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|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>MEETING:</b> | South Area Council                  |
| <b>DATE:</b>    | Friday 1 September 2023             |
| <b>TIME:</b>    | 10.00 am                            |
| <b>VENUE:</b>   | Meeting Room 1 - Barnsley Town Hall |

## AGENDA

- 1 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

### Minutes and Notes

- 2 Minutes of the Meeting of South Area Council held on 16 June 2023  
(Sac.01.09.2023/2) *(Pages 3 - 8)*
- 3 Notes of the Ward Alliances (Sac.01.09.2023/3) *(Pages 9 - 14)*  
Darfield – held on 13 July 2023  
Hoyland Milton and Rockingham – held on 27 July 2023  
Wombwell – held on 17 July 2023

### Items for Discussion

- 4 Culture Strategy - Jon Finch (Sac.01.09.2023/4) *(Pages 15 - 38)*
- 5 Age UK Barnsley - Natalie Stokes (Sac.01.09.2023/5) *(Pages 39 - 52)*

### Performance

- 6 Performance Report Q1 (Sac.01.09.2023/6) *(Pages 53 - 68)*

### Item for Decision

- 7 Procurement and Financial Update (Sac.01.09.2023/7) *(Pages 69 - 84)*

### Item for Information

- 8 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Sac.01.09.2023/8) *(Pages 85 - 88)*

To: Chair and Members of South Area Council:-

Councillors Markham (Chair), Eastwood, Franklin, Frost, Higginbottom, Osborne, Shepherd, Smith, Stowe, Sumner, White and A. Wray

Area Council Support Officers:

Diane Lee, South Area Council Senior Management Link Officer  
Lisa Lyon, South Area Council Manager  
Rachel Payling, Head of Service, Stronger Communities  
Peter Mirfin, Governance Manager

Please contact Jack Moore on email [governance@barnsley.gov.uk](mailto:governance@barnsley.gov.uk)

Wednesday 23 August 2023

|                 |                                     |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>MEETING:</b> | South Area Council                  |
| <b>DATE:</b>    | Friday 16 June 2023                 |
| <b>TIME:</b>    | 10.00 am                            |
| <b>VENUE:</b>   | Meeting Room 1 - Barnsley Town Hall |

## MINUTES

**Present** Councillors Eastwood, Franklin, Frost, Higginbottom, Osborne, Shepherd, Smith, Stowe (Chair), White and A. Wray

In the absence of the South Area Council Chair, Members elected Councillor Stowe as Chair for the duration of the meeting.

### 1 **Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

Councillor Higginbottom declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 9 as he was employed by Age UK.

### 2 **Minutes of the Meeting of South Area Council held on 14 April 2023 (Sac.16.06.2023/2)**

The meeting considered the minutes of South Area Council held on 14 April 2023.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the South Area Council held on 14 April 2023 be approved as a true and correct record.

### 3 **CAB welfare rights contract – David Andy (Sac.16.06.2023/3)**

David Andy, Barnsley Citizen's Advice Bureau (CAB) provided an update in relation to the welfare rights contract delivered by CAB for the South Area Council.

In elaborating on the content of the presentation, Members were advised that the telephone and digital services were available five days a week from 9am to 5pm. On average each client had been assisted 2.5 times through the various channels available and presented an average of 8 issues each. It was explained to Members that CAB advisors were multi-skilled and trained to give initial general advice to all clients. Referrals were then made to specialist advisors and other services within the organisation. It was stated that many clients were unaware of welfare they were entitled to, and work was ongoing to educate residents.

During Member discussion, it was queried as to whether Social Return on Investment information was available, and this was agreed to be calculated and provided. IT access and computer competency issues were discussed, including signposting routes to Barnsley Council's Adult Education Service and Berneslai Homes.

Members discussed issues with the national benefits system, including reassessments and delays. It was questioned as to whether CAB raised the most common issues they were assisting with in this area with the DWP. Advice was given

that the CAB aims were to provide advice and assistance, but that issues that needed challenging were, such as reporting internally within the CAB organisation. At national-level, CAB had a team that raised these issues with the government and challenged the DWP and other agencies. Evidence was given where this lobbying had been successful, including a case study on organisation having to make reasonable adjustments for those who used British Sign Language as their primary mode of communication. Additional discussion took place on the quickest way out of poverty being through employment, with CAB giving assurance that “better off calculations” took place with clients, as did referrals to organisations who helped get people back into work, such as Reed.

Members sought clarity from CAB on what access arrangements were in place for clients who could not make visits into CAB offices due to disability. It was advised that telephone and digital means of problem-solving were used in the first instance, but that home visits would be arranged where required. For safeguarding reasons, home visits were conducted by two people, for example an advisor and a volunteer or partner, such as Age UK or Berneslai Homes. Staffing levels and capacity were discussed, with information given that recruitment was aligned to available funding with the current level of staff comprising 25 paid staff and 10 volunteers. Members were advised that promotion of the drop-in services available were not pushed so to avoid overwhelming staff, with digital and telephone services the focus of marketing campaigns.

