Poggy Pickers were approached to try and gain some involvement, however they sent apologies as the group wanted to target other areas which they feel needed more urgent attention.

4T's celebration event - Twiggs attended the event and brought along a donation of spring flowering bulbs which we planted with the young people and support staff. The area was cleared of litter and fly-tip was reported. Twiggs cleared up the used needles that were left around the site.



Mapplewell Park

Darton East



Our Council Plan 2021 -2024

Healthy Barnsley

- People are safe and feel safe
- People live independently with good physical and mental health for as long as possible

Learning Barnsley

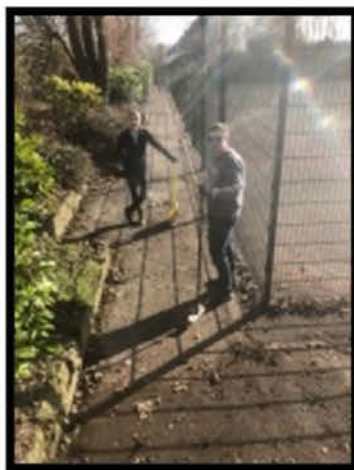
- People have the opportunities for lifelong learning and developing new skills including access to apprenticeships

Growing Barnsley

- People have a welcoming safe and enjoyable town centre and principle towns as destinations for work, shopping, leisure and culture

Sustainable Barnsley

- People live in great places are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their community
- Our heritage and green spaces are promoted for all people to enjoy



Background

Supporting 6 volunteers from GXO we concentrated our efforts on 4 different activities to give the park some far overdue TLC. To begin we first carried out a litter pick of the whole park. The volunteers were then tasked with giving the MUGA a weed and scrape before proceeding to sweep and remove the detritus. Following this we concentrated on reinstating the footpaths around the play area along with the area surrounding the tennis court.

How did this activity come about?

The Park is a priority area for the Environmental Steering Group. Twiggs developed the relationship with GXO/ASOS to engage with the team to work in the park to maintain the site.

Apprentice Involvement

An apprentice is present during all sessions, this allows them to develop their skills in the use of power tools and other community engagement activities.

What went well?

The group was given information about how green waste can be used with mulch around the park and how mulching benefits the environment.

What still needs further development and what is the next steps?

The bio-diversity through flowers and trees could most certainly be developed for such a huge park.

At a glance



6

Number of volunteers



30

Total volunteering hours



£411

Cashable value of volunteering hours



5

Bags of Rubbish

Kexbrough Memorial Gardens

Darton West

Our Council Plan 2021 -2024

Healthy Barnsley

- People are safe and feel safe
- People live independently with good physical and mental health for as long as possible

Learning Barnsley

- People have the opportunities for lifelong learning and developing new skills including access to apprenticeships
- Children and young people achieve the best outcomes through improved educational achievement and attainment
- People have access to early help and support

Growing Barnsley

- People have a welcoming safe and enjoyable town centre and principle towns as destinations for work, shopping, leisure and culture

Sustainable Barnsley

- People live in great places are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their community
- Our heritage and green spaces are promoted for all people to enjoy

At a glance



3

Number of pupils



2

Total staffing hours

Background

This was an educational bulb-planting session with the Darton Astraea Academy Gardening Club. 3 young students took part with support from their school teacher.

The students were firstly given 30 packs of flowering bulbs donated by The Range and distributed by Twiggs for the garden. To begin with, I gave the students an informative chat on what species they consisted of, along with the correct depth and methods to plant the bulbs. Following this, we demonstrated how to plant the bulbs and proceeded by supporting them to plant the bulbs independently. The bulbs were planted around the base of the trees in the garden, and a few were added to the rows of bulbs planted in previous years. The bulbs were Alliums, Crocus, Tulips and Chionodoxa.

How did this activity come about?

This is a long running relationship which has been nurtured over the past 5 years with the School.

Apprentice Involvement

An apprentice is present during all sessions, this allows them to develop their skills in the use of power tools and other community engagement activities.

What went well?

The school pupils were educated in winter bulb species and were shown how to plant the bulb. The pupils planted 30 packs of bulbs donated from The Range.

The bulbs planted were Alliums, Crocus, Chionodoxa and Tulips.

What still needs further development and what is the next steps?

Further education sessions based around horticulture would be advantageous to the young students. The gardens would also benefit from more plants and flowers and trees to add to the bio-diversity to which the pupils could learn about pollinators and the natural world. Education sessions on how trees store carbon / climate change.



Old Canal Carpark, Smithies Lane

Old Town

Our Council Plan 2021 -2024

Healthy Barnsley

- People are safe and feel safe

Growing Barnsley

- People have a welcoming safe and enjoyable town centre and principle towns as destinations for work, shopping, leisure and culture

Sustainable Barnsley

- People live in great places are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their community
- Our heritage and green spaces are promoted for all people to enjoy

Background

The team identified this area to be an area of blight and a dumping ground for fly-tipping.

After completing a job set out by the Environmental Steering Group, the team had spare time, so they gave this area a much-needed “Blitz”.

The whole surface was becoming hazardous and problematic for walking due to the large amount of fallen leaves and detritus.

From experience, this area gets lots of foot fall and needs attention to make it safe for public use.

How did this activity come about?

The team generated this work—a hot Spot area for litter and fly-tipping.

Apprentice Involvement

Our apprentice is learning about the different areas of the ward and enjoying making a difference to the public greenspaces.

What went well?

The area was thoroughly cleaned up and made safe from slips, trips and falls. Litter and fallen leaves, and mud were cleared to make this area safer for public use.

What still needs further development and what is the next steps?

Volunteer Engagement

At a glance



7

Bags of Rubbish



2

Total staffing hours



Laithes Lane Primary School

St Helens



Our Council Plan 2021 -2024

Healthy Barnsley

- People are safe and feel safe

Learning Barnsley

- People have the opportunities for lifelong learning and developing new skills including access to apprenticeships
- Children and young people achieve the best outcomes through improved educational achievement and attainment
- People have access to early help and support

Sustainable Barnsley

- People live in great places are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their community
- Our heritage and green spaces are promoted for all people to enjoy

At a glance



9

Children involved



2

Total staffing hours

Background

This session aimed to engage with the children at Laithes Primary School to deliver a horticultural lesson on how to grow vegetables. The vegetable of choice at this session was onion sets. To begin, we tasked the children with counting all of the packs of onion sets as a team and distributed them equally amongst themselves. The children took all the information they learnt during our educational talk to them regarding what an onion set is and the method of planting and carried out the task with precision and gusto!

The second half of the session was a litter-picking exercise in which the children collected 9 sacks of mixed waste. The children were horrified by how much litter was present in the vicinity and deemed this unacceptable. Whilst litter picking the children were given information about how litter can have a damaging impact on the environment and planet.

All 'green waste' from the sessions was mulched and reintroduced back into the environment, utilising the nutrients.

How did this activity come about?

This is a priority area identified by the Environmental Steering Group.

What went well?

The children were given a lesson on how to plant onion sets and informed what onion sets are. The children were very enthusiastic and listened to everything they were taught. They took on the task with eagerness and understanding!

After the horticultural lesson the children did a litter pick, collecting 9 sacks of waste from the nearby footpath. Whilst litter picking they were spoken to about how litter affects the environment and damages it has on the wildlife. The children were very shocked about how much litter was present and deemed this unacceptable.

What still needs further development and what is the next steps?

This session was very successful and the children were a pleasure to teach.

Further development could be achieved to further teach the next generation how to grow their own food and give them a greater understanding of the natural world and the difficulties the planet faces.

Wingfield Road

St Helen's

Our Council Plan 2021 -2024

Healthy Barnsley

- People are safe and feel safe
- People live independently with good physical and mental health for as long as possible

Learning Barnsley

- People have the opportunities for lifelong learning and developing new skills including access to apprenticeships

Growing Barnsley

- People have a welcoming safe and enjoyable town centre and principle towns as destinations for work, shopping, leisure and culture

Sustainable Barnsley

- People live in great places are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their community
- Our heritage and green spaces are promoted for all people to enjoy

Background

During October we carried out multiple sessions on Wingfield Road to give it a blitz. The first session occurred on 10/10/2022 during which we cleaned the entrance to the footpath by removing silt and detritus, making it more inviting, strimmed back the excessive vegetation that was encroaching onto the entrance and cut back the overgrown grass. While we targeted the overgrowth, volunteer Mayor Tattershall cleared litter, removing 6 bags of litter. To follow up on our the previous session we attended on 24/10/22 during which we joined Mayor Tattershall and Cllr Leach. We cleared litter, strimmed back the overgrown grass, cleared fallen leaves to reduce the slip hazard and scraped up the moss from the footpath. The last session of the quarter occurred on 31/10/2022. To proceed our work at the site we strimmed back the overgrowth that was encroaching onto the footpath, making it safer for the students of Laithes Primary School and other members of the public. Other activities included litter clearance and removal of fallen leaves, leaving the area more aesthetically pleasing and safer for the use of children.

All 'green waste' from the sessions was mulched and reintroduced back into the environment therefore utilising the nutrients.

How did this activity come about?

This is a priority area identified by the Environmental Steering Group.

Apprentice Involvement

An apprentice is present during all sessions, this allows them to develop their skills in the use of power tools and other community engagement activities.

What went well?

The area is now more accessible for the children and adults that are frequently using the footpath in order to get to school.

What still needs further development and what is the next steps?

Targeting different parts of the area and increasing the number of sessions.



Improving the
local
environment



Health &
Wellbeing



Opportunities
for young
people

Environmental Education

*TWIGGS contribution to public health outcomes

Improving the wider determinants of health

Objective 1: improvements against wider factors which affect health & wellbeing and health inequalities

- 1.04 First time entrants to the youth justice system
- 1.16 Utilising outdoor space for exercises and health reasons

Health improvement

Objective 2: people are helped to live healthy lifestyles, make healthy choices and reduce health inequalities

- 2.13 Proportion of physically active and inactive adults
- 2.13 Self-reported wellbeing



Improving the environment



Changing the Relationship



Improving the economy



Anti Poverty



Health & Wellbeing

Housing Cohesion Officer



- Satisfactory quarterly monitoring report and contract management meeting.
- Milestones achieved
- Outcome indicator targets met
- Social value targets met
- Satisfactory spend and financial information
- Overall satisfaction with delivery against contract

Purpose of Post

To ensure compliance with the legislation and statutory obligations of the Council dealing with poor housing and environmental conditions in the Private Rented Sector, ensuring effective regulation with a balanced proactive and reactive approach through the discharging of informal, formal and legal actions. Contribute to improved standards in the local private rented sector and stability for both tenants and landlords.

- Provide advice, guidance and support in accordance with approved Council policies, procedures and statutory responsibilities pertaining to private sector housing and the environment.
- To pro-actively engage and liaise with internal and external stakeholders including tenants, landlords, members of the public and partners, developing strong and cohesive working relationships.
- Respond to requests for service, investigate complaints and provide advice on sub-standard housing conditions in the private rented sector.
- Contribute to the development and delivery of a highly visible proactive approach to raising standards of poor-quality private sector housing across the Borough.



Improving the environment



Changing the Relationship



Improving the economy



Anti Poverty



Health & Wellbeing

Housing Cohesion Officer



BARNSELY
Metropolitan Borough Council

How the Housing Officer post meets the council plan?

**Our Council Plan
2021 -2024**

Healthy Barnsley

- People are safe and feel safe
- People live independently with good physical and mental health for as long as possible
- We have reduced inequalities in health and income across the borough

Learning Barnsley

- People have access to early help and support

Sustainable Barnsley

- People live in great places, are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their community.

Growing Barnsley

- People are supported to have safe, warm sustainable homes

*Housing Cohesion Officer's contribution to public health outcomes

Improving the wider determinants of health

Objective 1: improvements against wider factors which affect health & wellbeing and health inequalities

- 1.01i Children in low-income families (all dependent children under 20)
- 1.06ii Adults in contact with secondary mental health services who live in stable appropriate accommodation
- 1.15 Statutory homelessness
- 1.17 Fuel Poverty
- 1.18i Social isolation: Percentage of adult social care users who have as much social contact as they would like

Health improvement

Objective 2: people are helped to live healthy lifestyles, make healthy choices and reduce health inequalities

- 2.23 Children in low-income families (all dependent children under 20)

Health public health and preventing premature mortality

Objective 4: reduce numbers of people living with preventable ill health and people dying prematurely, whilst reducing the gap between communities

- 4.13 Health related quality of life for older people
- 4.15 Excess winter deaths



Improving the local environment



Health & Wellbeing



Opportunities for young people

Youth Resilience Fund



YMCA
(Supporting
Kexborough Primary,
Wellgate Primary and
Delta Academy
Darton.)

The schools work in the North Area is now all fully implemented and running weekly with lots of positive feedback from the participants and school staff.

- Satisfactory quarterly monitoring report and contract management meeting.
- Milestones achieved
- Outcome indicator targets met
- Social value targets met
- Satisfactory spend and financial information
- Overall satisfaction with delivery against contract

Purpose of the Youth Resilience Grant

The North Area Council Youth Resilience Fund has been established by North Area Council for the academic year 2020/2021, to support the delivery of a range of positive after school and holiday provisions (interventions/ projects/ activities/ sessions) that will contribute to building the emotional resilience and wellbeing of children and young people (aged 8-13). This resilience-building will prepare children in years 5 and 6, who are displaying additional emotional support needs, with extra skills that will prepare them to successfully transition to senior school.

The grant opportunity is currently delivered by two different providers: YMCA and Ad Astra. Below is an extract from the performance reports:



(Supporting
Laithes
Primary,
Athersley
South and
Outwood
Academy
Carlton.)





Improving the local environment



Health & Wellbeing



Opportunities for young people

Youth Resilience Fund



733

Total number of sessions (including in-school, holiday provision & YMCA Youth Clubs)

34

Number of new unique individuals engaged

0

Number of peer support sessions delivered

3

Number of school holiday sessions delivered

2

Number of family members engaged in the project

3

Number of young volunteers

Darton Academy Peer Support Training Programme

Transition support and Peer Support Training for Y7 Pupils.

The school's Leadership Team identified this group. The young people were chosen for their needs, interest, maturity and the Primary School that they had previously attended to ensure a broad representation of the school's feeder primaries and that the young people were familiar with the Primary School that they would then support as part of the next Year 6 transition process.

Project youth workers have been working with a new contact in the Darton Academy to personalise the new cohort's training programme and participant criteria. The six-week training programme will now be delivered in the Summer term after the Easter holidays. The timescale ensures that the training is complete before Year 6's visits from the school and their visit to Darton Academy. Participants will be identified by the school in line with the Peer Supporter and school role model criteria.

The transition from primary to secondary is a daunting and uncertain time in a young person's journey, and having a Peer Supporter to reassure and support the transition is valuable as they have the experience to relate to the Year 6's. This programme builds the young people's confidence and well-being as they are empowered by being chosen to fill such a worthwhile role.

Some of the Peer Supporters continue to engage with the wider North Area project and YMCA youth work programmes during holiday provision and term time sessions, as both peer supporters and participants. This allows our Peer Supporters the space to develop their ability to lead and to demonstrate the skills that make them positive role models, but it also allows us to reach young people who may initially be distrusting of any intervention by adults. Our Peer Supporter programme will continue to encourage young people to take care of one another, increasing the support networks that young people have access to and ensuring that young people are able to develop as both individuals and as mentors.



Improving the local environment



Health & Wellbeing



Opportunities for young people

Youth Resilience Fund



Darton Academy After School Sessions:

Targeted & open access after-school sessions for Y7 & 8 students, using arts/games/themed projects/group discussion and activities to engage participants and build relationships and specific activities to encourage the development of key resilience and personal and social skills. Providing access and opportunities for participants to engage in positive activities in a safe space with access to skilled and experienced youth workers who can provide additional emotional and mental health support.

We've seen an influx of new young people attending our sessions, which has positively impacted the work we can do with them. We continue to focus on empowering young people to have a voice in the decisions that are made both within their school and their wider community.

Our focus within this group has been to build a safe and trusting environment where young people feel accepted, and as a result, we have been able to work with a wide range of young people on an individual basis. We strive to create a relaxed environment where young people feel as though they belong. When there have been challenges within this group, young people feel safe enough to speak to their youth workers about it, who have been able to work with young people to establish solutions.

The running theme for this quarter has been around identity, with sessions targeted around developing the young people's sense of core self. As a result, young people have felt supported enough to discuss questions they have regarding their identity, and our youth workers have been able to support these conversations in a nurturing and positive way.

The personalities within this group have, at times, led to challenges. However, each young person who attends has positively impacted the group, and we are incredibly proud of how far they have come.



Improving the local environment



Health & Wellbeing



Opportunities for young people

Youth Resilience Fund



Kexborough Primary:

Weekly after-school sessions with all of Y6 children at some point having the opportunity to work with the YMCA youth work team, who will then remain a consistent person within their transition experience to Darton Academy.