Discussion was had on clients presenting with mental health issues and gambling problems. CAB provided anecdotal information that many clients presented without a formal mental health medical diagnosis. but did have symptoms. Several CAB staff were trained as medical first aiders and would assist to the level they could. There was no data available on clients with gambling addiction issues.

#### **RESOLVED:-**

1. That the update be noted; and
2. That the Social Return on Investment information be provided by CAB; and
3. That promotional literature for the service be provided by CAB to the Area Council Manager for distribution to Members.

#### **4 Stroke prevention and early detection - Kaye Mann (Sac.16.06.2023/4)**

Kaye Mann (Public Health Specialist Practitioner) and Jaimie Shepherd (South Yorkshire Integrated Stroke Delivery Network Manager) provided an update on the Barnsley Stroke Pathway and a new Barnsley campaign on stroke awareness.

In delivering the presentation, the Network Manager advised members that further analysis had been conducted since the last meeting of South Area Council, at which Members challenged the data on strokes. Assurance was given that although specialist units were not located in the Barnsley borough, residents still received a good service. Reflection was had on how stroke care had changed over the years and how management of patients and outcomes had improved in South Yorkshire. There were still however particular demographics of the population who were not

accessing care as quickly as they should, with the prevalence of strokes in South Yorkshire higher than the national average.

With regards to the Public Health response to stroke prevalence, Members were advised that a marketing campaign was being formulated, focusing on prevention, symptoms and dialling 999 so that optimal care is sought. Data analysis was taking place to enable relevant population cohorts to be targeted in the campaign plan. The “How’s Thi’ Ticker?” campaign was referred to as a successful format being built upon, with engagement with stroke victims and the Barnsley culture informing the new campaign.

During Member discussion, issues around care after hospital discharge, assessment delays and diagnosis of stroke cause were discussed. The low numbers of patients arriving by ambulance was questioned by Members, who queried whether this was due to responders being unavailable. Although data was not available to resolve this query, Members were advised that strokes were in the categorised as a category 2 response, which was high in the priority list for ambulance dispatch. Agreement had been in place for striking workers to cross the picket line and respond to patients believed to be suffering with a stroke.

Lifestyle issues that could be a determining factor to the cause of a stroke were highlighted as essential to any promotional campaign. Additionally, the need for the campaign to focus on making 999 calls in a timely manner was raised, as was the need to engage with Elected Members, so they could facilitate getting the message across in their communities. With regards to the targeting of the campaign, Members discussed geographical areas of deprivation being important targets, as would be any groups pinpointed through data on age and sex. Reassurance was given that the campaign was budgeted sufficiently, with social media messaging and community venues forming part of the strategy.

**RESOLVED:-**

1. That the update be noted; and
2. That material on the public health campaign be reported into a future meeting of South Area Council or through a member briefing, and that the nature of Members as community-based champions be utilised as a means of getting the message out.

**5 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Sac.16.06.2023/5)**

The Area Council Manager spoke on the item, referring to the report circulated in the agenda pack. It was highlighted to Members that despite being only part-way through the first financial quarter of 23-24 all ward alliances had managed to approve projects and make financial allocations.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

**6 Notes of the Ward Alliances (Sac.16.06.2023/6)**

The meeting received the notes from the following Wombwell Ward Alliance held on 15 May 2023 and Darfield Ward Alliance held on 18 May 2023.

Wombwell Ward Members took the opportunity to give their sincere thanks to Amanda Bradshaw, retiring Community Development Officer. Amanda had worked primarily in Wombwell, however other Members of the South Area added their thanks for work she had contributed to their wards.

**RESOLVED** that the notes from the Ward Alliances be received.

## **7 Ward meetings and priority setting review – verbal update from Lisa Lyon**

The Area Council Manager updated Members on the plan to organise ward meetings for each of the South Area Council wards. Consultation had taken place with the South Area Council Chair and these meetings would look at establishing priorities and building work plans at a ward level.

**RESOLVED** that the update be noted.

## **8 Procurement and Financial Update (Sac.16.06.2023/8)**

The Area Council Manager presented Members with a procurement and financial update, which sought approval of various commissions and projects.

In discussing the environmental enforcement recommendations, Members were informed that enforcement officers would begin and end their shift in the South Area.

**RESOLVED:-**

1. That approval be given to modify the District Enforcement Ltd contract for a period of 12 months to comprise an additional 18 hours per week. This commission would be charged at £24,000 for the 12-month period plus a £1,740 internal Service Level Agreement; and
2. That approval be given to increase contract hours and remit with District Enforcement Ltd to provide a focused resource for school parking issues and education. This was to be funded through the South Area Council revenue from the District Enforcement contract which was at that time £7,000. The cost agreed to for 5-hours per week for a 12-month period was £6,666; and
3. That approval be given to fund the summer sports van for the 6-week summer holidays at a cost of £2,250; and
4. That delegated authority be given to the South Area Council Manager to make appropriate arrangements for delivery of the summer sports van activities; and
5. That approval be given for the South Area Council Manager to develop a new job specification for the Environmental Officer post; and
6. That approval be given to increase the hours of the Environmental Officer post if it is downgraded, to remain within the £34,804 financial envelope previously agreed; and

7. The approval be given to commission Barnsley Citizens Advice Bureau to deliver the community outreach project at a cost of £83,000 for delivery between 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024; and
8. That information on the South Area Council commissioning budget and the additional funding secured from the Household Support Grant be noted.

## **9 Performance Report Q4 (Sac.16.06.2023/9)**

The Area Council Manager presented members with the Q4 performance report containing an update of each of the contracted services.

It was highlighted to Members that this would be the last performance report to include Twiggs' Ground Maintenance, as that contract had now ended. The Area Council Manager additionally advised Members that there was an outstanding query with regards to volunteer hours in the case studies, and that a further update would be provided once clarity was received.

Members were informed that an employee of Age UK for the Darfield ward had handed in their notice and therefore cover for this post would be sought.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

## **10 Staffing update – verbal update by Lisa Lyon**

The Area Council Manager advised that the Community Development Officer post vacated by Amanda Bradshaw had been recruited to successfully. Claire Archer was to take on the post, increasing her hours from part-time to full-time.

At the close of the meeting, Members took the opportunity to reflect on Barnsley Council's recent accolade of LGC Council of the Year. It was stated by Members that the work at Area Council-level was an important factor in achieving the award. Increased professionalism shown by Members and new ways of working were asserted as instrumental to the Council's success.

**RESOLVED** that the update be noted.

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Chair

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## Minutes

### Darfield Ward Alliance 13<sup>th</sup> July 2023

#### Darfield Community Centre 4.30pm

**Welcome:** Vicky Cuming (interested in becoming a WA member), Reece Millthorpe South Caretaking Team Leader

**Apologies:** Cllr Trevor Smith

**Present:** Clare Archer CDO, Cllr Pauline Markham (Chair), Cllr Kevin Osborne, Lorna Wilkinson, Colin Ward, Mike Fenner, Denise Lumley, Brian Moore

**Minutes:** passed as true record

#### **Matters Arising:**

CDO gave an update on the Hanging basket scheme, hopefully the baskets should be up in the next few weeks, also that the contract for future schemes would go out to tender shortly. Hopefully some of the problems experienced with this years scheme will be rectified. A meeting will take place in August with relevant departments regarding Christmas installations. Update will be given at the next meeting.

A copy of the Annual Report was circulated for all members.

**Budget Update:** Remaining £7,171.69

#### **Bids:**

- Darfield Library events £796.62, part funded to the amount of £500 to cover all the arts/ crafts/ childrens activities and extra sessions. Discussion took place around the second part of the application regarding the barbershop quartet as this was only a one off event with a limited number of people benefitting members felt it wasn't the best use of funds at the present time.
- All Saints Church Yard £450, fully funded.

#### **Darfield Gala Update:**

CDO gave an update on the Gala preparations. The cost of First Aid to cover a big event has substantially increased from last year, CDO asked members if they would agree additional funding of £200 to cover this if needed. All agreed. Everything is well underway, we just have to hope for the weather to be fine. CDO to recite the day before, all members welcome to join her. Denise o litter pick up to event. Reece and team to keep the park clean and tidy up to the event and also check grass cutting schedule.

**Summer activities programme:**

CDO circulated the summer activities programme and posters. Including the sports van, KICKS and Ramp up. This year the offer for children and young people has increased provision and choice.

**Any Other Business:**

Members discussed some hot spots with Reece including Middlecliffe.

**Dates and times of next meeting;**

14th Sept 4.30pm Darfield CC

16th Nov – possibly Billingley

18th Jan 24 4.30pm Darfield CC

14th March 24 4.30pm Darfield CC

**Notes for the meeting of the Hoyland Milton and Rockingham joint Ward Alliance  
Held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2023 – Hoyland Lift Building Community Rooms**