From September, the group of young people were a specific group of Y6 pupils identified as those who would most benefit from the project and improve their emotional resilience and wellbeing.

The YMCA after-school club continues to be a popular session with young people proven by the number of participants. This club aims to build the group's emotional resilience and confidence by gently coaxing them to participate in team-building games and providing them with different opportunities each week to develop their interpersonal skills, with our youth workers ensuring that every voice within the group is heard.

We continue to work in Kexborough Primary School, offering an after-school club to a mixed cohort of 16 young people. Our working relationship with the school means that the school, including the headteacher and family support worker, is able to identify a group of young people who would benefit by participating in a club that focuses on building emotional resilience and wellbeing. As this group of young people is signposted to us, it allows us to spend time establishing the needs of each participant, enabling the development of core skills, increasing self-esteem and confidence and being able to provide 1:2:1 support as and when needed. The rotation of the group at each term enables the YMCA to reach as many young people as possible and raise their aspirations and confidence in their preparation for secondary school.



Improving the local environment



Health & Wellbeing



Opportunities for young people

Youth Resilience Fund



Wellgate Primary

Weekly targeted support project for some Y6 children identified as those who would most benefit from the project.

The youth work team have continued delivery of the targeted model supporting children within the year 6 group who have been identified as those who would most benefit from the project.

The club continues to be delivered on a Monday afternoon to meet the needs of the school. The school and the YMCA have a great working balance and fully support each other in the delivery of the club. The school continues to signpost the young people they believed would benefit the most from attending this club due to their confidence and low emotional self-esteem.

The activities are the tools that allow the conversations between the youth workers and the young people to start, which help them to understand the young people's needs and what areas they need to work on to improve their confidence and social skills. A programme of positive and empowering activities is offered to the young people who attend these sessions, including relevant cultural activities, problem-solving sessions, and mindfulness crafts, all serving to create a space where young people are comfortable developing their sense of self and belonging.

Young people attending Wellgate will see a move to focus on transition-themed activities that will allow them to explore their worries and concerns about moving to high school in the new quarter. We will also provide an opportunity for the young people who attend Wellgate to have any questions answered that they may have by linking up with the young people we work with at Darton Academy.



Improving the local environment



Health & Wellbeing



Opportunities for young people

Youth Resilience Fund



Summer Lane Primary Pilot

Weekly targeted support for Y6 children open access but targeted for some pupils the school has identified as those who would most benefit from additional support.

“ I enjoyed the suncatchers because when I look at it, I think of how nervous I was for everything going on but now I feel a lot better and less nervous because of the other times we were here on a Wednesday. I enjoyed it here and it made me feel a lot better about high school and the play that we were doing in front of the whole school and parents.”

Amelia
Year 6

This bespoke weekly club continues to be popular with young people. Participants are referred by the wellbeing contact in school, who continues to signpost young people who she feels would benefit from our work, ensuring that there is a team of workers around each young person who attends. The sessions at Summer Lane are themed to prepare young people for their transition to secondary school, employing various methods such as mindfulness crafts and, recently, ‘kindness books’ where young people complete tasks that are focussed on self-worth, their identity, and how they act towards others. We work with Year 5 and Year 6 on rotation, which ensures that the young people who need the support can access it while also allowing us to intervene early with young people who have more complex needs regarding their resilience and interpersonal skills would require a long-term programme. We continue to see a great deal of improvement regarding these skills, and the young people within this session are able to articulate this growth and demonstrate their resilience in everyday situations within the session.

The project delivery in the schools has enabled the children to form positive relationships with the youth workers from YMCA Barnsley and to develop their social networks building positive relationships with other young people both in their school-based sessions and through accessing wider project delivery with holiday provision and the detached youth work sessions.

We can also maintain our support for project participants transitioning to Darton Academy and Horizon Community College with a familiar face and support from a trusted and consistent youth worker they already know and access to pre-established relationships with peers. The youth workers have enjoyed reconnecting with young people as they continue their journeys in secondary school. They have seen many of them access the after-school clubs at Horizon and Darton Academy. Seeing and reflecting on their transformation from timid year 6’s too confident year 7’s in their secondary school environment is a proud moment for the participants and their youth workers.



Improving the local environment



Health & Wellbeing



Opportunities for young people

Youth Resilience Fund

Holiday provision:

During February Half Term, young people from the North Area were invited to two borough-wide events and had a North Area specific activity in the form of a Budgeting Shop/Cook and Eat Session. The Shop, Cook and Eat activity saw young people having to budget a meal, which they then bought the ingredients for and cooked. During the recent cost of living crisis, this was a valuable activity that the young people involved really enjoyed. The two borough-wide activities that young people were invited to were the Valentines Disco held at YMCA Barnsley, and a Rock Climbing event in Sheffield. Both activities were well attended by young people in the North Area and served to allow young people the space to challenge their fears in an environment that was safe and supportive.

Over the Easter Holidays, young people from the North Area were again invited to a borough-wide event where we took them to Lazer Tag at Xscape Castleford. This was a very well-attended event, with nearly 1/3 of attendees being from the North Area, and again it gave young people the opportunity to meet new people in a safe environment. This event got very positive feedback from both young people and their parents/guardians, and it has been requested that we run something similar in the future. We also ran an Easter Egg Hunt in Mapplewell Park and a Shop/Cook and Eat session at St John's Church in Mapplewell. A number of young people informed us that they would be unable to make it due to family holidays, but both events were still incredibly positive. We will continue to consult with young people regarding their wishes for future holiday provision in their area.

Throughout the holiday provision we run, young people are supported by familiar workers who they know and trust and were also given the opportunity to socialise with young people from across the project and who may attend the same school as them in the future. It is important to the YMCA Barnsley team that the relationships with youth workers that have developed during the school sessions are maintained during the holiday provision to provide that consistent person in the young person's journey.



Improving the local environment



Health & Wellbeing



Opportunities for young people

Youth Resilience Fund

Detached Project (continued)

Our team continue to work in the North Area providing weekly session. Largely centred around Kexborough (Bernelai Homes premises) but also street based in and around Kexborough parks and Darton.

In recent weeks, the core group have seen some changes in membership. 2 members moved on and we welcomed 2 new members. The shifting dynamic impacted on the piece of drama the group were working on so it was decided to use the clips we had filmed thus far to piece together and use as an evaluation tool for the group. Once new members are 'settled in', then it is hoped the drama project will be re visited. The young people's engagement has been fantastic, their ideas and commitment has been a very positive experience. Almost weekly, the group bring stories to group sessions that reflect on their learning whilst working on the drama project. Staff are confident that the learning experience has built on their resilience and given the young people coping tools and strategies they can draw on when faced with day to day challenges, in particular when in school.

As spring approaches and brings brighter nights and kinder weather, our core group have been planning outdoors activities including sports and games that they can help facilitate with larger groups.

The group are also very keen to engage in activities that benefit the broader community. Ideas around gift making for elderly residents, wellbeing bags, coffee mornings, and perhaps odd jobs have all been discussed. These conversations and planning will continue this term in the hope that the group develop their own plan based around their interests and needs.

In dryer weather the core group have litter picked their community. Their efforts have not gone unnoticed, positive comments from older residents are very encouraging and often open up broader conversations about their work and their involvement with YMCA Barnsley.

Our immediate plans for the next few weeks are Easter treasure hunt, outdoor games and sports and finalise plans for community engagement activities, which may include liaising with staff and residents at a local care home.

A very worthwhile term, our team are encouraged by the learning and development the young people demonstrate. The team are confident that their role as youth worker within their community continues to play an important part in these young people's lives as they transition through life and navigate the challenges presented from time to time.



Improving the local environment



Health & Wellbeing



Opportunities for young people

Youth Resilience Fund



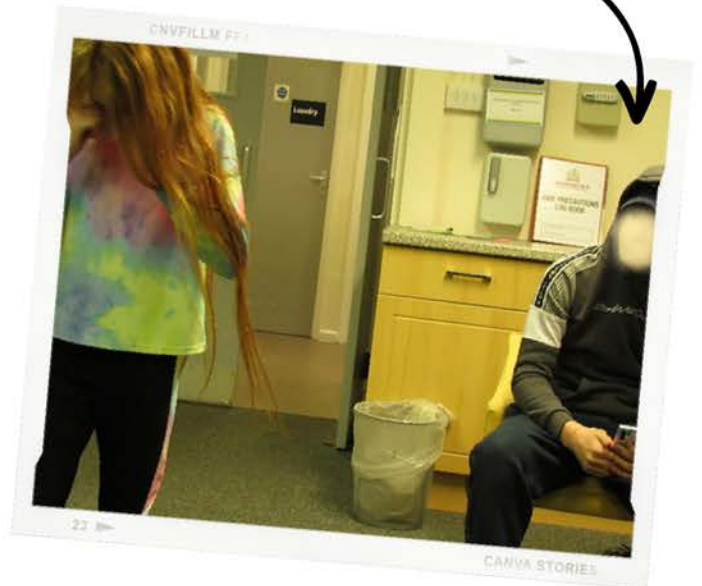
Shop, Cook & Eat



Problem Solving Team Challenge



Drama project



Sharing Positive Feedback





After Schools Project

Case Study

Background & Context

Sam began accessing our project when we started an after-school club in their secondary school. Sam is currently in Year 8. They were well-liked individuals who opened up about their struggles with anxiety early on in our involvement, which was why they chose to access our project. Over the last year, we have allowed Sam the space to overcome their anxiety within the group through consistency and unconditional support.

Recently, Sam has been questioning both their sexuality and gender identity and has been confident enough within the group to begin exploring where they fit on both spectrums. Our staff have been able to support Sam throughout this time of uncertainty, and it is apparent how much faith they have in our youth workers as a result of this.

Intervention/Process

Our engagement in Sam's school is a weekly session that runs throughout the year, with the same workers at each session. Because of this, Sam has been able to access support from a consistent person to work through different challenges that have arisen in their life outside of our sessions. The content of our sessions has been shaped by the young people within that group, and we have allowed Sam to influence this by consulting with each of the young people who attend the session. When we held a mock debate on the use of fireworks, Sam was comfortable and confident enough to share their experiences of panic attacks due to fireworks going off.

Recently, their trust in us was made apparent when a staff member was leaving, and young people requested that we make a card for them. Sam asked if they had to sign using their birth name or whether they could use a preferred name. Staff reassured Sam that they could use whatever name they were most comfortable with and asked Sam their preferred name. When Sam told us, we were supportive and asked if this meant there was a change in their preferred pronouns, which Sam stated that there was.

The following weeks saw Sam getting more comfortable using their preferred name while discussing with staff that they were unsure exactly where they fell on the gender spectrum. We reassured Sam, explaining that they didn't need to know everything immediately.

School-based Provision

Case Study



“I like coming here because you help me with so much. I know I can talk to you about anything. I struggle a lot so that’s important.”

Feedback from Sam (Anonymised)



Intervention/Process (continued)

In one session, Sam came in, and it was immediately apparent that they were struggling with something. When we asked if they were okay, Sam explained that today was the day they had decided to come out to their parents. Staff sat with Sam and reassured them that the decision to do that was theirs and to remove some of the pressure from themselves. We completed a ‘who’s my support network’ activity with Sam so that they knew the people they could get support from, during which Sam highlighted that we were part of that support network. Sam visibly relaxed throughout this session and clearly felt reassured about whom they could seek guidance to cope with their coming out. We also spoke about what reaction they would want after coming out to their parents, to which Sam stated that ‘if they are confused about it but open to learning.’

Impact of work with the individual:

Sam waited in the school lobby for me to attend the session the following week. When they saw me, they became visibly excited. After getting through reception, Sam told me that they had spoken to their mum and that while their mum completely understood Sam’s sexuality, they didn’t know enough about gender identity yet, but they wanted to understand. Sam was grinning as they said this, and when I asked how this made them feel, Sam stated ‘it was what I wanted’.

Sam also stated that the support network sheet we had completed the week before was pinned up in their bedroom as a constant reminder of the people they have around them. It was visible to see the weight that had been lifted from Sam’s shoulders and the confidence it had given them almost to reintroduce themselves to the group using their preferred name and pronouns. Sam’s peers have been incredibly supportive throughout this time, correcting themselves if they use Sam’s birth name and pronouns and always seeking to learn.

We have provided Sam with a safe space; as a result, they can go through this uncertainty with trusted adults who can support them. This will ensure that Sam is getting the support that is appropriate and non-judgemental as they continue to explore their gender identity. Because Sam has identified us as a safe space for them, we have also been able to support their anxiety, and Sam’s confidence has increased massively.

What’s next?

Sam will continue to have access to the support they need by attending our after-school club. In the future, we will continue to work with Sam regarding their confidence so that we can develop a strong sense of who they are as a person. We will signpost Sam to other support services that will complement the work we do with them, and we will continue to be part of and develop Sam’s support network.



Improving the local environment



Health & Wellbeing



Opportunities for young people

Youth Resilience Fund



Ad Astra

(Supporting Laithes Primary, Athersley South and Outwood Academy Carlton.)

185

Number of unique individuals engaged

13

Number of young people attending Buddy Training

54

Number of young people attending conflict resolution sessions

35

Number of young people consistently attending Youth Club Sessions

150

Number of children /Young People reporting an improvement in their emotional wellbeing.

Extract from Performance Report

In Athersley North this term, they have asked us to deliver some Conflict Resolution Workshops with their Year 3 and 4.

They have asked because these two years are struggling with their emotions, and as a result, they are arguing to the extreme, with some cases getting aggressive.

We devised a simple programme we could deliver looking at emotions in the hope we can build their resilience to empower them to be able to handle their conflicts differently – this will also save lots of time for the staff involved as well School liked the programme, and so far it is being well received by the children and staff.

Athersley North

As reported in last term's report, Athersley North Primary has changed its Year 5 and Year 6 classes in this academic year. They have now added an additional class so that they now have 2 class 5 and 2 class 6 classes (instead of the traditional 1 Year 5 + 1 Year 6 and 1 mixed Year 5 and 6 groups)

So, for this academic year, we have done full classes rather than split them as we do in Athersley South Primary. So, this academic year, we completed two Year 5 Classes with our Buddy Training in the September to December Term. And this term January to March, we started the Transition Workshops for two Year 6 classes, but we have only completed half the designated program, which we will return to in May and complete.

In the space between, young people are concentrating on their SATs revision, hoping that the school levels will improve. Instead of missing sessions school asked us if we could deliver Conflict Resolution sessions for the Year 3s and 4s, which we started After the February half term. We will complete the Conflict Resolution Workshops after the Easter break, then move back onto the Transition program with Year 6 pupils



Improving the local environment



Health & Wellbeing



Opportunities for young people

Youth Resilience Fund



(Supporting Laithes Primary, Athersley South and Outwood Academy Carlton.)

Athersley South

For the first half term in Athersley South, we completed our Buddy Training with the Year 5s with our regular programme although this group was very immature they did give some great feedback with their question and answer sessions – As part of the confidentiality workshop the young people looked at emotions and in particular betrayal, this was how they came to understand ‘confidentiality’ and what it meant to a young person in a Buddy Role.

The team work session worked really well for the group and this session helped one young man who had been struggling throughout the sessions, but he excelled at the teamwork challenge and joined in with all the smaller groups to help the other young people.

The second half term was the start of our Transition Workshops for this academic year.

We delivered our current programme with the first group of Year 6 pupils.

In addition to the regular activities the staff took in a full uniform for the young people to look at instead of just a tie and pictures – the young people really enjoyed trying on the uniform this was one of the high lights of that terms program which included a young man trying on every piece of uniform. We managed to access the Darton School transition video which helped the young people understand the bigger picture.

Maps and Planners alongside being prepared for school always shows the group how different primary is to secondary school.

For the Enrichment / Afterschool session, the team did a Science workshop and the young people experienced Elephants Toothpaste. This session was very popular with all the young people.



Improving the local environment



Health & Wellbeing



Opportunities for young people

Youth Resilience Fund



(Supporting Laithes Primary, Athersley South and Outwood Academy Carlton.)

Carlton with Year 7

This has been a difficult term with the Year 7 groups – we have a great deal of disruptive behaviour from one of the groups.

The young men in the first group were very aggressive and were intimidating some members of the group after a few weeks they were asked to leave the group. The topics they discussed whilst with us were concerning for Year 7 pupils.

Every member of the group had a close family member in prison, and they spoke proudly about this.

Several discussions were held about Knife crime and the use of ‘blades’ were discussed at length several of the young men had no fear or remorse. We spoke about the consequences of these actions and the impact this has on families and other young people involved.

This was reported to school and they were aware as it had been reported to police after incidents outside school which were then brought into school.

The second group we had were a small group of young women whom we had previously worked with in our primary schools. They now described themselves as ‘the naughty girls’ What actually transpired from our group work was that the young women were struggling with their transition into secondary – from school rules – the amount of work they were expected to do and the academic levels they were not achieving.