| <b>Present</b>      |                          | <b>Apologies</b>             |   |
|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| Cllr Nicola Sumner  | Rockingham Ward (Chair)  | Michelle Hukin               | Jump Litter Bugs                            |
| Cllr Robin Franklin | Hoyland Milton Ward      | Cllr Tim Shepherd            | Hoyland Milton Ward                         |
| Cllr Mick Stowe     | Hoyland Milton Ward      | Cllr David White             | Rockingham Ward                             |
| Cllr Andrew Wray    | Rockingham Ward          | Rev. Chapman                 | St Mary's Church<br>Birdwell and<br>Elsecar |
| Charlotte Moulds    | BMBC CDO                 | Judith Moore                 | JECG  |
| Paul Noble          | JECG                     |                              |   |
| Brian Clarke        | Birdwell Community Group | <b>Absent (No Apologies)</b> |   |
| Janet Cartwright    | Friends of Elsecar Park  | Danielle Gill                | Tesco Community<br>Champion                 |
| Lorraine Hunter     | Age UK                   | No officer in post           | Bernslai Homes                              |
| Julie Phillips      | Birdwell Community Group | Gary Donald                  | Jump Allotment<br>Society                   |
| Ian Warhurst        | Hemingfield Action Group |                              |   |
|                     |                          |                              |   |
|                     |                          |                              |   |
|                     |                          |                              |   |
|                     |                          |                              |   |

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Notes from the Ward Alliance meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023**

Confirmed as a true and accurate record.

**3. Pecuniary and Non-pecuniary interest**

Cllr Franklin – Forge Community Partnership

Cllr Stowe – Royal British Legion

**4. Update on current projects**

**4.1 Volunteer Training Programme**

- Defib complete 44 attendees – will book more sessions

- Rest booked, timetable and booking to be given out

**4.2 Healthy Activities Summer Programme**

- As attached

**4.3 Defibs**

All installed and will soon be all registered on the Circuit. Promo to be circulated.

**5. Ward Alliance Budget = £15,871.24**

- Healthy Holidays = £928.05

- Christmas = £1,381.49

- Hanging Baskets = £8,781.83  
(Baskets for Hemingfield & Jump to come out)
- Defibs = £775.00
- Volunteer Training Programme = £680.50

#### **6. Ward Alliance Applications Received**

- Walk Tall Dance Creations - £596.00 - approved in full
- Hoyland Remembrance Parade & Service - £2952.70 - approved in full
- Hoyland Social & Support Group – Family Fun Day & Weekly Activities - £1,500 - approved in full
- Brampton Netball £630.00 - declined
- Mates of Milton – New Lawn Mower & Brush Cutter - £863.94 - approved in full

#### **7. Ward Alliance Applications in the Pipeline**

- N/A

#### **8. Any Other Business**

- PN – JECG successfully received £1,000 for a community notice board from Barnsley Better Bond.
- JC – Elsecar park received Green Flag award for 15<sup>th</sup> year in a row. Sculpture now fixed and thanks given to Cllr Franklin and Forge Community Partnership for arranging funding.
- Cllr Stowe – Mayor's Marathon completed, raised £3,000 and still ongoing via Just Giving page:  
<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/mayorofbarnsleycharitywalk2023>

#### **9. Date of the next meeting – 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

Weds 20<sup>th</sup> Sept 5pm – Venue TBC

Weds 8<sup>th</sup> Nov 5pm – Venue TBC

Weds 24<sup>th</sup> Jan 5pm – Venue TBC

Weds 20<sup>th</sup> March – Venue TBC

Wombwell Ward Alliance meeting notes

17<sup>th</sup> July 2023 5.30pm Wombwell Cemetery Community Hub

1. Welcome to Reece Millthorpe (BMBC) South Area Caretaking Team Leader & introductions from all members
2. Present - Cllr Eastwood (Chair), Cllr Higginbottom, Cllr Frost, Sabeena Chavan, Chelsey Rigby, Karen Whiting, Theresa Arnold, Darren Taylor, Daniel Higgins, Clare Archer (BMBC CDO)
3. Notes of last meeting – passed as a true record
4. Budget Update - remaining £6,703.25
5. Funding applications
  - SWS sports £400 – fully funded following additional information provided by SWS and discussion via email
  - Healthy Holidays £1,000 – fully funded
  - Wombwell Library £345 - fully funded
6. Updates
  - Wombwell Station Project, CDO gave update that the art project had been agreed for the station platform by Community Rail, an artist had been sourced to deliver the piece and work with young peoples ideas to create it, CDO to utilise summer sessions to gain views as the funding needs to be spent by 31<sup>st</sup> August 23.
  - High St refurb (Principal Towns), members gave an update on the progress and said the project was near completion, a final visit was arranged to sign the work off.
  - Hanging Baskets / Christmas Trees, CDO gave update that the baskets should be complete in the next couple of weeks, also that the contract for future schemes would go out to tender shortly. Hopefully some of the problems experienced with this years scheme will be rectified. A meeting will take place in August with relevant departments regarding Christmas installations. Update will be given at the next meeting.
  - Wombwell Dam Community Angling Club – Terry had been in touch regarding accessing a couple of green bins for the Dam, the environment agency had advised that all angling equipment be dipped before entering the dam to protect the species from cross contamination. Members advised looking at galvanised drums as an alternative. CDO to feed suggestions back to Terry.
  - Wombwell Men’s club – the club now seem to have settled down and have found a way to work in the space they currently meet in. CDO to offer support to Age UK and group if needed.
  - Community Defibrillator / Defib training – Darren gave an update on the Defib project which is well underway. CDO to chase up order of extra pads. CDO asked if some community Defib training may be useful, members agreed. Update to be given at next meeting.
7. Summer events
  - Picnic in the Park, Sabeena updated members on the event and thanked members who were helping out on the day.
  - Healthy Holidays programme, CDO updated members on the planned activities and that an additional small amount of funding had been given from Good Food Barnsley to contribute to the cook and eat sessions.
8. Any other business – Cllr Eastwood gave her apologies for the next meeting however she is happy for it sill to go ahead with another member as Chair
9. Date of next meeting – please note later start time of 6pm  
Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September 6pm @Wombwell Cemetery Community Hub
10. Future dates – all 5.30pm start at Cemetery Hub venue