They had also very quickly built a bond with each other to become ‘The Popular girls’, which they thought would help them get away with ‘acting up’ in school. We spoke at length about how their academic shortfalls would have an impact on their future career choices



Improving the local environment



Health & Wellbeing



Opportunities for young people

Youth Resilience Fund

Youth Club

The youth club was quiet after Christmas but quickly picked up towards the end of January. It's been a busy and creative term. We have had several new members who have joined us after our sessions in their primary school.

The young people have a big input into the program, and the planning session at the start of the term helped produce the diary.

Working on Puzzles has been a big part of this term's program – logic puzzles, Chinese puzzles etc. The group were very creative around the Chinese New Year. Edible slime returned to the program again, as its always a favourite. The group also made aluminium sculptures and did some cross stitch.

Several of the young people are getting ready to transition into our Senior club so that next term will include some transition work in our youth club.

February Holiday Provision

In one of the sessions, we did Ribbon crafts as this had been requested by some of the youth club members this session, we had quite a few Year 7 lads attend, so quickly had to amend the program. We had a few issues with one of our regular members harassing another member, which led to us having to contact parents.

We held a separate day for our senior members following on from their requests around personal choices and sexuality - we invited TYS down for the afternoon session to continue on our theme but also to run a C Card session – this session was only open to young people aged 13+, and consent had to be given prior to the session.

Easter Holiday Provision

We had Breakfast clubs each Thursday over the two weeks, and young people came into have breakfast and do Easter crafts.

As part of our Other Easter provision, we had a Challenge Day, which followed on from the puzzles at youth club that they really enjoyed – one of the challenges was to package an egg so that it could be dropped from a height – the group really enjoyed this challenge although it became rather messy.

Easter crafts, buns and decorations were completed.



Improving the local environment



Health & Wellbeing



Opportunities for young people

Youth Resilience Fund

How does the commission meets the council plan?

Our Council Plan 2021 -2024

Healthy Barnsley

- People are safe and feel safe
- People live independently with good physical and mental health for as long as possible
- We have reduced inequalities in health and income across the borough

Learning Barnsley

- Children and young people achieve the best outcomes through improved educational achievement and attainment.
- People have the opportunities for lifelong learning and developing new skills including access to apprenticeships.
- People have access to early help and support

Growing Barnsley

- People have a welcoming, safe and enjoyable town centre and principal towns as destinations for work, shopping, leisure and culture.

Sustainable Barnsley

- People live in great places, are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their community.

We had a craft day where the young people made bags from recycled materials

Food and refreshments were served to all the young people

The young man who caused issues at the February half-term provision had to be asked to leave during our Easter provision as he became aggressive with another member.

He (and the family) have been told he can reattend sessions in a few weeks

*YMCA & Ad Astra's contribution to public health outcomes

Improving the wider determinants of health

Objective 1: improvements against wider factors which affect health & wellbeing and health inequalities

- 1.01ii Children in low-income families (all dependent children under 20)
- 1.03 Pupil Absence
- 1.04 First time entrants to the youth justice system
- 1.16 Utilising outdoor space for exercise and health reasons

Health improvement

Objective 2: people are helped to live healthy lifestyles, make healthy choices and reduce health inequalities

- 2.07 Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries in children (0 - 14 years)
- 2.08ii Percentage of children where there is cause for concern
- 1.04 Self-reporting well-being

Community Grants Summary Performance Management Report

April 2022 – March 2023

Service	Priorities	Provider	Contract Value (per year)	Start Date	End Date	Reports
Connecting Communities Page 44	 Health & Wellbeing	 North Area Social Inclusion Service	£79,600.20	April 2021	March 2024	Quarter 3 Received
Connecting Communities Page 48	 Health & Wellbeing	 Connections Hub	£66,450.00	April 2021	March 2022	Quarter 3 Received
Connecting Communities Page 51	 Health & Wellbeing	 Reds Connect	£41,472.21	April 2021	March 2022	Quarter 3 Received
Stronger Communities Page 58	 Health & Wellbeing	Mapplewell & Staincross Greenspace & Recreation Group Children's Cycle Path	£8,761.00	October 2021	March 2022	Report due after the opening ceremony
Stronger Communities Page 59	 Health & Wellbeing	 Stronger Mums	£9,950.00	April 2021	March 2022	Project due at the end of the contract

**Our Council Plan
2021 -2024
GRANTS**

Connections
Hub

North Area
Social Inclusion
Service

Reds
Connect

Children's
Cycle Path

Strong Mums

Healthy Barnsley	People are safe and feel safe	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	People live independently with good physical and mental health for as long as possible	✓	✓	✓		✓
	We have reduced inequalities in health and income across the borough	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Growing Barnsley	Business start ups and existing local businesses are supported to grow and attract new investment, providing opportunities	✓	✓	✓		
	People have a welcoming safe and enjoyable town centre and physical towns as destinations for work, shopping leisure and culture	✓	✓	✓		
	People are supported to have safe, warm sustainable homes	✓	✓			
Learning Barnsley	People have the opportunities for lifelong learning and developing new skills including access to apprenticeships	✓	✓	✓		
	Children and young people achieve the best outcomes through improved educational achievement and attainment				✓	✓
	People have access to early help and support	✓	✓	✓		
Sustainable Barnsley	People live in great places, are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their community.				✓	✓
	Our heritage and green spaces are promoted for all people to enjoy	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Fossil fuels are being replaced by affordable and sustainable energy and people are able to enjoy more cycling and walking				✓	



Changing the Relationship



Health & Wellbeing

Connecting Communities



North Area Social Inclusion Service

13

New referrals

10

Volunteers

9

Existing Volunteers

How does the commission meets the council plan?

Our Council Plan
2021 -2024

Healthy Barnsley

- People are safe and feel safe
- People live independently with good physical and mental health for as long as possible
- We have reduced inequalities in health and income across the borough

Learning Barnsley

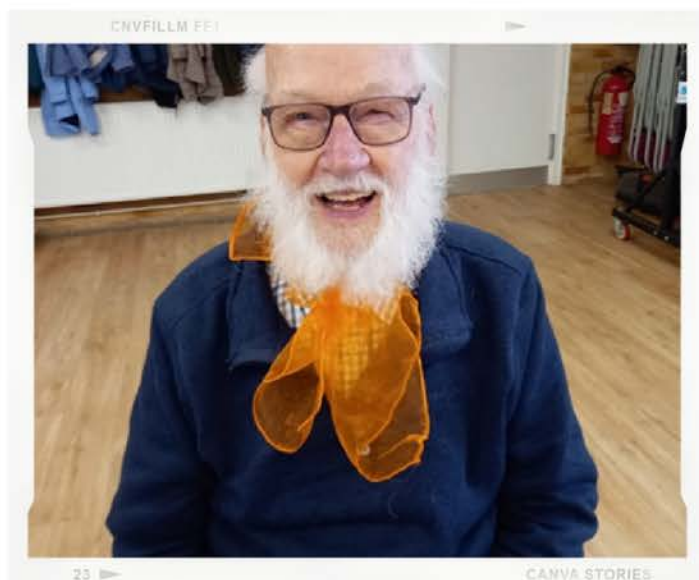
- People have the opportunities for lifelong learning and developing new skills including access to apprenticeships.
- People have access to early help and support

- Satisfactory quarterly monitoring report and contract management meeting.
- Project milestones achieved
- Project outcome indicator targets met
- Overall project progress & achievements

Project Aims

Age UK Barnsley are a local charity that works only for the benefit of the people of Barnsley Borough and our Resource Centre/Head Office is based within the Town Centre. We have been providing successful, innovative, area-wide services addressing social isolation in Barnsley for more than 5 years. Age UK Barnsley work with older people with a wide range of needs and health conditions including dementia, mental health problems, physical health conditions and limited mobility.

“To everyone at Age UK, thank you for all of your help. I am so touched and grateful for everything that you have done. I haven’t been out for so long and now I have all these groups that I can go to”.





**Changing the
Relationship**



**Health &
Wellbeing**

Connecting Communities

Achievements this quarter - October 2022 to December 2022

This quarter, the North area has benefitted from 2 part-time Social Inclusion Officer (SIO) hours, enabling us to work with and support 66 older people. 19 of these were new referrals which have been received this quarter. SIOs have worked with these people to develop personalised support and action plans to ensure that the support from the SIO meets their individual needs. Alongside the SIOs, there are also a team of volunteers, which has enabled some service users who are isolated but unable to get out to groups, to have access to face-to-face or telephone befriending support on a regular basis.

- 9 volunteers have provided support by befriending and supporting community groups. During this quarter, we have lost 1 volunteer due to having other commitments. There have been 164 volunteer hours this quarter.
- When delivering one to one support, we have been able to signpost service users to services such as information and advice, citizens advice, Alzheimer's society, fire service. We have also supported 4 older people to register for dial-a-ride and referred people to access lifeline pendants.
- This quarter we have received referrals from mental health team, social prescribers, information and advice, self-referrals, and family and from specialist occupational therapy.
- The Darton Wellbeing Group has been attended each month by a Tai-Chi instructor, which has enabled group members to participate in chair-based Tai-Chi.
- The Eastfield Arms Lunch with Company group has launched and has had a brilliant response, with 20 people attending the first meeting of the group. This group will continue to run fortnightly.
- This Quarter there have been 9 Facebook posts that directly related to the North Area Social Inclusion Project. They reached 19,686 people, generated 337 reactions, 40 comments and 133 shares. In addition, we released 10 posts that were boroughwide social inclusion, which reached 15,777 people and generated 334 reactions, 32 comments and 131 shares.
- Set up a new dementia café at Emmanuel Church



Changing the Relationship



Health & Wellbeing

Connecting Communities



North Area Social Inclusion Service

Case Study

Key Learning Points

- Mrs H lives alone and doesn't have any family or friends.
- She is registered blind and doesn't go out.
- She has a cleaner that she sees once a week, but doesn't see anybody else in between.

Summary

Mrs H was referred to the Social Inclusion team, by Age UK Barnsley's Information and Advice department, following a concern about her being lonely that was raised during a phone call with i&a. Mrs H said that she doesn't want to attend groups, as she is registered blind and doesn't feel confident enough to go to groups. She had stated that she might like face to face befriending.

Who was involved:

- Social inclusion officer
- Volunteer befriender
- Information and Advice

Outcomes of Project

Mrs H is now visited 1-2 times per week by the volunteer befriender, which has increased her mood.

Background

The Age UK Barnsley's Information and Advice department referral stated that Mrs H was feeling lonely and might benefit from a face-to-face befriender. Mrs H had stated to them that she really doesn't want to go out to groups in the community as she doesn't feel confident enough at this time.

When a member of the Social Inclusion team got in touch with Mrs H, they introduced themselves and discussed the befriending service with her. She was interested in finding more information, so the SIO arranged to visit Mrs H at home. On arrival, the SIO noted that it was well kept, and Mrs H was happy at home. Mrs H discussed her current situation with the SIO and that she only sees her cleaner once a week and doesn't have any friends or family to see in between. She is also registered blind, so she isn't able to do the things she used to enjoy, such as gardening and reading. The SIO spoke with Mrs H about the home library service, which would be able to provide her with audiobooks. She was very interested in this service, and the SIO agreed to look into this service for her.

The SIO discussed the befriending service with Mrs H, and she decided that this is something that she would like to try. As there was already a volunteer befriender close by who was willing to have more than one volunteering opportunity, the SIO was able to arrange with the volunteer and Mrs H for them to meet for the first time, with the support of the SIO.

The following week, the volunteer and Mrs H met with the SIO during Mrs H's hours. This first meeting was very successful, and Mrs H was very happy with the plan that the volunteer could call in to see her and have a chat over a cup of tea a couple of times a week. The volunteer gave Mrs H her phone number so that they could organise future plans. Mrs H has been visited by the volunteer multiple times over the last couple of weeks and is very happy with the service. She said she feels so much happier to have someone to see during the week.

Any unplanned outcomes (good or bad)

SIOs are looking into the home library service and will assist Mrs H in signing up in the coming weeks.

Next Steps

SIO to keep in touch with both Mrs H and the volunteer befriender to ensure both are happy with the arrangements.



Changing the Relationship



Health & Wellbeing

Connecting Communities



Connecting Together

86

People more engaged in activities

1

New Volunteers

4

Existing Volunteers

How does the commission meets the council plan?

Our Council Plan 2021 -2024

Healthy Barnsley

- People are safe and feel safe
- People live independently with good physical and mental health for as long as possible
- We have reduced inequalities in health and income across the borough

Learning Barnsley

- People have the opportunities for lifelong learning and developing new skills including access to apprenticeships.
- People have access to early help and support

- Satisfactory quarterly monitoring report and contract management meeting.
- Project milestones achieved
- Project outcome indicator targets met
- Overall project progress & achievements

Project Aims

to support individuals, especially those with long-term health conditions or disabilities, to recover from the longer-term impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic by re-connecting them with their community through the creation of a weekly hub providing opportunities for people to meet, share and learn

Building on the proven successful Happy Café model (both nationally and in the North Area), the hub will deliver a varied programme of activities and events and provide opportunities for increasing social capital through volunteering and establishing a concept of membership amongst participants.

St Helens

The monthly events have been quite a success within this ward; the latest Keep Fit session had 12 attendees who all received a demonstration,



35

People attend activities

DVDs, and an exercise band. Aimi has partnered with Ad Astra and is running fortnightly bingo sessions at New Lodge Community Centre. This is self-funded, meaning members pay to play, and the money raised pays for prizes and new bingo cards/dabbers. If the bingo carries on being a success, Aimi will look at delivering on a weekly basis. Some of the members have also shown interest in doing another keep fit session, as they missed the Get Fit Event.

Aimi has also been working with the Community Shop to work more closely, and ideas for sessions include board game sessions, first aid training, yoga and meditation. Our new Games Morning will be starting after the Easter holidays.



Changing the Relationship



Health & Wellbeing

Connecting Communities

DIAL Connection Hub



Darton West

Aimi has been running monthly sessions at Priestley Avenue Community Centre. We have a small social group up and running on Tuesday afternoons. Although this group is only small, they all attend regularly. The group recently had a visit from our Green Connections worker, Jeff, who delivered a poetry session for members. The group generally sets their own agenda for activities and enjoy a good cuppa and chat.



13

People attend activities

Darton East

Since the New Year, Aimi has been hosting a weekly social group at St. John the Evangelist Church Hall. Attendance is good. Around 12 – 14 people are attending. We arranged for the Patient Experience Team members at Barnsley Hospital to attend one of the sessions.



18

People attend activities

Old Town

Despite trying two different venues in this ward, the monthly sessions were not as successful as in other areas. The latest one was the Get Fit Session that took place in January. Aimi has continued to attend Honeywell Community Centre monthly, teaching Quilling. However, at the last session, Aimi conducted a review with the members, and they decided that March would be their last session with us as they felt they had the skills to continue on their own.



20

People attend activities

We noticed that some of the members who attend the bingo at New Lodge reside in Old Town. When asked why they travelled to venues outside their ward, they said they know many people in St Helen's ward. Aimi will speak with these members to get their thoughts on attending a group in the McLintocks building.

Connect Together

Case Study



Outcomes

- ✦ Feel less isolated
- ✦ Feels more connected to the community
- ✦ More confident
- ✦ Improved wellbeing
- ✦ Made new friends



Connect Together

- bring your community spirit alive

Before Connect Together

Mrs L is a 69-year-old lady with several health conditions for which she takes medication, including pain relief and steroids. Apart from going to the gym by herself on a regular basis Mrs L does not go anywhere else, leaving her feeling quite isolated. She feels that the lack of socialisation has impacted her confidence, self-esteem, and mental wellbeing.

Intervention

Mrs L was referred to Connect Together by Ad Astra in September 2022. She signed up to Connect Together, attended the first of DIALS crisis support sessions and received a free slow cooker. Although Mrs L did not attend the next couple of support sessions, contact was made on a regular basis to inform her of the up-and-coming sessions, find out why she wasn't attending, and see what kind of activities she would like to see in the area. From these check-ins with Mrs L, we found that she had not been attending support sessions because the themes did not interest her. We also discovered that Mrs L had enjoyed playing Bingo at one of the local community centres, but it had stopped several months earlier. Knowing this, we started providing fortnightly Bingo sessions at one of our sessions.

After Connect Together

Since the Bingo started, Mrs L has attended all the sessions and become a valuable group member. Not only does she enjoy winning, but she also enjoys checking other players' cards and congratulating them when they win. Mrs L says the Bingo session gives her something exciting to look forward to.



Changing the Relationship



Health & Wellbeing

Connecting Communities



Reds Connect

Programme Aims

- Beneficiaries have improved emotional and physical wellbeing
- Beneficiaries are connecting, interacting, and forging new friendships
- Beneficiaries are regularly participating in the activities in their local area
- Beneficiaries are adopting and maintaining more active lifestyles

- Satisfactory quarterly monitoring report and contract management meeting.
- Project milestones achieved
- Project outcome indicator targets met
- Overall project progress & achievements

Performance Narrative Report

This quarter had seen a new promotional drive being carried out to share the story of all 3 of the sessions available for residents. This promotional drive has coincided with the addition of our new Community Engagement Officer, Vikki Prendergast. Vikki has taken on the new role with initial targets of promoting the programmes across the North Area and recruiting residents to attend, engage and sustain participation. The development of these programmes has been reviewed and redesigned in order to increase participation.

To improve our regular attendance and engage new participants, we decided to change the venues we were using. We believe the new locations are more suitable for our sessions and will provide a better experience for all participants. The new facilities include:

- Exercise Session** - St Helens Church on Laithes Lane in Athersley
- Extra Time Hub** - Staincross Christian Fellowship on Spark Lane, Mapplewell
- Team Talk** - New Lodge Community Centre.

Performance Narrative Report

Despite our disappointment with the overall uptake of the project, we have noticed a number of new faces across all three strands of the programme. Vikki has been tirelessly spreading the word in the local community by placing flyers in various locations such as the church hall, local shops, Laithes Lane primary school, beauty salons in Mapplewell, and even at Roundhouse Library, where she has put up posters on tables.



Changing the Relationship



Health & Wellbeing

Connecting Communities



Reds Connect

42

Number of people adopting and maintaining healthy lifestyles

2

Number of volunteers supporting activities

Performance Narrative Report

In addition to handing out promotional material, Vikki has also been highly visible in the local area, attending the library on multiple occasions and participating in other groups, such as the knitting class. She has also attended our Fit Reds programme to get to know some of the participants and attract them to exercise sessions to continue their progress. We are hopeful that this will lead to some crossover with North area residents starting to attend.

As we try to be creative in our means of attracting north area residents to the programmes we deliver, Vikki interviewed with the Barnsley College media team to promote the programmes and wider opportunities for people to engage in positive activities. This video is due to be released in May.

We would appreciate support in further developing the opportunities. Our community engagement officer Vikki will be making contact to identify new ways of driving engagement and linking to current community groups.

Exercise Session

Despite the temporary closure of the church for renovations, Vikki has managed to attract six new attendees to the exercise session. These newcomers have been introduced to a variety of exercise activities, including cardio, circuits, and glow sticks dance, which is sure to have kept them engaged and motivated. In addition, Vikki has even used the outdoor space, further enhancing the experience for the attendees.

The session feedback has been positive from participants in attendance with the opportunities to engage in new and different activities that people had not tried before.

Extra Time Hub

The Extra Time Hub regularly attends a core group of participants. The unique aspect of the session is that it has been designed to allow the participants to shape the project as it progresses. This approach has ensured that the participants have felt involved and invested in the project and has encouraged their continued participation.

How the Area Council can support this provision?

Promote and advocate for the provision



**Changing the
Relationship**



**Health &
Wellbeing**

Connecting Communities



Reds Connect

Extra Time Hub

The current group has particularly enjoyed the light exercise and board games that have been included in the session. To keep things fresh, the group has been playing various games, with participants bringing along their own games to share with the group. This has helped to foster a sense of community and friendship among the participants.

On a couple of occasions this quarter, the group has taken the initiative to organise meals together after the end of the session. This has been a fantastic way for the participants to continue building relationships and strengthening the bonds formed during the Extra Time Hub sessions. It is clear that the project has not only been successful in promoting physical and mental wellbeing, but also in fostering a sense of social connectedness.

Team Talk

The new venue has been a refreshing change for the session, with its ample space and various activities available to attendees. Including activities such as pool, games consoles, arts and crafts, and board games has been positive with attendees.

One of the most significant advantages of the new venue is the free access to the kitchen area for refreshments. This has been greatly appreciated by attendees, as it not only provides them with opportunities for a brew but also creates a relaxed and social atmosphere where they can interact with one another and build relationships.

Despite the initial uncertainty about Vikki being the lead in this session, it has been heartening to see that participants have settled in well and feel comfortable talking to her about their issues. Vikki has built trust and rapport with attendees, which is vital in establishing a safe and supportive environment for them to receive help and support.

There was some concern about one particular participant who was initially quite withdrawn and hesitant to engage in the session. However, over time, he has gradually settled down and has been more open to engaging with others and sharing his experiences. To support him further, we provided him with information and resources. We signposted him to other avenues of help, such as the Recovery College and Samaritans, should he wish to seek further assistance.

REDS CONNECT

EXTRA TIME HUB

LOOKING TO SOCIALISE AND TAKE PART IN ACTIVITIES YOU DECIDE ON?

AT OUR EXTRA TIME HUB, IT'S YOUR TIME SO YOU DECIDE WHAT TO DO! EXERCISE, MUSIC, BOARD GAMES, OR JUST HAVING A CATCH UP AND A BREW.

FREE TO
ATTEND



THURSDAYS
1:30PM - 3PM

STAINCROSS CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP,
CHURCH, MAPPLEWELL, S75 6AA

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT US ON 01226 211333
OR EMAIL COMMUNITY@BARNSLEYFC.CO.UK

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@bfccommunity



@redsinthecommunity



@redsinthecommunity

REDS CONNECT EXERCISE

FREE EXERCISE SESSION FOR ALL 16+

**NORTH AREA RESIDENTS
ACTIVITIES INCLUDE CIRCUITS,
BOXING EXERCISE AND MUCH
MORE**



**COME ALONG CONNECT,
SOCIALISE AND EXERCISE!**

**TUESDAYS
5:45PM - 6:45PM**

**ST HELEN'S CHURCH, LAITHES LANE,
ATHERSLEY SOUTH, S71 3AF**

**FREE TO
ATTEND**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT US ON 01226 211333
OR EMAIL COMMUNITY@BARNESLEYFC.CO.UK



One regular participant has progressed through the weeks of our Team Talk provision to become a volunteer. On first engaging with our programme the participant was withdrawn and needed support to engage and communicate with others in the environment. The catalyst of change occurred during what the participant described as a very difficult two-week period in which horrible 'horrible allegations were made against me'.



Vikki and the delivery team were on hand during this time to provide support the participant with listening ears and coping strategies to not only support them during this period of time but for future experiences. The participant added ' I valued the fact I was listened to without judgement and appreciated the coping mechanisms given to help me through it'.



They participant also informed our delivery team that the sessions have become a major part in him relaxing after work and that he doesn't want the sessions to end as he enjoys the opportunities to chat and get out of the house on an evening. He explained he has found himself drinking too much at home and the session has helped him to reduce this.



Through this feeling of support and trust, the participant wanted to start supporting the sessions and the people in attendance. This led on to them supporting with the set up of activities prior to the sessions starting and tidying up the areas at the end of the sessions as well as making drinks for people to make them feel comfortable and welcomed. They now themselves feel more socially included and this has definitely been supported through them being empowered to involve themselves in the sessions more and how the team have used their skills to listen, engage and support participants.

The staff have seen a marked improvement in the participants mood and outlook and although only just beginning to volunteer and support the sessions, they have hopes of doing more. The participant added they ' want to encourage other men to attend' the programme. As well as having ideas on activities that they could do including 'trying some outdoor things now the nights are getting lighter.

We cannot wait to keep you updated on the progression of the participant and others good news stories continually being highlighted through our programmes in the North Area.



Changing the Relationship



Health & Wellbeing

Stronger Communities

Mapplewell & Staincross Greenspace & Recreation Group

Mapplewell Park Cycle Track

Programme Aims

- Increase the amount of exercise for children between 2 - 10
- Children become more confident as they develop a new skill
- The children gain a sense of ownership of their environment
- Children socialise with different children in the neighbourhood

- Satisfactory quarterly monitoring report and contract management meeting.
- Project milestones achieved
- Project outcome indicator targets met
- Overall project progress & achievements

Project Update

The bike park was opened on 21st May 2023 by three-times Olympic and six-time World Champion Ed Clancy OBE.

Project Aims

The aim of the project is to encourage children to learn to ride a bike. The benefits are improved motor skills, balance, strength, and coordination. Improved mental health and wellbeing of participants, including noted increases in confidence, self-esteem, and sense of achievement.

Training children to cycle safely - Bike ability training to encourage cycling and improve road safety.

Parental guidance and support will help children take ownership of their parks and the local area. With a sense of ownership, the park will become a focus for positive interaction. The children and parents will see that the park offers many other activities.

Having a safe and secure location to learn to ride a bike encourages children to participate in more advanced cycling. This reflects well with council policies encouraging, government policy and Bikeability Studies.

With the new cycle path from the centre of Barnsley to Darton (passing through Mapplewell), children will be able to benefit from the new resource and cycle on a purpose built cycle path, giving greater freedom in a safe environment.

Mapplewell Park Cycle Track

Mapplewell & Staincross
Greenspace & Recreation Group





Changing the Relationship



Health & Wellbeing

Stronger Communities



Strong Mums

- Satisfactory quarterly monitoring report and contract management meeting.
- Project milestones achieved
- Project outcome indicator targets met
- Overall project progress & achievements

Project Summary

Strong Mums gives women living in North Barnsley the motivation, support and encouragement to complete the Couch to the 5K programme.

Mother Runners continues to be a free club, and all our new members have commented on how important that is in the current financial climate.

The end-of-year report will be included in Quarter 4's Project Performance Report.

Programme Aims

- Improved mental and physical health of mums
- Decreasing social isolation
- Addressing financial hardship
- Encouraging mums to be active



BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

North Area Council Meeting:
22nd May 2023

Agenda Item: 6

Report of North Area Council
Manager

Cost of Living Workshops Developing a North Area Response

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To apprise Members of the discussions that took place at a workshop held in May 2023. Material from earlier workshops is also included. Information may be used to help develop a time limited opportunity funded by the North Area Council.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1. **Members note the summary information for workshops held during 2022**
- 2.2. **Member note the more recent update from the workshop held in May 2023.**
- 2.3. **Members agree that the Priority Working Group will develop the North Area project outline to support the cost of living crisis, enabling the Area Manager to make progress.**

3. Background

- 3.1. At the Area Council Meeting on the 10th March Area Council representative received a presentation from Business Intelligence's Jill Bills regarding demography, deprivation, life expectancy and excess winter deaths.
- 3.2. In addition, Members voiced the challenges that they are experiencing in local communities and identified the following:
- Support for fuel, food and the cost-of-living crisis
 - Anti-Social behaviour and the increase in nuisance caused
 - Parking enforcement
 - Careers advice / raising aspirations of 14- and 16-year-olds including information on a variety of jobs and opportunities that would not come out of regular careers advice in school
- 3.3. At the Area Council Meeting on the 14th March it was agreed that any further development work regarding the current priorities and remaining commissioning budget would be delayed until the outcome of the Welfare Review was available.

3.4. At the Area Council meeting on the 16th May 2022 it was agreed that a further workshop would be held to discuss priorities for the North Area. The Area Council Manager was requested to focus the workshop on the Cost of Living.

4. Workshop – 6th July 2022

4.1. On the 6th July 2022, a workshop took place led by Emma Robinson from Business Intelligence. Supported Leyla Nayeri, Senior Health Improvement Officer and the Area Manager.

4.2. The workshop was attended by anti-poverty working group members: Cllr Leech, Cllr T Cave, Cllr Hunt and additionally by Cllr Platts.

4.3. The information session included three main sections:

- Labour Market Profile
- Cost of Living – The ‘squeezed middle’ and poverty
- Impacts on wider determinants of health
- Existing Support

4.4. Labour Market Profile

4,111 people of working age in the North Area are claiming Universal Credit. 14.9% of working age population. (Not all of which will be unemployed)
The North Area overall is under the Barnsley average of 17.7%. However, St Helen's is 24%.

26.8% of Barnsley's working age people are economically inactive. The numbers have increased since the outset of the pandemic. However, the vast majority have expressed a desire to work.

The most prevalent reason for people who are economically inactive is poor mental health, followed by musculoskeletal complaints.

During the pandemic many people have re-evaluated their household budgets and some people have chosen to step back from work before retirement age, many in their 50s.

31.1% of working age adults have a Level 4 qualification or better. (Barnsley)
18.9% of people are earning below the Living Wage. (Barnsley)

4.5. Cost of Living – The ‘squeezed middle’ and poverty

Low Income

Children in low-income families in Barnsley is 24.5%.
However, in St Helen's Ward this is currently 32%.

Fuel Poverty

Low Income and Low Energy Efficiency (LILEE) defines a household as fuel poor if:

"The household has a residual income below the poverty line (after accounting for required fuel cost)". AND

"Lives in a home that has an efficiency rating below BAND C".
Barnsley is higher than the national average at 19.2%.
24% of St Helen's Ward households are considered to be fuel poor.

End Fuel Poverty Coalition - April 2022 figures projected that number of Barnsley households in fuel poverty could increase to 37.1%. Equating to 41,000 of households in Barnsley, 7,650 of which would be in the North Area
For single adult households on low incomes - percentage is even higher at 54%

The 'squeezed middle'

Families with a middle-income standard of living are also struggling to manage the surging cost of living. These are typically households with high cost associated with mortgages, childcare and energy and are being forced to make large spending adjustments to cope.

YouGov Poll (2,001 people) of which 55% participants said that their health had worsened owing to issues such as higher heating and food costs.

It is predicted that over-indebtedness will rise during 2022.

The proportion of people experiencing their debt as a heavy burden has increased by almost 5% for those receiving Universal Credit and Tax Credits compared to 3% for those who are not.

There is a two-way relationship between debt and health. Indebtedness can have a significant impact on mental wellbeing.

4.6. **Impacts on wider determinants of health**

Life expectancy at birth in Barnsley:

81.8 for women and 77.9 for men.

However, **healthy life expectancy** is much less.

60.1 years for women and 55.9 years for men. For men, this is 6.9years lower than national average and the lowest in Yorkshire and Humber.

St Helen's Ward has the lowest life expectancy at birth within the North Area. 79.8 years for women and 75.6 years for men.

Debt

It is predicted that over-indebtedness will rise during 2022.

The proportion of people experiencing their own debt as a heavy burden has increased by almost 5% for those receiving Universal Credit and Tax Credits compared to 3% for those who are not.

There is a **two-way relationship between debt and health**. Indebtedness can have a significant impact on mental wellbeing.

Excess Winter Deaths

Further work is underway with public health colleagues to understand why the rates of excess winter deaths for Darton East ward are so high. The Senior Health Improvement Officer advised that work is underway with Healthwatch. A link with industry-related disease is being explored and data has been requested from Integrated Care partners

4.7. The working group had an opportunity to discuss the information that they had received.

5. What were the main priorities identified?

- 5.1. High numbers of low-income families in St Helen's.
- 5.2. St Helen's Ward has the lowest life expectancy at birth within the North Area. 79.8 years for women and 75.6 years for men.
- 5.3. 24% of St Helen's Ward households are considered to be fuel poor.
- 5.4. Concern that if predictions are correct by the end of 2022, 7,650 household in the North Area could be experiencing fuel poverty. (For single adult households on low incomes - percentage is even higher at 54%).
- 5.5. Concern for the 'squeezed middle' group of households who are struggling to cope with inflation.
- 5.6. Increase in indebtedness.
- 5.7. The impact on mental health cause by mounting financial pressures and indebtedness.
- 5.8. The presentation delivered at the May 2022 Area Council meeting by YMCA and Ad Astra was touched upon mentioned. Members were keen to do more to support young people's mental wellbeing as they recover from the wider impacts of covid.

6. What support is already available?

6.1. Household Support Grant (2023/24 Update)

Barnsley MBC has been allocated a total of 4.7 million from the Household Support Grant (HSG) 4th round which is from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). From that a sum of £800,000 will be used to fund community-based services who can support people through the continued cost of living crisis.

6.2. More Money in your Pocket (MMIYP)

Offering advice and signposting for residents.

<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/advice-benefits-and-council-tax/help-with-the-rising-cost-of-living/>

Information includes:

- Housing Support
- Support with utility bills
- Food Support inc. Free school meals
- Budgeting Support to help manage money.

6.3. Warm Homes Charter is in draft.

There is a vision which aims to ensure that everyone lives in a warm, healthy and energy efficient home. More information will be available when the charter has been through BMBC's decision making processes.

6.4. Warm Homes Team

Promote, manage and administer grant-funded, fuel poverty energy efficiency schemes (private sector).

Currently recruiting additional Warm homes Officers to work with the most vulnerable residents and engage the community.

6.5. Fuel Poverty Energy Efficiency Schemes

Funding available for private sector properties for:

- boiler replacements
- 1st time gas central heating
- wall, loft and underfloor insulation
- windows and doors (to replace single glazing only)

Eligibility – Income <£30K, EPC Bands E/F/G (D with health condition)

6.6. More and Better Jobs

An employment and skills strategy for Barnsley aiming to ensure that unemployment in Barnsley is below the national average and there is an increase in apprenticeships, amongst other aims.