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2024 / Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024/ Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024

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# BARNLSLEY



Page 15

## BARNLSLEY'S CULTURAL STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT

Briefing

Area Council

01 September 2023

# Culture and the arts in Barnsley: Our Strengths

- **Very strong Council museum/events offer**
- **Range of wider strengths e.g. music (Barnsley Youth Choir), performing arts (Barnsley Civic), interactive arts (Invisible Flock)**
- **National funders focusing on Barnsley**
- **Arts Council England Priority Place**
- **Also some gaps: Studio space, performance space, freelancers for example**
- **Limited understanding of grassroots activity**
- **Currently no strategic framework**





# Challenges Faced By Our Communities

- **Low levels of engagement & participation in community life in certain areas**
- **Some isolated and disenfranchised communities feeling ‘left behind’ by economic growth and the pandemic**
- **Significant wellbeing and mental health inequalities and lower life expectancy exacerbated by the impacts of COVID**
- **Barriers to accessing employment which need understanding and alleviating**
- **Challenges particularly acute in Principal Towns**
- **Significant deprivation challenges and a worsening gap in incomes and livelihoods, further emphasised by Cost of Living Crisis**



# What does this mean for culture in Barnsley?

- **Play a crucial role in delivering Barnsley 2030**
- **Focus on enriching our communities from within**
- **Democratic, co-created, Community-led**
- **It must help reduce inequality and improve life-chances**
- **Genuinely Borough wide**
- **Innovative engagement approaches**
- **Asset-based model**



# Barnsley's Cultural Strategy

- **Culture for Everyone**
- **Must be rooted in the needs and expectations of local people**
- **Make every effort to represent all the Borough and be truly diverse**
- **Build on existing successful Area structures**
- **Working with teams across BMBC**
- **Additional engagement with key community groups**
- **Process as important as final product**
- **Focusing on wider challenges...health & wellbeing, tackling poverty, skills & employability, social & cultural capital**



# Timetable for Barnsley's Cultural Strategy Development

| Phase  | August - Oct 23 | Oct – November 23 | Nov – Feb 24 | Feb - March 23 |
|--|-----------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|
| <b>Phase 1 : Research and development</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Project Governance</li> <li>➤ Creative Engagement workshops with Area Councils and Ward Alliances</li> <li>➤ Stakeholder Engagement</li> <li>➤ Sector mapping</li> <li>➤ Sector Engagement</li> </ul> |                 |                   |              |                |
| <b>Phase 2: Review and next steps</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Review by Project Board</li> <li>➤ Gaps identified for further engagement</li> <li>➤ Report produced</li> </ul>   |                 |                   |              |                |
| <b>Phase 3 – Further Engagement with communities and stakeholders</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Further Stakeholder Engagement</li> <li>➤ Creative Community Engagement</li> </ul>  |                 |                   |              |                |
| <b>Phase 4 – Strategy Development</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Priorities identified</li> <li>➤ Strategic directions identified</li> <li>➤ Workshop stakeholders and Cllrs</li> <li>➤ Strategy online and published</li> </ul>   |                 |                   |              |                |

# Barnsley's Cultural Strategy progress

- **Cultural Strategy development paper agreed by Cabinet late spring;**
- **Phase 1 starting now: Engage key stakeholders, Barnsley 2030 Boards etc;**
- **Creative engagement across Borough**
- **Sector mapping almost complete;**
- **Setting up Steering group;**
- **KEY - Briefings with Area Councils**  
**and then engagement with Ward Alliances;**



# Area Councils and Ward Alliances

- **Provide initial briefings to all Area Councils to ensure they are aware;**
- **Set up in depth sessions, one for each Area, inviting members, and all ward alliances representatives;**
- **The sessions will be half day each and be facilitated by a creative organisation;**
- **One additional session to cover who cannot attend their original session**



# Purpose of Ward Alliance Events

To gain an understanding of

- What cultural activity is taking place in the locality;
- Who is participating:
- What is important to members of Ward Alliances:
- What role can culture and creativity play in improving the locality?