6.7. DIAL – Warm Connections

DIAL were able to roll out the Warm Connections project, piloted in North Area, following a successful Energy Redress Grant fund application. DIAL have the ability to support customers with energy switching.

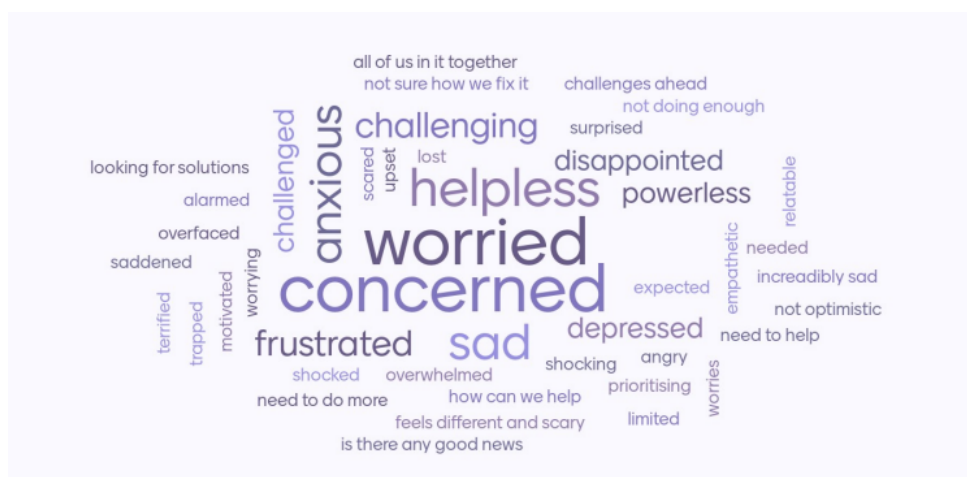
7. Stakeholder Workshops

7.1. Two cost of living stakeholder workshops were held in October 2022. These were aimed at identifying gaps in provision and opportunities for Area Council investment. The theme for both events was learning and sharing; aiming to empower and enable participants.

7.2. Thursday 6th October – Celebrating our assets and identifying gaps in provision

7.3. Attended by Councillors Leech, T Cave, Tattersall, Hunt and Lofts.

7.4. Participants were asked how the current cost of living challenges are making them feel as professionals:



7.5. Celebrating Assets – themes:

- Over Arching – Partnership Working and support for colleagues
- Social Welfare Advice – CAB, DIAL, Romero,
- Assets – Ad Astra, Community Shop, Romero, Community Fridge
- Resources – food banks, food distribution

- v. Activities – Healthy holidays, Health and Wellbeing project work
- vi. Current NAC commissioned services – Housing Cohesion regarded highly
- vii. Energy efficiency providers – Warm Homes, DIAL

7.6. What are the current gaps in provision?

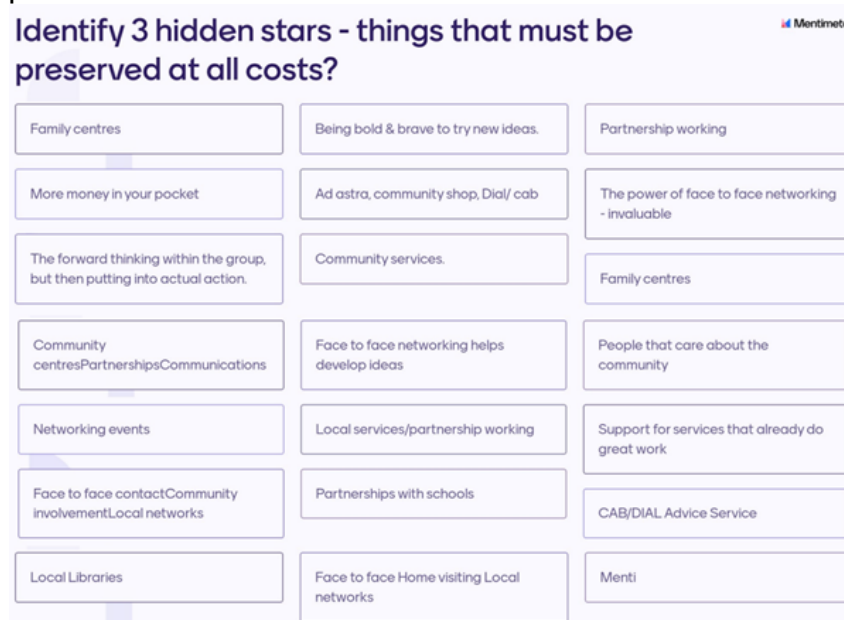
- i. Community Buildings – running costs limit the availability of support for wider community
- ii. Lack of funding to co-ordinate partnership working
- iii. Opening hours of community venues (eg Community Shop)
- iv. Transport – affordability and routes – impacting people ability to connect with services
- v. People being under threshold for support / not meeting criteria for support / falling through the gaps
- vi. Financial support for people in low paid work who can't access welfare provision
- vii. Social Isolation leading to deterioration in personal wellbeing (elderly, men, long term disabilities). Connecting people in the winter months.
- viii. Complex referral process and restricted ability to share information between services
- ix. Digital Inclusion – Access to equipment and broadband and knowledge of how to self-serve online (Internet access identified as a barrier to students completing homework)
- x. Stigma & Pride impacting on people willingness to seek support
- xi. Childcare – no support for people who want to upskill and attending training or improve their own health and wellbeing
- xii. Healthy Activities and Food Programme is not accessible in every ward. Children/ Families are falling through the gaps. Participants interested in more funding for smaller groups to deliver school holiday activities.
- xiii. Hygiene Poverty was identified as a gap

7.7. Addressing the Gaps – Themes

- i. Co-location of provision (resources) multi-disciplined hubs where resources and different services are co-located, improving information flow and access to support [one-stop shops] (mentioned in 3 different round table discussions). [Communities Directorate are currently exploring 'Team Around the Community'].
 - People having issues dealt with within one place
 - Housing/ Health Visitors/ ASB Team / South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue
 - CVS organisations for professionals to spend time in the same place
- ii. More partnership networking and information sharing opportunities within localities
- iii. Early Intervention – Offering support before crisis i.e. psychological wellbeing. Helping to identify people early before deterioration occurs. Participants asked if additional mental health provision could be commissioned?
- iv. Raising awareness of funded provision for Social Isolation & asking residents if we have the right support in place.

- v. Data Sharing – register of vulnerable people (GDPR and data sharing mentioned as a barrier on ½ the tables)
- vi. Out of hours provision for working people
- vii. More support for people who are in low paid work but are struggling financially to survive and manage household budgets
- viii. Fund longer opening hours for community spaces – Welcoming Spaces
- ix. *Helping hands – volunteers to support people with hoarding (clearing out spaces)*
- x. Community Connector model –exciting provider-led- peer support model – employing people to work within their own communities – empower people to pass on information
- xi. Game changer – employing people – linked to 5 ways to wellbeing

7.8. At the end of the session participants were asked that services/ways or working must be preserved



7.9. Thursday 13th October – Identifying opportunities for investment

7.10. Attended by Councillors Leech, T Cave, Tattersall, Newing, Denton, Hunt and Lofts.

7.11. Participants shared money saving hacks in round table discussions. This was intended to get people into a positive frame of mind where they were more likely to be solution focussed.

7.12. Adding Value – Participants were asked: What type of local community provision would help to address the gaps identified and add value to the services that you deliver?

7.13. Consultation

- i. Ask residents what is needed in terms of services / provision

- ii. Are we on the right track?
- 7.14. Partnership Working – Maximise North based resources
(Accessibility of provision)
- i. Connect partners, buildings (multi-service hubs & co-location)
 - ii. One Stop Shops
 - iii. Coordinate activities
 - iv. Rolling programme of service delivery for each building
 - v. Funding to coordinate more partnership working
 - vi. Increase knowledge and understanding of all roles within the North Area.
 - vii. Spread the word about the More Money in Your Pocket provision
 - viii. General Enquiry – Drop In Sessions at community hubs
 - ix. ‘Resident First’ - staff available 7 days both early and late
- 7.15. Community Champions
- i. Community Connectors (Volunteers or paid staff?) – Provider led, peer support model embedded into communities to sign-post, guide and mentor individuals. A successful early intervention model.
A paid model would be similar to the HomeStart offer
 - ii. Mental Health Champions
 - iii. Empowerment provision – How can we help people to help themselves?
 - iv. Training free access, mental health champions, community champions – use existing champions to help deliver training – signpost were to do it
 - v. Travel Buddies to support others on public transport
- 7.16. Cost of Living - Food and Fuel
- i. Coordination of Food Parcels
 - ii. Food Vouchers - Aldi Vouchers (Gift Card 1 can't be used to purchase alcohol) & Rose Vouchers or local scheme similar to Fresh Street Vouchers.
 - iii. Cost of Living Advice Sessions (MMIYP) – Fun, Creative and Empowering
 - iv. Cook and Eat Programme with Slow Cookers (Advise on meal planning, shopping, healthy bulking of meals, store cupboard essentials)
 - v. Grow Your Own
 - vi. Sewing workshops
 - vii. Thrifty Tips – linked to recycling and reuse
 - viii. Household Financial Management Sessions
 - ix. Household Energy Assessments and Advice to householder
- 7.17. Young People
- i. Hygiene Poverty project with schools
 - ii. Inclusive Healthy Holiday programme with more flexible funding solutions.
Prioritise places for parents who work
 - iii. Fund Breakfast Clubs for School Children
 - iv. Free School Meals for all children whose parents are in receipt of Universal Credit
 - v. School Uniform swap shop
- 7.18. Low / Medium Cost
- i. Community Hubs with warm spaces: providing hot drinks/snacks and empowering activities
 - ii. Book Clubs – linked to library provision
 - iii. Free Child Care enabling parents to upskill or attend wellbeing sessions

7.19. High Ticket Items

- i. Re-instate MiCard
- ii. Additional Mental Health provision
- iii. Community Bus (Gap evidenced by ASDA / Yorkshire Rose Bus collaboration)
- iv. 'Resident First' - Service systematically approaching vulnerable households to proactively ask if they are getting the support they need?

7.20. Participants were asked to summarise their workshop experience in 3 words:



7.21. Participants have actively approached the Area Manager and requested more face-to-face workshop-based opportunities to help them be more effective in their roles.

7.22. The Area Manager expresses thanks to the North Area Team, Area Council Managers and all Members who attended the workshops for their support in the facilitation of the events.

8. Practical Support

8.1. At the March Area Council Meeting it was proposed that an underspend from the Housing and Cohesion Officer vacancy would be used to devolve £2,500 to each of the Ward Alliances for a Cost of Living focused project. This is not agreed. A request was made to utilise funding on summer holiday provision. A workshop was requested to explore opportunity more fully.

8.2. 10th May 2023

A workshop was held at the Roundhouse Library. Attended by Councillors: Leech, Denton, T.Cave, Lofts and Newing.

Supported by BMBC officers:

Chris Crookes – Project Officer – Wellbeing (HSG)

Rachel Lancaster – Healthy Food Programme Coordinator (HAF)

Stuart Rogers – Sport and Recreation

Tom Smith – Senior Link Officer to Area Council

North Area Team

8.3. Household Support Grant (2023/24 Update)

Members were made aware of Household Support Grant and how it is designed to support residents. Barnsley MBC has been allocated a total of 4.7 million from the Household Support Grant (HSG) 4th round which is from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) for the period April 2023 – March 2024 (applications close on the 19th May 2023).

From that a sum of £800,000 will be used to fund community-based services who can support people through the continued cost of living crisis.

Aiming to provide support with the following:

- Food.
- Energy and water costs,
- Wider essentials, these may include but are not limited to
 - Period and hygiene products such as personal hygiene products or household cleaning items
 - Support with other bills such as broadband or phone bills
 - Clothing such as school uniforms, clothing for an interview or children's clothing
 - Essential transport related costs such as repairing a car, buying a bicycle or paying for fuel

Practical projects that encourage sustainability are being encouraged.

Further information is available from: ChristopherCrookes@barnsley.gov.uk

8.4. Food Access

Rachel described the different levels of Food Access and the need to encourage more sustainable access across the borough. She explained that Foodbanks and Food Parcels provided no choice to the recipient and that there was often more benefits to the low cost / high value of the Community Pantry Model. Examples include Store House and Field at Shafton where there are over 70 members paying a small subscription every week and receiving a

higher value of consumables. Worsborough Community Pantry works in a similar way and members must live in Worsborough.

8.5. Healthy Activities and Food

This Department for Education programme is funded by the Department for Education. The opportunities are specifically for children who are eligible for free school meals and are delivered over Easter, Summer and Christmas holidays. In the North Area the current provision is show below. It was identified that there isn't currently any provision in Darton East.

Ward	Provider	Location	Age Range	Number of places
Darton West	Wellspring Academy	The Maker, Barugh Green Road, Higham, S75 1JT	11 to 16	60 (15 per session)
Old Town	Totally Runable	Honeywell Sports Village	7 to 11 Girls	160 (20 per session)
	Mid Yorkshire Community Foundation	Emmanuel Church, Huddersfield Road, S75 1DT	5 to 12	160 (20 per session)
St Helens	Barnsley Gymnastics	Units 7 & 8 424 Carlton Road, S71 3HX	4 to 16	240 (40 per session)
	Grassroots Sports Academy	Holy Trinity School	8 to 14	320 (40 per session)
	Momentous Football Academy	Athersley Rec Football Club	5 to 14	400 (50 per session)
Total				1340

Contact Rachel for further information: rachellancaster@barnsley.gov.uk

8.6. Sport and Recreation

Members were updated on the What's Your Move programme. Over the coming months this includes:

- Ramp Up (Bike confidence, skills and maintenance)
- Walking Festival (May)
- Move More Month (June)
- Summer Cycling and Sports Van Opportunity (July)

Members were keen to ensure that there was adequate provision for children in the summer, specifically the children from the families who are just about managing (JAM).

Members were in agreement to fund the sports van for summer 2023 and very keen that the Ramp Up sessions should be maximised in the North Area. It is recommended that the Area Team and Ward Alliances support the Sports Van and Ramp Up sessions.

Contact Stu for further information: stuartrogers@barnsley.gov.uk

8.7. **Outcomes**

Following the workshop Members wished to explore opportunities further, considering the following points:

- Members were in agreement that funding should be utilised at Area Level not Ward Level in this instance
- Members were interested in assisting people with practical solutions
- Members wanted to ensure that the community were accessing community buildings for support with cost of living
- Members would consider a small grant opportunity for projects that would help address cost of living (food access, and hygiene including personal, home and sanitary) and encourage sustainability, welcoming projects that brought people together with food and warmth.

9. **Risks**

- 9.1. Acknowledge that there are some points raised that cannot be solved in isolation e.g. GDPR and data sharing and core transport offer.

10. **Further development by the Priority Working Group, who will:**

- 10.1. Consider the information collated in the workshops.
- 10.2. How the Area Council's underspend can be used to produce maximum, sustained impact for the community?
- 10.3. Agree which elements the Area Council wish to focus on.
- 10.4. Identify potential project outcomes and existing resources that could be used to support this work.
- 10.5. Define a project for the North Area.

11. **Next Steps**

- 11.1. At the Area Chair's request, the Area Manager will arrange for the Priority Working Group to work together on a project outline that will complement the projects already funded by the Household Support Grant and Healthy Activities and Food programme.

Officer Contact:
RosemarieAdams@barnsley.gov.uk

Date:
12th May 2023

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

**North Area Council:
22nd May 2023**

Agenda Item: 7

**Report of the
North Area Council Manager**

Summer Sports Van Funding

1.0 Purpose of Report

To make Members aware that there is an opportunity to fund a sports van in the North Area over the Summer 2023.

2.0 Recommendation

North Area Council Members consider,

2.1 The opportunity to fund a sports van in the North Area over the Summer 2023.

2.2 Discuss the risks associated with funding short term provision.

2.3 Confirm the decision to fund the sports van, at a cost of £2,100.

2.4 Members confirm a capped budget for refreshments, cost £600.

3.0 Background

3.1 In summer 2021 the Sport and Active Recreation Team commissioned a sports van delivered by Reds in the Community, using one-off funding, to provide activities for young people. Due to the success of the programme, the Area Council funded the sports van in 2022.

3.2 If the Area Council wishes to fund the Sport Van for Summer 2023, Sports and Recreation colleagues will co-ordinate a programme of pop-up provision if any areas wanted to fund sessions in their area. This will only be possible if there is enough interest in order to fill up a week of provision across the borough and throughout the summer holidays.

3.3 The cost provided for a day of sports van activities in an area is £350 or £2,100 for the 6 weeks. The North Area would be allocated a day of the week for the duration.

3.4 The Area Manager has also be in discussion with the Sport and Recreation Team to ensure that the Ramp Up sessions (developing skills and confidence on bikes, enabling children and young people to show off

their skills and fix their bikes) are delivered across the North Area during the summer months.