This information will then be used to shape future development of the cultural strategy.



# Any Questions or comments





## BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

**REPORT OF: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF GROWTH & SUSTAINABILITY**

**TITLE: A CULTURAL STRATEGY FOR BARNSLEY**

|                                 |                                 |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>REPORT TO:</b>               | <b>CABINET</b>                  |
| <b>Date of Meeting</b>          | <b>22 March 2023</b>            |
| <b>Cabinet Member Portfolio</b> | <b>Regeneration and Culture</b> |
| <b>Key Decision</b>             | <b>Yes</b>                      |
| <b>Public or Private</b>        | <b>Public</b>                   |

### **Purpose of report**

To outline the reasons why Barnsley needs a Cultural Strategy to ensure its work around participation and engagement with culture & heritage and its contribution to the visitor economy is strategically aligned to the Barnsley 2030 priorities of the borough and B2030 outcomes.

### **Council Plan priority**

This links to the Council's and borough's vision of Barnsley as a 'place of possibilities' and our ambitions to be a 'Creative Barnsley'

### **Recommendations**

That Cabinet:-

1. That the Council adopt the proposed approach for the development of Barnsley's Cultural Strategy.
2. Endorse the involvement process with the diverse residents and communities of Barnsley as laid out in the report.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **Why a cultural strategy for Barnsley?**

- 1.1 We experience culture every day. It intersects across different parts of our lives in a myriad of ways. Through the food we prepare and eat. The language we speak and hear. The tables we gather around. The environment we encounter and shape. The stories we share. The art we make or come into contact with.

The faith or rituals we observe. Culture is nuanced and is constantly shifting. It has no singular source: it is not mine, it is not yours, it is ours.

- 1.2 Kathy McArdle, **Service Director for Regeneration and Culture** in Barnsley, has said “We’re huge supporters of Culture in Barnsley, we see the benefits and positive impacts on both wellbeing and the economy. There’s a real buzz around our borough as we continue to push boundaries and raise the bar when it comes to culture and heritage.” In recent years, while museums around the country have been struggling, Barnsley has been opening new museums to the public. It is not just people who live or work in Barnsley who recognise the cultural possibilities of the borough: Arts Council England has selected Barnsley as one of its 15 Priority Places in the North opening up the potential for new investment while the Cultural Development Fund recently awarded almost £4million to Barnsley to create new studios and galleries, foster cultural hubs and support creative networks across the borough.
- 1.3 In this context, Barnsley Council has an exceptional opportunity to use culture as a key driver to help deliver its Barnsley 2030 strategy. However, whilst culture is embedded into Barnsley’s future plans there is currently no distinct borough-wide strategy to illustrate how culture and creativity can contribute to a good life for everyone in the borough. Having a cultural strategy in place will open up new partnerships, both in and out of the borough, while strengthening existing ones. An effective cultural strategy will also increase investment and funding opportunities for Barnsley because the borough will be able to demonstrate its strategic commitment to culture.
- 1.4 Given the strength of Barnsley’s strategic framework (including Healthy Barnsley, Learning Barnsley, Growing Barnsley and Sustainable Barnsley) and the increased levels of support provided to the locality by Arts Council England (ACE) in the recent National Portfolio announcements the borough is well placed to facilitate the development of a cultural strategy that will not sit in its own silo but that will be an effective driver for positive change across the borough. A cultural strategy for Barnsley will create a shared vision and identity for the area which builds on its history, grows its economy, supports community led activities, improves health and wellbeing and which contributes to a good life for all Barnsley’s citizens.

### **What are the key questions for Barnsley’s cultural strategy to answer?**

- 1.5 The cultural strategy will need to explore and understand the creative and cultural ecology of Barnsley. The process of discovering and defining Barnsley’s homegrown creativity and culture will be essential if the strategy is to successfully use its cultural assets to create social and economic impact across the borough, as well as ensuring all parts of the community can access a high quality cultural offer. While there are multiple questions for the cultural strategy to explore, three core questions are fundamental and must be at the centre of the strategy:
  - a) What is the current creative and cultural ecology of Barnsley?
  - b) What are the ways in which culture can contribute to a good and healthy life in Barnsley?
  - c) What needs to happen to make this a reality for everyone in Barnsley?

- 1.6 This proposal lays out in detail how we will engage with our residents and communities and Elected members to explore these questions in the Cultural Strategy Development process.