4.0 Risks

- 4.1 The sports van is a limited time opportunity. Area Council funding is intended to fund opportunity that will have a lasting impact and leave a legacy withing the community.
- 4.2 However, it can be argued that for families who find the summer holidays financially challenging, the sports van offer an inclusive recreational opportunity for children and young people during the six week holidays. These are children who may have minimal other opportunities to participate in organised, positive engagement activities during the six week holidays.

5.0 Lessons Learned

- 5.1 It is not practical to run 4 sessions a day. It is recommended to alternate the wards during the delivery period and host two session per day.
- 5.2 It is essential that refreshments supplied do not contradict the healthy values of Reds In The Community.

6.0 Decision

- 6.1 Area Council Members were consulted at the workshop held on the 10th May. Members were in favour of funding the sport van in the North Area during summer 2023 at a cost of £2,100 for a day a week.
- 6.2 The Area Council are requested to formally confirm this decision.
- 6.3 Members are also requested to approve funding for refreshments, a capped budget of £600 is recommended.
- 6.4 The sports van and refreshments would total £2,700.

7.0 Next Steps

- 7.1 At the Area Councils request the Area Manager will make the necessary arrangements and book the provision. Ensuring that provision compliments the core Holiday Activities and Food programme Healthy Holidays.

Officer Contact:
Rosie Adams

Tel. No:
01226 773583

Date:
11th May 2023

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

North Area Council Meeting:
22nd May 2023

Agenda Item: 8

Report of North Area Council
Manager

Commissioning, Project Development and Financial Update

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report provides the Area Council with a financial position and forecast for expenditure based on the projects that have been proposed.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1. **The North Area Council should note the existing budget position the existing the funding commitments.**
- 2.2. **Members note the update on the Anti-Poverty Outreach Provision Service.**
- 2.3. **Members note the progress on the Environmental Community Caretaker Model.**
- 2.4. **In response to the cost of living crisis the priority working group will work with the Area Manager to identify effective use of the current underspend.**
- 2.5. **Hold a North Area further priority, budget and commissioning workshop.**
- 2.6. **Councillors are requested to note the updated projected spend, appendix 1.**

3. Background highlighting all significant financial commitment

- 3.0 The Anti-Poverty Community Outreach Project
Contract 1 commenced on the 14th September 2015. This is a one-year (plus one year) contract valued at £149,000 in total. The initial contract has now concluded.

Contract 2 commenced on the 14th September 2017 for a two-year term at a contract value of approximately £95,000 per annum. On the 25th March 2019 the Area Council took the decision to utilise the contract extension clause and extend the contract until the 13th September 2020.

The Area Council agreed to continue to fund this project during the Covid-19 Pandemic and subsequently during the Cost of Living Crisis.

CURRENT POSITION: At the Area Council meeting on the 13th March further funding was agreed for two years July 2023 – June 2025. A waiver has been submitted with the option to extend for a further 12 months to June 2026. A maximum budget of £107,500 has been agreed for the initial two years, totalling £215,000.

3.1 The Clean and Green Service

Contract one was delivered by Forge Community Partnership commenced on the 14th September 2015. Prior to the end of the contract the tender opportunity was advertised.

The second environmental contract commenced on the 2nd October 2017 at a value of £85,000 per annum. The provider, Twiggs Grounds Maintenance Ltd, commenced service delivery on the 2nd October 2017. Twiggs continued to provide an environmental education contract in the North Area from 2019 to March 2023.

From April 2023 the North Area Council entered into an SLA with BMBC Neighbourhood Services, introducing a Environmental Community Caretaker Model.

Neighbourhood services proposal costings = £120,963 to include:

- Team Leader (G6)
- Development and Demand Team (G4)
- Apprentice
- Vehicle, training, fuel, waste license, tools and contingency budget.

The contingency budget is £21,160 (20% of the resource requirement £100,803.00).

The service will be 80% scheduled maintenance, with priorities identified by the Ward Alliances. 20% will provide volunteering and community engagements support. Volunteering activities will be identified by the Ward Alliances and programmed into the Caretaker Team's schedule.

Update: At the time of writing the G6 and G4 posts are live on the BMBC Recruitment site with a closing date of 12th May 2023.

3.2 Housing and Cohesion Officer (Private Sector Housing) – At the November meeting 2017 it was agreed that the North Area would fund a private sector housing officer post at Grade 6 for 12 months fixed term. The successful candidate started on the 22nd January 2018 and proved to be a great asset to the area. The officer left the North Area council at the end of June 2019 for a promotion within BMBC.

The current Housing and Cohesion Officer started in post on Monday 19th October 2020. The officer now has a permanent contract and the role forms part of the Safer Communities structure.

In addition to the salary fees the Area Council agreed to fund uniform, PPE including IT, phone and bodycam, plus a £5k annual working budget.

N.B.: Contractually the position is covered by a permanent contract to ensure employment rights for individuals. If the Area Council agreed to cease funding the position a 6-month notice period will be required.

UPDATE: The position is currently vacant. The interview process conducted on the 22nd December proved to be unsatisfactory and the post has been readvertised. The post was readvertised in January, shortlisting has been conducted and successful interviews were held on the are scheduled for the 14th and 17th March. The new officer for the North Area is Mark Griffiths and he will commence his post on the 15th May 2023.

3.3 Health and Wellbeing – Connecting Communities Grant

At a series of workshops in 2021 the Area Council discussed the loneliness and isolation and the impact of Covid-19. In July 2021 it was agreed to fund a grant program for two years with a budget of £100,000 per annum.

The grant opportunity was advertised at the end of September 2021 and the final date for submission was the 22nd October 2021. A total of 9 applications were received before the deadline totalling £615,710.39.

Stage one moderation took place on the 1st November and 4 organisations were invited back to present their projects on the 8th November. 3 applications were recommended for funding. The total allocated amount for these 3 projects was £186,766.44.

Successful Projects:

- Age UK Barnsley – North Area Social Inclusion Service - £79,600.20
- DIAL Barnsley – Connection Hubs - £66,450.00
- Reds in the Community – Reds Connect - £40,716.24

N.B.: £13,233.56 remained unallocated and has been recirculated into the main Area Council budget for forthcoming delivery allocation. If the grant is to be re-advertised for 2024/25 the opportunity will need to be agreed in September 2023 for advertising autumn 2023.

3.4 Stronger Communities Grant 2022/23

The total funding allocated for 2022/23 is £40,000. Each grant has an upper limit of £10,000. A total of 4 applications were received, totalling £23,716.34.

At the Grant Panel on Thursday 17th February 2022, two projects were recommended for funding. Pending receipt of further information the applications have been approved.

Successful projects:

- Mother Runners – Stronger Mums – £9,950.00
- Mapplewell and Staincross Greenspace and Recreation Group – Mapplewell Park – Children’s Cycle Path – £8,761.00

Both projects have now concluded, and their outcomes are recorded in the Q4 Performance report.

3.5 Devolved Funding to Ward Alliances

The Area Council has profiled £20,000 to be devolved to Ward Alliances during 2022. This means a £5,000 allocation per ward where the end of year balance is less than £10,000.

N.B. The decision was taken in 2020/21 that the funding devolved to Ward Alliances by the North Area Council would cease from 2022/23.

3.6 Health and Wellbeing – focus on Young People

In November 2019 the North Area Council agreed to fund a project for up to three years. The project entitled 'An Empowerment Programme Enabling Resilient Transitions for Children and Young People Aged 8-14 Years' was advertised as a competitive grant in early 2020. The process was unsuccessful. It was agreed in on the 16th March that the opportunity should be chunked down to allow the VCS to respond.

N.B. This opportunity has been tailored to help address the fall out of COVID-19 lockdown and aid in the delivery of the COVID-19 Recovery Strategy. The grants went live on the 1st November 2020, delivered by YMCA and Ad Astra.

The Area Council has committed to fund this work for up to three years. Covid-19 Lockdown restrictions caused delays and for a time schools would not permit external partners into schools. The providers are now working within 5 schools.

The grant funding originally ran from November 2020 to October 2022.

Current Position: At the March 2022 meeting the Area Council agree to fund the project for a further 2 years, until October 2024, at £90,000p.a. Providers received a 3% financial uplift which was feasible within the current financial envelope. This security will enabling the existing providers to support students adversely affected by Covid-19 and support them in their educational transitions, primarily the move to senior school.

3.7 Cost of Living Crisis – North Area Support

Due to the unspent Housing and Cohesion allocation whilst the post has been vacant it is possible to reallocate this funding. £10,000 was earmarked for a Cost of Living based project. As a result, a workshop was held on 10th May to explore opportunities. This is still in development.

Please refer to Item 6 for further information.

3.8 Sports Van 2023

The North Area has benefitted from the Sports Van for the past two summers. Please refer to Item 7 for further information and the request to fund the can for summer 2023 at a cost of £2,700.

4. Financial Position

- 4.1. At the end of 2021/22 there was a significant **underspend**. **The budget was varied considerably during Covid-19, period 2020/21-2021/22.**
- 4.2. **The forecast for 2022/23 showed that the underspend** (including underspend from previous years) **was profiled to reduce to £76,259**. This is because the in-year balance is projected to exceed the annual budget by approximately £27,653.

However, this will not be the case due to the vacant Housing and Cohesion post. The underspend will be updated when the updated internal recharge has been received.

- 4.3. Outlined annual commitments from April 2023:

Contract	Proposed Spend 2022/23
Anti- Poverty – Community Outreach	£105,000
Environmental Community Caretaker Contingency	£100,803 £21,160
Housing Cohesion Officer – Grade 6 (+laptop and phone)	£33,000
Children and Youth People Resilience Grant	£90,000
Connecting Communities Grant 2021-2024 £100,000 per annum for 2 years	£82,500
Summer Sports Van	£2,700
TOTAL	£435,163

- 4.4. Provided that the Area Council continues to commit funding as outlined in Appendix 1, the total spend profiled for 2023/24 is predicted to be £435,163. However this includes and the contingency budget for Neighbourhood Services.
- 4.5. The underspend at the end of 2023/24 is projected to be £34,739, including monies originally allocated to the Housing and Cohesion post for 2022/23.

5. Commissioning Programme from April 2023

- 5.1. Appendix 1 lays out the proposed spend. The Area Council is asked to note the proposed spend for 2023 and 2024/25. The Area Manager has re-profiled due to the cost of living crisis. Ensuring that allowances are made due to inflation, for the current contacts at the point of renewal / retender.

5.2. **Please note only the agreed contract period, up to October 2024 has been projected for the Youth Resilience project. This would require a further 7 months funding to complete delivery in the financial year 2024/25, this is calculated at approximately £41,667.**

5.3. It is recommended that a priority workshop is held to ensure that Members are fully appraised of the current priorities and associated projects. Providing an opportunity to address any underspend.

6. Risks

6.1. The proposed budget would take the Area Council approximately £35,163 over budget per annum for 2023/24. However taking into account the current under spend, the investment profiled in Appendix 1 has been feasible.

7. Next Steps

7.1. Ensure that the Area Manager is alerted to any proposed commissioning profile variations so that feasibility considerations can be made at the earliest opportunity.

7.2. The priority working group for Anti Poverty will meet with the Area Manager to develop a North Area response to cost of living.

Officer Contact:
RosemarieAdams@barnsley.gov.uk

Date:
11th May 2023

Appendix 1: North Area Council - Proposed expenditure April 2022-March 2025

Project / Service	2023/24	2024/25
Anti- Poverty – Community Outreach <i>Retender Anti- Poverty</i> - Waiver in place Sept 2021 - June 2023 (9 Months)	105,000.00	110,000.00
Environmental Contract	100,803.00	125,000.00
Environmental Contingency	21,160.00	
Housing and Cohesion Officer – Grade 6 (+laptop and phone)	33,000.00	35,000.00
Stronger Communities Grant Reduced to £20,000 in 2022/23	-	-
Youth Resilience Fund (November 2022 - October 2024 - YMCA & Ad Astra)	90,000.00	45,000.00
Connecting Communities Social Isolation Grant (£100,000 pa for 2 years)	82,500.00	100,000.00
Sports Van 2023	2,700.00	
Devolved funding to Ward Alliances (<i>where March 2019 balance is less than £10,000</i>)		-
TOTAL	435,163.00	415,000.00

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BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

North Area Council:
22nd May 2023

Agenda Item: 9

Report of the
North Area Council Manager

Devolved Ward Budget and Ward Alliance Funds

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report updates the North Area Council on financial position the Ward Alliance budget for each ward for the 2023/24 period.

2. Recommendation

- 2.2 **That each Ward in the North Area Council area prioritises the efficient expenditure of the Ward Alliance Funds 2023/24, in line with the guidance on spend.**

3.0 Introduction

- 3.1 As part of the decisions made by the Council's Cabinet in 2013 each Ward was allocated an annual Ward Alliance Fund of £10,000. In addition, the Area Council has devolved £10,000 to the Ward Alliances between 2014/15 and 2019/20; no additional funding was devolved in 2020/21 and a reduced amount of £5,000 was devolved in 2021/22. The £5,000 devolved funding from the Area Council was been agreed for 2022/23. At this time no addiotnal funding has been identified for devolution to Ward Alliances during 2023/24.

- 3.2 All funding decisions must meet with Ward Alliance approval and be allocated with in accordance with the ward Alliance Funding 2016/17 – Briefing Note. This requires half of the fund to be allocated to projects where there is match funding.

- 3.3 In considering projects for the use of the Devolved Ward Budget, Members will need to be satisfied that:
- it meets a recognised need for the Ward,
 - it is in the wider public interest (i.e. the whole community can potentially benefit),
 - it represents value for money.

4.0 2023/24 Financial Position

- 4.1 The carry-forward of remaining balances of the 2022/23 Ward Alliance Fund was added to the 2023/24 allocation, to be managed as a single budget with the conditions of the ward alliance budget allocation.

4.2 Budget allocations for 2022/23

Ward	Base Allocation	Carried forward from 2022/231	Additional DWB (Announced 09/2020)	Total available
Darton East	£10,000	£1,243.20		£11,243.20
Darton West	£10,000	£6,011.02		£16,011.02
Old Town	£10,000	£8,664.33		£18,664.33
St Helen's	£10,000	£7,795.22		£17,795.22

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

4.4 Please refer to Appendix 1 for a full breakdown.

5.0 Challenges and Opportunities

5.1 All wards should take an opportunity to consult on their ward plan early during the financial year 2023/24. This will help the Ward Alliances to review the existing plans, reaffirm their ward priorities and plan projects and initiatives that will address the ward centric priorities.

5.2 Any projects requiring a long lead in time will require the involvement of the Area Team as early as possible.

5.3 Proactive promotion of the Ward Alliance Fund to local not for profit groups and organisations is highly recommended to ensure efficient expenditure over the financial year.

Officer Contact:
RosemarieAdams@barnsley.gov.uk

Date:
9th May 2023

Appendix 1:

2023-24 Ward Funding Allocations

For 2023/24, each Ward will have an allocation of £10,000 for the Ward Alliance Fund.

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

The carry-forward of remaining balances of the 2022/23 Ward Alliance Fund will be combined and added to the 2023/24 Allocation, to be managed as a single budget with the above conditions.

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.

DARTON EAST WARD
ALLIANCE

For the financial year 2023-24, the Ward Alliance has the following available budget.

Income / Return Grant	£0.00
Base Allocation	£10,000.00
Devolved from Area Council (discretionary)	£5,000.00
Carried forward from FY 2022-23	£1,243.20

Total Available Funding £11,243.20

	Project Details	Allocation	Match Funding (£) Element of allocation	Non-Match Funding (£) Allocation remaining	Allocation (£) Remaining 'Total Available Funding'

DARTON WEST WARD
ALLIANCE

For the financial year 2023-24, the Ward Alliance has the following available budget.

Income / Return Grant	£0.00
Base Allocation	£10,000.00
Devolved from Area Council (discretionary)	£5,000.00
Carried forward from FY 2022-23	£6,011.02

Total Available Funding £16,011.02

	Project Details	Allocation	Match Funding (£) Element of allocation	Non-Match Funding (£) Allocation remaining	Allocation (£) Remaining 'Total Available Funding'
1	Q4 Secretary Payment - DW (2022/23)	£125.00	£0.00	£7,880.51	£15,886.02

OLD TOWN WARD ALLIANCE

For the financial year 2023-24, the Ward Alliance has the following available budget.

Income / Return Grant	£0.00
Base Allocation	£10,000.00
Devolved from Area Council (discretionary)	£5,000.00
Carried forward from FY 2022-23	£8,664.33

Total Available Funding £18,664.33

	Project Details	Allocation	Match Funding (£) Element of allocation	Non-Match Funding (£) Allocation remaining	Allocation (£) Remaining 'Total Available Funding'

ST HELEN'S WARD ALLIANCE

For the financial year 2023-24, the Ward Alliance has the following available budget.