## 2. PROPOSAL

### Who should explore these questions and shape the strategy?

- 2.1 In light of societal shifts that have taken place in recent years, in particular the covid pandemic and the current cost of living crisis, it is important that the development and delivery of Barnsley's cultural strategy is a democratic and inclusive process. This is not just a political and moral imperative, it is also a strategic one. In order to create a high value and high impact strategy, that will enrich and strengthen Barnsley's 2030 plan, the process of creating the cultural strategy must draw from diverse experiences of culture from across the whole borough.
- 2.2 This means that while it is important to incorporate strong input from Barnsley's existing and visible cultural organisations and practitioners, the strategy must go further. It must include input from less visible, recognised or celebrated aspects of the borough's creative and cultural ecology. This is because the strategy will be more meaningful if it encompasses the whole of Barnsley's story, not just the aspects that we are already good at telling. This means we need to engage and involve people of all ages, those from our BME communities, those who are disabled or have special needs, vulnerable people, our LGBTQI communities and people from various parts of the borough, urban and rural.
- 2.3 A democratic and inclusive approach would also be a good fit with ACE's new ten-year strategy, [Let's Create](#). Like Barnsley's overall strategy, this new ACE funding plan runs to 2030. It was developed through conversations with more than 5,000 people nationwide and marks a significant shift in funding policy for culture. *Let's Create* sets out a more inclusive and relevant model for the cultural sector; representing a move away from the provision of a cultural offer towards more collaborative and co-created ways of working. *Let's Create* is not just about putting on a show and hoping people come; it is about everyone's creativity and culture and how we can all contribute towards a more place-based and inclusive model for culture.
- 2.4 This new national policy and funding framework is relevant to consider in terms of how best to shape and develop local cultural strategies. The time is ripe for co-developing and co-creating plans in partnership with citizens. A cultural strategy that is co-created by citizens will position Barnsley at the forefront of this practice nationally. The approach would follow in the footsteps of Barnsley Council's democratic opening up of the Town Hall as a new museum for everyone to share and would align with the idea that, in Barnsley, we want everyone to have a good life.
- 2.5 The proposed project approach, the process and activities we use to develop the cultural strategy in Barnsley, are as important as the cultural strategy we end up with. If the cultural strategy development process is done well and is

really inclusive handing power to our communities, we can create new and powerful links with a wider range of our communities, empowering them and ensuring local people are at the heart of what we do across the cultural and creative sector in the future. Barnsley is very well positioned to begin this work. Barnsley MBC already has in place an innovative democratic system which enables local communities and Councillors to work together. The development phase of the cultural strategy will engage with Area Council and Ward Alliance members (local residents) as a starting point for engaging with communities, members and partners across the Borough. Area Councils and Ward Alliances will help identify who needs to be involved and how we can best engage them. Once the existing structures have been tapped into, we will then deliver targeted and creative engagement will be undertaken with parts of the local community that have been identified as requiring further consultation or being underrepresented within these existing structures.

2.6 Below we have mapped out the timeline for the Strategy Development process.

Arts Council England are supportive of the process but have also advised that it may end up being delivered across a shorter timeframe to concentrate and focus the engagement work. This timeline will therefore have some built-in flexibility to enable it to respond to the themes and ideas coming through the engagement process. The timeline might also change if some of the phases are delivered in parallel.

## 2.7 **Phase One – Development and research (c.10 - 12 weeks)**

When considering a democratic approach to the development of a cultural strategy, it is good practice for the first step to be a period of development and research; exploring options and engaging in dialogue with stakeholders. This process will be led by Barnsley MBC, working with local creative practitioners. The creative practitioners will lead the engagement and consultative aspects of this phase and will be appointed early in Phase 1.

There will be four key areas of work, these are described below

### **One: Project Governance**

A project Board will be put into place to oversee the development of the cultural strategy. The board will consist of representatives of the cultural sector in the Borough, relevant Council officers, key funders, members of the Youth Council and the community and voluntary sector.

The Project Board will ensure that Senior officers and members with Barnsley MBC are kept briefed on progress, and it will also take a lead in ensuring there is an effective communication plan in place.

Key aspects of the communications and engagement plan here in Barnsley would include:

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Stakeholder communications     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• providing a regular and updated narrative about the process which illustrates its legitimacy</li> <li>• shared online space for keeping records of meetings, tracking the development of ideas</li> </ul>      |
| Cultural sector communications | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a regular news bulletin for cultural sector organisations and practitioners to encourage feedback and dialogue</li> <li>• An invitation for the sector to submit ideas or evidence for the strategy</li> </ul> |

## **Two: Creative Engagement with Members, Area Councils and Ward Alliances**

This is a crucial aspect of the development of the strategy. An introductory workshop will be held with Members and key partners (such as Arts Council England) to help shape the engagement process and the areas of focus.