Income / Return Grant	£0.00
Base Allocation	£10,000.00
Devolved from Area Council (discretionary)	£0.00
Carried forward from FY 2022-23	£7,795.22
Total Available Funding	£17,795.22

	Project Details	Allocation	Match Funding (£) Element of allocation	Non-Match Funding (£) Allocation remaining	Allocation (£) Remaining 'Total Available Funding'
1	Health and Wellbeing Garden	£785.00	£794.60	£8,897.61	£17,010.22

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BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

North Area Council Meeting:
Monday 22nd May 2023

Agenda Item: 10

Report of North Area Council
Manager

North Area Ward Alliance – Operational Updates

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report appraises the North Area Council of the progress made by each Ward in relation Ward Alliance implementation.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the North Area Council receives an update on the progress of the Darton East, Darton West, Old Town and St Helens Ward Alliances for information purposes. Members are reminded of requirement for Ward Alliance minutes to the received by the Area Council.

3.0 Introduction

- 3.1 This report is set within the context of decisions made on the way the Council is structured to conduct business at Area, Ward and Neighbourhood levels (Cab21.11.2012/6), Devolved Budget arrangements (Cab16.1.2013/10.3), Officer Support (Cab13.2.2013/9) and Communities and Area Governance Documentation (Cab.8.5.2013/7.1). This report is submitted on that basis.

4.0 Ward Alliance Meetings

- 4.1 This report includes all notes of North Area Ward Alliances, received by the North Area Team, that were held during February 2023, March 2023 and April 2023.

Appendices:

Darton East Ward Alliance Meeting:	Appendix One
Darton West Ward Alliance Meeting:	Appendix Two
Old Town Ward Alliance Meeting:	Appendix Three
St Helens Alliance Meeting:	Appendix Four

The reporting into the North Area Council, of the Ward Alliance notes is in line with the approved Council protocols. The notes are for information only.

Officer Contact:
RosemarieAdams@barnsley.gov.uk

Date:
28th April 2023

Appendix One:

Darton East Ward Alliance
Tuesday 14th February 2023 – 6 PM
Face to face meeting.

Present:

Cllr Steve Hunt – Darton East Ward Councillor
Cllr Richard Denton – Darton East Ward Councillor
Rebecca Batty - North Area Team
Gerard Morrall- Local Business Man
Teresa Wilcockson – Local resident
David Hilton – Green space
Caroline Hague – Village Hall Assistant Manager
David Lockwood – Local Business Man
Paul Marsh - Local Business Man
Rosie Adams - North Area Council Manager

Apologies

Cllr Matthew Crisp - Darton East Ward Councillor,
Nick Hibberd - Mapplewell Village Hall Manager
Helen Altun – Secretary

2. Declarations of Interest

David Hilton for Greenspace application (item 5)

3. Minutes of previous meeting. Approved.

4. Matters Arising. None

5. Financial Update

£2360 remaining.

£1461.60 available with match funding.

£898.96 None match funding.

Query raised by a member will the funds still be available at the end of the financial year. Any funding unspent at March 2023 is likely to be carried forward but this could not be guaranteed. Rosie also commented.

6. Applications for Funding –

Member gave an update on St Johns Church Pantomime which the Ward Alliance supported with a grant fund.

One application came in from Greenspace for bat, bird and bug boxes. Members discussed that the Bat boxes would need maintenance and special considerations due to the legislation of this protected species. Further discussion took place regarding the Greenspace application. At a previous WA meeting a discussion had taken place on application forms for grants being filled in comprehensively.

- On this occasion the form will be returned to Greenspace
- to add more comprehensive information including insurance details.
 - Clarification of the siting and maintenance of the bat boxes. Is there a need to approach experts regarding this scheme. Bat conservation Trust & local bat groups.
 - Risks of avian flu does this need to be considered. Maintenance of boxes on an annual basis (who would do this?)

Outcome – deferred application until questions answered.

7. Ward Action Plan

Ears and voice of the community

Facebook group continuing to increase in follower and viewing numbers.

Young People

Disco's currently postponed due to maintenance and improvements to the Village Hall

Environment –

Greenspace & Volunteers have collected over 86 bags of litter since Christmas.

Members raised the issue that many of the litter bins locally are frequently full. Dog fouling discussed and members asked to inform residents to report incidents into BMBC.

Older people –

Gez to meet up with Berneslai Homes staff regarding Alder Court warm spaces & assess if support needed to promote the venue.

Health and wellbeing –

Friends of Mapplewell and Staincross (FOMAS) have a meeting on the 28th February. Summer events being considered. FOMAS members on the DEWA to share information at future WA meeting.

Members discussed today's Cost of Living event held at the village hall. Lower numbers than expected attended. Many areas were leafleted and social media posts advertised the event.

Volunteers were thanked.

Comments people who did attend enjoyed it. Services reported feedback that they had found it useful at least three people were helped. Has the event become saturated as third type of event in twelve months. Vegetable bags not taken were donated to the Community Fridge charity.

7 Twiggs

Twiggs services were discussed at length –

Rosie reported that the North area has different needs to when the contract with Twiggs was initiated. Problems covid detrimental on service and low volunteer numbers, Twiggs contract terminates at the end of March 2023. This is a North

Area Council decision. The South Area Council have also decided to terminate the Twiggs contract.

New service

Will be Ward Alliance directed. A scheduled programme of works will be planned. Work will be 80% scheduled maintenance 20% volunteers. Direction will come from WA staff and the North Area Team. Clean and green service. Contract under discussion with Neighbourhood services. New Caretaker roles x 2 to be advertised within Neighbourhood services if negotiations are successfully concluded.

Rosie reported there will be hiccups – Will Neighbourhood services be able to manage this new workload? What will the core service expectations be set at? Listing of core and additional works will need to be completed. No processes yet. Time for the new ways of working and process to settle. Clean and Green Maintenance Staff might need support & training to be more people orientated. Members asked about Neighbourhood services coming to WA meeting in the future to provide updates. Outcomes and looking where standards have slipped need to be monitored and reported. A frequent run of works to be discussed at WA meetings.

Wednesday was discussed as the favoured day for the Clean and Green team to work in DE & if needed volunteers/ members of WA.

8. AOB

BBC Make a difference awards – nominations can be a group /person and closes on 5th March 2023.

Question asked re Community defibs and maintenance – Member assured processes and regular maintenance of defib completed and medical stock checked. Yorkshire Ambulance service links are maintained.

Darton Arrow is to be a supplement within the Barnsley Chronicle.

Meeting closed.

9. Time and date of next meeting Tuesday 14/03/23 at 6pm.

Darton East Ward Alliance
Tuesday 14th March 2023 – 6 PM
Face to face meeting.

Present:

Cllr Richard Denton – Darton East Ward Councillor
Rebecca Battye - North Area Team
Gerard Morrall- Local Business Man
Teresa Wilcockson – Local resident
David Hilton – Green space
David Lockwood – Local Business Man
Nick Hibberd - Mapplewell Village Hall Manager
Helen Altun – Secretary

Apologies

Cllr Steve Hunt – Darton East Ward Councillor
Cllr Matthew Crisp - Darton East Ward Councillor
Caroline Hague – Village Hall Assistant Manager
Paul Marsh - Local Business Man

1. **Declarations of Interest.** None.
2. **Minutes of previous meeting.** Approved. The secretary thanked Teresa for completing the February minutes.
3. **Matters Arising.** None
4. **Financial Update**
£2360.56 remaining. Any budget left will be carried over into the next financial year.
£10,000 will be the allocation for the next financial year. £5000 for none match funding and £5000 for match funding.

5. Applications for Funding:

Barnsley Youth Theatre £1091.36 – Approved

6. Ward Action Plan

The group discussed the action plan for the next financial year and set the same priority categories.

All funding applications need to fit in to one of the priorities.

Group members said it would be nice to try to do something for isolated or vulnerable members of the community. It would have to involve working with other agencies. The challenge is knowing who these members of the public are.

The group also spoke about a summer event, working with FOMAS (Friends of Mapplewell and Staincross). FOMAS asked their beer festival volunteers what they thought the funds raised from the beer festival (approx. £10,000) should be spent on and asked for ideas on social media.

Examples so far were to earmark some of the money for Ibberson Memorial garden or buy some extra defibrillators for the area or put on first aid training for local businesses.

The money could also be spent on something for the local area that can be used for years to come.

FOMAS also needs to keep some money for new lights, new bulbs and the installation and taking down of the lights. FOMAS have their next meeting in a couple of week's time. At the next meeting there will be feedback available from the public about what they would like to see the money spent on.

The group also discussed doing an event for kids and teens and young adults. It could involve BMBC e.g. a football or basketball coaching weekend. Also, it would be nice to incorporate kid's arts and crafts into the event.

Another idea was an outdoor cinema event.

A themed weekend was also discussed where different places in the village could have a different decade.

It was agreed that to run a summer event it would need a sub group and some members agreed to join a sub group to discuss the idea further.

It would be nice to do a summer event the weekend before the schools break up.

Another Darton East celebration event was discussed for September/October 2023, but the budget would be reduced this year.

On the 15th of September 2023 there is another celebration of 10 years of the ward alliance for the North area.

8 Twiggs

The contract ends for the North area at the end of March.

An action plan had been put in place at the North area council meeting.

Every ward has slightly different requirements.

Rosie and her team will complete a process document. This will then be presented at the ward alliance meeting.

The group discussed that Twiggs had completed some good work in the area.

Twiggs will still be working in some areas but not for the North or South area.

10.AOB

A member asked about the heritage trail for our area. They had noticed some more boards had been put up in Darton West. A member stated they had an update that had been passed to them to say 6 local history boards will be going up in the Darton East area.

The camera in the park was also discussed this included the location of the cameras and when they are up for renewal. Some of our allocated funding may need to go towards keeping the camera's up in the park. Some individuals have been spoken to about the wheelie bin fires in the park since the cameras were put up.

A proportion of section 106 money from a local development should be allocated to the park, although a member stated all section 106 money goes into one pot of funding then applications can be put in for it.

The group also spoke about the PACT meeting and that normally there is very little attendance from our area. This meeting is open to all of the general public.

FOMAS are looking into potentially buying a noticeboard for the village and are looking for the right place to locate it.

Litter is still a problem in the area and lots of litter is still being picked on regular litter picks. Can mobile signs be put in the area reminding people not to drop litter.

A member raised concerns about the state of the car park where the one stop is on Spark Lane. The member was asked to email the owner.

The hanging baskets will go up once all the lamp posts have been checked in the area. This shouldn't take too much time to complete.

Speeding is also a huge concern in the area and members would like more speed checks to be carried out, but they have to be at the right time of day.

Rewilding – Two areas have been identified as potential areas for rewilding one is between 63-65 Darton Lane and the other on Montrose Drive. Rewilding is a process to develop the eco system.

The Ward Alliance have been invited by Mapplewell library to come up with any projects they would like to see in the library. It was agreed that Nicola could be invited to the next meeting to discuss any potential projects.

The Yorkshire regiment are looking to put a bench in each area of Barnsley. It needs to be on private land.

The Mapplewell and Staincross village hall would be happy to have one.

Meeting closed.

11. Time and date of next meeting Tuesday 11/04/23 at 6pm.

Appendix Two:

Darton West Ward Alliance

Minutes of Meeting

Monday 6th February 2023

Attendees: Cllr Alice Cave (Chair), Cllr Trevor Cave, Cllr Sharon Howard, Annabelle Watson, Shelly Jepson, Christina Carroll,

Ann Carroll, John Ryan, Richard Haigh

Apologies: None to report.

North Area Team: Rebecca Battye.

1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 The minutes of the meeting 9th January 2023 were reviewed and agreed as a true record.

Matters Arising

Rebecca to update progress being made with summer hanging baskets.

Rebecca to follow up installation of litter bin at BBIC bus stop and larger litter bin at Wilthorpe Rd/ Ripley Grove bus stop with relevant costings.

Rebecca to contact Wardens and ask them to monitor area opposite Vets for Pets and report.

Rebecca to ask Wardens to supply an update of any concern regarding: misuse of motorbikes in local parks, antisocial behaviour and possible drugs issues across the Ward.

Cllr A Cave, Cllr T Cave, Cllr S Howard to attend meeting of Redbrook/ Wilthorpe Centre and update. (Pending).

Cllr A Cave, Cllr T Cave, Cllr S Howard to alert concerns of litter bins in Kexbrough to relevant BMBC Officer.

Shelly and Richard to liaise re: possible History/ Geography students visiting Gawber History Trail. (Pending).

3 Ward Action Plan

Cllr Trevor Cave presented the Ward Action Plan this was discussed and updated.

4 Active Travel Update

Cllr Trevor Cave presented to members progress being made with the Active Travel Plan across the Ward.

5 WAF Budget

This was presented by Rebecca

Remaining Budget £ 6,796.02

£ 500.00 was agreed for a larger litter bin at Ripley Grove bus stop and installation of small bin at BBIC bus stop.

5b WAF applications.

Darton Afternoon Club. **Approved**

Rebecca to highlight in support of the application a thank you to the Club for their hard work and donations to both charities and the food bank.

6 Stars Awards 2023 Update

Rebecca updated arrangements and categories for this year's awards.

7 Safer Neighbourhood Team Update

A written statement to be supplied from the Team for an update of any aspects of antisocial behaviour, misuse of motorbikes across Ward Parks and any drug dealing concerns within the Darton West Ward area.

8 A.O.B.

Nothing to report.

Date and Time of next meeting

Monday 6th March 2023, at 5.00 pm, venue The Darton Centre.

Darton West Ward Alliance

Minutes of Meeting

Monday 6th March 2023

Attendees: Cllr Alice Cave (Chair), Cllr Trevor Cave, Cllr Sharon Howard, Shelly Jepson, Christina Carroll, John Ryan.

North Area Team: Rebecca Battye, Rosie Adams.

Apologies: Richard Haigh, Annabelle Watson, Ann Carroll.

1. Welcome & Introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. It was noted that this meeting was inquorate.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting 6th February 2023 were reviewed and agreed as a true record.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 Summer Hanging Baskets

Rebecca Battye and Rosie Adams gave an update on arrangements for the summer hanging baskets, indicating that there was currently no progress due to an urgent review of site suitability by the street lighting team.

3.2 Litter Bin – BBIC/Vets4Pets

Rebecca Battye reported that the larger litter bin for Wilthorpe Rd/ Ripley Grove bus stop was about to be ordered and the current bin would be re-sited at the BBIC bus stop. The Wardens had been asked to monitor the area opposite Vets4Pets and they had been to visit the surgery.

3.3 Safer Neighbourhood Team Report

Rebecca Battye also reported that she had asked the Wardens to supply a written update of concerns regarding misuse of motorbikes in local parks, antisocial behaviour, and possible drugs issues across the Ward. Their report indicated there were few issues in the ward with the concerns raised. Members questioned this analysis and indicated that police were monitoring Harry Rd Rec regarding motorbikes and that the issues raised previously about Darton Park were still on-going, including misuse of motorbikes, drugs and inappropriate use of the MUGAs.

3.4 Kexborough Bin Survey

It was noted that the report on improvements to bins in Kexborough was not yet available.

4. Ward Action Plan

Cllr Trevor Cave presented the Ward Action Plan which was discussed and updated. This included progress with Active Travel initiatives.

5. Ward Alliance Fund

5.1 WAF Budget

Rebecca Battye presented a report indicating that the allocation remaining in March 2023 is as follows: Match Fund – £5,459.75, Non-Match Fund - £356.27,

Total - £5,816.02. The remaining allocation would be carried over to the new financial year.

5.2 WAF Applications

a) An application was received from Darton Bowling Club, John Ryan, Club Secretary, left the meeting for this item of business. The Club applied for £354.00 towards the cost of new signage.

The grant was **Approved**.

The Chair indicated that due to the meeting being inquorate Rebecca Battye would contact absent members and seek their consent to the decision.

b) Correspondence was received from Darton Afternoon Club thanking the Ward Alliance for their recent grant.

6. Stars Awards 2023 Update

Rebecca Battye provided an update on final arrangements for the 2023 Awards at the Town Hall.

7. Clean and Green Service

Rosie Adams, North Area Manager presented a report on forthcoming changes in the North Area Clean and Green Service, including service provider, maintenance priorities (additionality to core services), and future working on priorities through Ward Alliances. Local groups would be consulted regarding their views, and this would be fed back in due course. Her presentation was followed by questions and discussion and Rosie Adams was thanked for her contribution.

8. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

9. Date and Time of next meeting

The next meeting would take place on Monday 17th April 2023, at 5.00 pm, in the Darton Centre.

Darton West Ward Alliance

Minutes of Meeting

Monday 17th April 2023

Attendees: Cllr Alice Cave (Chair), Cllr Trevor Cave,
Cllr Sharon Howard, Ann Carroll, John Ryan, Christina Carroll,
Richard Haigh.

Apologies: Shelly Jepson, Annabell Watson.

North Area Team: Rebecca Battye.

1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 The minutes of the meeting 6th March 2023 were reviewed and agreed as a true record.

Matters Arising

Rebecca to keep group updated about any further arrangements for summer hanging baskets across the Ward.

Rebecca to look at all Notice Boards across the Ward, update Boards as required and complete for next Ward meeting.

Rebecca to update of any progress regarding litter bins at Vets for Pets and Ripley Grove bus stop.

Rebecca to invite Rosie Adams to the next meeting to discuss Darton West Asset List/ key locations and events document.

3 Ward Action Plan

Cllr Trevor Cave presented the Ward Action Plan this was discussed and updated.

4 Active Travel Update

Nothing to report.

5 WAF Budget

This was presented by Rebecca

Remaining Budget £16,240.02

5b WAF applications.

None

6 Stars Awards 2023 Update

Cllr Sharon Howard and Cllr Alice Cave updated the Group of the Event, this was a very successful event.

Cllr Alice Cave, Cllr Trevor Cave and Cllr Sharon Howard would like to thank everyone who was involved in making this a special and successful evening.

7 A.O.B.

Rebecca alerted all members to the Darton West Ward Asset list/ Key locations and events (Agenda item next meeting).

Christina informed of Kings Coronation Event, organised by the Ladies group at:

Darton Church Hall, Monday, 8th May 2023 at 2.30 pm.

Date and Time of next meeting

Wednesday, 24th May 2023, 5.00 pm at the Darton Centre

Appendix Three:

Old Town Ward Alliance

Communities in Monk Bretton, Smithies, Wilthorpe, Honeywell, Old Town and Pogmoor

Notes of 13th April 2023

In Attendance

CLlr Phil Lofts (V. Ch), CLlr Jo Newing (Sec), Lee Swift, John Love, Bill Gaunt,

Apologies

CLlr Pickering, Luke Holmes, Gill Nixon.

Notes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record, except that J.Love and B. Gaunt were in attendance and not gave apologies.

Matters Arising.

None

1. Funding Bids

- a. Willowbank Community Partnership, event insurance £342.39. -Approved.

2. W.A. Fund

Currently stands at £18,664.33.

There has been a delay in approving some bids, due to the requirement to have six members in attendance.

4. Membership

Discussed who we might approach to join the W.A. J.L. and B.G. to ask some residents they know from the allotments.

Need to approach Community Organisations.

L.S. to leaflet local businesses in the Ward.

5. Environmental contract

L.S. updated the meeting regarding Twiggs, the contract is now ended, and Neighbourhood services will provide the service although under a very different model. 80% direct work 20% voluntary/community work.

6 a&b Ward Plan

L.S outlined visions and goals of Barnsley 2030 plan, (health, Learning, Growing and Sustainable) however unable to develop further until the Ward Alliance has more members. Discussed possible event at Honeywell Community Centre with the Mental Health Hub.

7. 10 year celebration

Possibly mid-September, 7pm venue to be confirmed.

I group from each ward in North area to present a project, Green Corridor from Penny Pie Park to the Canal project.

Meeting to plan further on 22nd May 11.00

8. AOB

Discussion re assets, key locations etc.

Next meeting 11th May 5pm at the Town Hall.

Old Town Ward Alliance
Communities in Monk Bretton, Smithies, Wilthorpe, Honeywell, Old Town & Pogmoor
Notes of 12th March 2023

In Attendance

Cllr Phil Lofts (V. Ch), Cllr Jo Newing (Sec.), Lee Swift, John Love, Bill Gaunt

Apologies

Cllr Clive Pickering, Luke Holmes, Gillian Nixon

Notes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record.

Cllr Lofts is on a phased return to work.

Cllr Pickering remains off sick.

- Membership requirement is six, with at least three attending meetings
- Some interest from P.B. ? Vicar at Emmanuel Church
- Ward funding £10,000 split between matched and non-matched
- Hanging baskets. To wait until highways have checked lampposts
- Ward Plan. Need to look at this once we have more members
- Twiggs. Contract finishes at end of March. List of regular jobs to Rosie

AOB

Cllr Newing to speak to resident re: membership of WA

Date of next meeting - 13th April 2023, 5pm at the Town Hall

Appendix Four:



**St. Helen's Ward Alliance
Minutes of Meeting
Thursday 23rd March 2023, 4.30pm, Roundhouse Library**

Present : Cllr Leech (Chair), Cllr Platts, Cllr Tattersall, Rebecca Leech, Lee Swift, Madge Busby, Tony Lowe, Neil Wright, Ruth Gammon, Dawn Bailey, Sally Goodier.

Apologies : Kath Bostwick, Michelle Cooper, John Hallows, Freda Stenton.

Welcome and Introductions: Everyone was thanked for their attendance.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting: The minutes were passed as a true record by the members.

The memorial bench unveiling was well attended, Dan Jarvis MP attended. Father Peter blessed the bench followed by refreshments in the Church hall. Photographs were featured in the Barnsley Chronicle.

Cllr Platts said she had a fabulous time at the Stars of St Helens Awards. It was very well attended and amazing people received their awards.

Funding Applications:

Roundhouse Library - Health and Wellbeing Garden. The bid was for £785. Dawn Bailey presented this funding bid. She explained that it was for a community project to create a garden to grow plants/vegetables in. It will be used to purchase all the materials and equipment needed. Neil offered his help with obtaining herbs, etc for the garden and Sally also has spare seeds and sand to donate. It was discussed between the members and it was asked if the Library were in agreement with this project. Lee and Dawn both confirmed that they had the Libraries permission.

All members agreed to the full amount.

Events:

St Helens Gala - All the planning is coming together. Forms have been submitted to Berneslai Homes for permission and they have been accepted. To arrange to pick up key nearer to the time. *To complete working budget before next meeting*

Great British Spring Clean - This event has already started and will run into the middle of April. No activities have been booked with the Ward Alliance but members are free

to help local groups with their activities if needed. New Lodge Community Centre will be planning litter picks on the estate.

10 year Ward Alliance celebration - this is a local celebration for all of the 4 ward alliances within the North Area. The venue is to be confirmed, depending on costings. It will hopefully be held on Friday 15th September, from 7pm. There will be music, food, a bar and entertainment. Lee will pass on more information as he receives it.

Environmental contract - As discussed in previous meetings, the Twiggs contract will be ending at the end of March. Cllr Leech gave an update from the Environmental Steering group that there will be a delay in the new provider (Neighbourhood services) taking over due to an issue with Legal and TUPE. There will be a short lapse in the provision and Neighbourhood services will hopefully take over in late June. They are currently recruiting at the minute for new staff members. Environmental services will work differently to Twiggs and any work needing doing will come to the Wrd Alliance via members then Cllr Leech will take it to the Environmental Steering group.

Ward Plan: A separate meeting is needed to discuss the Ward Plan, Lee to look at dates/times for this meeting.

Roundhouse Library will be having their relaunch celebration on Tuesday 4th April from 10.30am. All welcome to attend. Members discussed that more activities are needed for the children in the community, e.g. Lego club, reading club, etc. Members also agreed that the library needed a cafe

Hanging Baskets - there are currently issues with installing the hanging baskets. The council have a list of lamp posts that are unsafe. we are awaiting the council agreement that all lamp posts are safe before the hanging baskets can be installed.

There are currently 12 baskets that have been sponsored. Cllr Leech will chase up with local businesses to see if there are anymore. Lee to keep everyone updated with any information.

Treasurers Report: Due to the current crisis the Ward Alliance budget has been decreased, we are looking at a total of £18, 000 for the year. Due to this decrease the members discussed how we would go forward with funding different community events / bids that came in. We discussed decreasing the amount of funding that people can apply for. We also discussed reducing the amount of events we provide in a year. We will look at these decisions at the next meeting.

We are also looking at cheaper trees for the Christmas events to keep in budget.

Forthcoming Projects and Bids: There are notice boards in the ward that need repair. Lee will send out the report to members as to costngs and what repairs need doing. Cllr Leech and Neil Wright offered to do the repairs if needed.

The working budget for the Gala will be submitted at the next meeting.

Any other business: Madge asked about the replacement Memorial tree. Lee explained that this had been passed onto Twiggs and they were looking at a cost of between £500 - £1,000.

He said he was still awaiting more information from them but as they are due to finish their contract he wasn't sure what would happen. Cllr Leech said that when Neighbourhood Services take over the contract he will speak to them about getting costings for a new tree. Father Peter has already given permission for the tree to be placed on the church grounds.

Neil Wright said he had information about possible new members, he was asked to pass on their information to the Secretary so she could send out application forms.

Ruth has her moving day which will take place at the beginning of April. She was thanked for her years of service and wished well in her new adventures. She in turn thanked everyone for their friendship and kindness.

Cllr Tattersall gave an update on John Hallows. She said he was home from hospital and that she had passed on his awards from Stars of St Helens. He thanked everyone for their nominations.

Madge had also passed on Freda's award from the event.

Madge also reported that she had been asked about the possibility of putting a Defib on the side of the TARA office but she said she was scared of it getting damaged as there has been a lot of damage done to the office in recent months (shutters broken, key safe broken, etc) She asked if it could be placed elsewhere ?NISA, Lindhurst Lodge instead. Cllr Leech offered to speak to the relevant people to see if they would be happy with a Defib on their premises.

Date and Time of Next Meeting: Meeting closed at 17.50pm

The next meeting is on Thursday 20th April, 4pm, Roundhouse Library.



**St. Helen's Ward Alliance
Minutes of Meeting
Thursday 20th April 2023, 4pm, Roundhouse Library**

Present : Cllr Platts (Chair), Cllr Leech, Cllr Tattersall, Lee Swift, Madge Busby, Tony Lowe, Neil Wright, Dawn Bailey, Kath Bostwick, Andrea Spencer (NHS), Annie Moody, Rosie Adams

Apologies : Michelle Cooper, John Hallows, Freda Stenton, Rebecca Leech

Welcome and Introductions: Everyone was thanked for their attendance.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting: The minutes were passed as a true record by the members.

Hospital Governors: Annie Moody and Andrea Spencer gave a brief presentation on the purpose and benefits of becoming a hospital governor.

The governors are a requirement for the hospital and Andrea wants to get a wide scope of them to ensure fair representation. It is completely free to sign up and it is for a term of 3 years. You can serve a total of 3 terms.

The purpose of the governors is to scrutinise and quality check decisions made by the Executive Directors of the Hospital. They analyse rising trends and help suggest improvements or delve into why things haven't improved.

Those who sign up get access to newsletters updating on upcoming decisions and topics, and are able to attend executive meetings should they wish. There are 6 meetings a year which are required to attend although these can be online which is easier. There are also optional "insight" meetings which delve into specific topics

Members asked how much their views are taken into consideration and Annie and Andrea both said they are taken seriously. There is a chance to influence decisions on the running of the hospital, but not make them outright. You can however have the right to make your views clear.

Another question was raised about medical jargon – Andrea said that every governor is provided with training and support. All training is online so there's not as much imposing feeling of being scrutinised yourself.

Andrea and Annie were thanked for their time and those who want to join as a governor can go to <https://www.barnsleyhospital.nhs.uk/about/theboard/our-governing-council/meet-the-governors/>

Treasurers Report: Due to replacing funding back into the pot from working budgets and taking totals directly from the financial spreadsheet, the amount of funding to allocate in this new financial year is £18,020 a significantly larger amount that previously thought.

Funding Applications:

St Helens Gala - The bid was for £1,200 to help run the gala this year. Updates on the status are in the section below. All members agreed to the full amount.

St Helens Hanging Baskets - The bid was for £2,000 to help pay for 31 baskets. It was noted that this is an initial outlay and that 12 of the baskets are sponsored, so that money will be returned to the ward alliance, making the final total much smaller.

Hanging Baskets – BMBC have come back to us, and there is only one lamppost deemed unsafe, and it's an unsponsored one, so we are not anticipating any further problems this year. Lee is now working with the other Wards to coordinate creation of sponsor plaques and providing lists of brackets to be moved and installed. All being well, notifications on plaques will go out to sponsors at the beginning of May. Basket numbers were provided to First Impressions, so they should be grown in time.

Events:

St Helens Gala - All the planning is coming together. The birds of prey stall has cancelled, but it was agreed to see if Chris Corker at Berneslai Homes is that provider, and if not, to contact him. Other possibilities are being looked at. Wigfield Farm was considered but they don't bring animals outside anymore. They did provide a voucher however.

Cllr Tattersall suggested holding a fancy dress for the coronation. It was felt to be a great idea, but seeing as the coronation will be over with by a couple of months, it was agreed to either look at a more appropriate theme or have a general fancy dress as part of it. It will require prize support, but the organising sub-group will need to look at this.

Kath suggested that due to the cost of living, we should do something similar to the jubilee event last summer and provide packed lunches. It was a big draw in previous gala's, but concerns were raised about the raising of expectations and the amount of work it will take to

source food supplies for this. It was agreed to limit the number to the first 100 children (especially to try and avoid angering the food vendors) and that the £200 working budget could be used. Kath offered to help source these items (sandwiches, drinks etc.)

In terms of food vans, Neil requested that the site plans be modified to move the burger van to the other side of the park, as people were complaining about exhaust fumes from the van last time. Lee agreed to work with Rebecca to look at this, but did say that often times the vendors ignore our instructions and put themselves where they want.

Environmental contract – Rosie provided an update on the environmental contract. Twiggs are now out of contract and Neighbourhood Services will now be taking it over. There will be three workers, but won't likely be in post until August. The contract will be different with a lot more directed work, and less community partnership work. They are contracted to work one day per week in the Ward, but Rosie still envisages a flexible approach to how that day is split up. In addition, she has built in three evenings / Saturday workings in the year per Ward. These should be targeted to community activities.

Rosie provided a list of current tasks she envisages the group to do in the area without direction (cleaning ginnels etc.) and asked people to let her know if there's anything she's missed.

It was asked if they will be working bank holidays? Rosie said yes, provided it's needed and planned in good time.

Ward Plan: A separate meeting is needed to discuss the Ward Plan, Lee to look at dates/times for this meeting.

Roundhouse Library will be having their relaunch celebration on Tuesday 4th April from 10.30am. All welcome to attend. Members discussed that more activities are needed for the children in the community, e.g. Lego club, reading club, etc. Members also agreed that the library needed a cafe

Forthcoming Projects and Bids:

Notice Boards - Because of the length of the meeting, notice boards were deferred to the next meeting.

Caterpillar Club- the Caterpillar Club are intending to submit a bid to the Ward Alliance to look for funding to support the group. They are currently setting up a community bank account and will submit the bid to the next meeting.

Library - there was an open day at the library recently and it went very well. Following this, Libraries, the North Team, and other organisations are keen to establish groups in the building for people to use. Top of this list is the inclusion of a coffee morning / café using the kitchen. Cllr Tattersall said her and Cllr Platts had been to New Hope Church to gather the pots and pans with Michelle, but everything beyond a few bits of crockery and some fridges were gone. Because of the number of people interested, a coordinated meeting needs to take place to explain all of this and work through the best way forward. Rosie suggested taking this conversation to the St Helens Together meeting also to gather the names of all interested parties. Lee agreed to do this.

Any other business:

John Hallows - Cllr Tattersall said John Hallows is currently in hospital and isn't very well at the minute. She did take him his certificates and award and he was very happy with them. Unfortunately, his trophy has been broken, and Cllr Tattersall asked if a new one could be purchased. It was agreed to order a new one and it could be paid for out of petty cash.

Great British Spring Clean – Cllr Tattersall asked if we could look at organising a couple of litter picks for the spring clean, around the ginnel at Laxton Rd to Beeston Sq and Laxton Rd park. There is also the New Lodge play area. It was agreed for Cllr Tattersall to suggest a date after the election and to see if the Ward Alliance members could support this.

PACT Meeting- Dawn asked when the next PACT meeting was – it was confirmed to be Tues 16th May, 2pm at New Lodge Community Centre

Halloween Event – Neil suggested that because of last years success, could the Ward Alliance look at doing a Halloween event this year? It was suggested that it could possibly be done at the Library. It was agreed to raise it at the next meeting.

Athersley South – Kath said Athersley South residents are complaining that there's little community activity on the South area. This is clearly because of the lack of community venues. It was suggested that some kind of Ward Alliance stall could be placed at the Spar on a day with some activities. It was agreed to look at this at the next meeting.

Jenny's Retirement – As Cllr Platts will be retiring from her term as Cllr this year, it was announced there will be a small leaving party taking place on Tuesday 2nd May at 10.30am at Roundhouse Library. All are welcome and invited. Madge said it clashes with the coffee morning, but nothing has been announced just yet, so there's a chance to combine it.

Date and Time of Next Meeting: Meeting closed at 18.10pm
The next meeting is on Thursday 1st June, 4pm, Roundhouse Library.

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