The appointed creative practitioners, working with the Council's Communities team, will engage with all the Area Councils and a representative sample of the Ward Alliances, as well as other key representative fora associated with BMBC such as the Youth Council. The exact detail of the consultation will be shaped by the creative practitioners appointed but will focus on discussing the three broad questions outlined in the introduction.

- A) What is the current creative and cultural ecology of Barnsley?
- B) What are the ways in which culture can contribute to a good and healthy life in Barnsley?
- C) What needs to happen to make this a reality for everyone in Barnsley?

## **Three: Stakeholder Engagement**

The engagement with stakeholders as part of Step one and future phases will be driven by the four headline themes in Barnsley 2030: Barnsley A Place of Possibilities. These are:

- Healthy Barnsley
- Learning Barnsley
- Growing Barnsley
- Sustainable Barnsley

During Step One initial conversations will take place with the Chairs and a small number of key members of each of the theme boards.

The fifth area of stakeholder engagement will be with the cultural and creative sector across Barnsley. Naturally this will include ACE funded National Portfolio Organisations (NPOs), including those organisations recently added to the portfolio and the larger organisations in the Borough such as Yorkshire Sculpture Park and the Civic, well as Fusion the Local Cultural Education Partnership (LCEP). However the consultation will focus on the many individual artists and makers that are such a crucial part of the creative ecology in the Borough.

## **Four: Sector Mapping**

The scale and size of the existing culture and creative sector in the borough needs to be understood if the strategy is to be developed and delivered successfully.

Some progress has been made in this area recently at both a Borough and regional level. The SYMCA Cultural and Creative Industries Data research and mapping project completed earlier this year by Fifth Sector, provides a range of useful information concerning the size and scale of the sector across the region.

However further work needs to be done in phases one and two to drill down and develop a thorough understanding of what cultural activity is already going on across Barnsley. The feedback from SYMCA's parallel piece of work the Culture, Arts & Heritage Engagement Report demonstrates that the sector perceives that there is a distinct lack of knowledge at a Local Authority level, particularly about the self-employed and small businesses that make up much of the cultural and creative sector in South Yorkshire.

The Forging Elsecar Cultural Development Fund (CDF) project Principal Towns strand also includes a focus, and some available resource for sector mapping. This has been aligned with the Cultural Strategy development process to maximise the impact of the work and mapping has begun. It will consider the outputs of the SYMCA funded Bounceback programme and what that has initiated in the Borough - <https://www.barnsley-museums.com/projects/supporting-artists-the-covid-bounce-back-programme>

### **2.8 Phase two – Review and identification of next steps (c. 4-6 weeks)**

Once the results of Phase One have been gathered, a review process will take place led by the Project Board. A summary note outlining the key findings from the initial work will be produced for key stakeholders. This note will consider the work undertaken with Area councils and Ward Alliances, identifying the key themes emerging, and will also identify the preferred way forward for the development of the Cultural Strategy.

There will be a particular focus on assessing whether Phase One has been able to engage with a representative sample of Barnsley's communities and identify any gaps for further engagement.

When agreement is reached on the further work required, we will then move onto Phase Three.

### **2.9 Phase three: Further Engagement with Communities and Stakeholders (c10 – 12 weeks)**

Whilst the exact content of Phase three will only be decided once Phases One and Two have been undertaken, it is likely that further conversations with key stakeholders will be required, as well as targeted engagement with key parts of the community. Therefore, the phase will include at least the two areas of work

outlined below which again will be facilitated and delivered by cultural organisations and creative practitioners.

### **One: Further Stakeholder Engagement**

The engagement with stakeholders as part of Phase Three will again be driven by the four headline themes in Barnsley 2030: Barnsley A Place of Possibilities. These are:

- Healthy Barnsley
- Learning Barnsley
- Growing Barnsley
- Sustainable Barnsley

During Phase Three Focus groups will be held for each of the Barnsley 2030, the Focus Groups will be facilitated by local cultural organisations and creative practitioners. themes, we will ensure a broad representation of key voluntary and community groups and organisations.

The fifth area of stakeholder engagement will be with the cultural and creative sector across Barnsley. We will consult widely with the cultural sector throughout the development of the strategy and actively use creative practitioners to support and help deliver the citizens led approach.

### **Two: Creative Community Engagement**

This phase of the work will take place after the workshops with Area Councils and Ward Alliances. From their input, a gap analysis will be undertaken to assess which parts of the Borough's community needs further engagement. This analysis will look at several factors including:

- Age
- Geography
- Background
- Ethnicity
- Gender
- Socio-economic status

Once priorities for further engagement have been identified, local cultural and creative practitioners will be commissioned to seek out, approach and work with relevant parts of the community to gather their ideas of culture and where it should sit in their lives.

The particular engagement approach will be explored and agreed during Phase 3 and will be influenced by the nature of the community group we are looking to engage with, and the creative practitioner involved. However, it will be important to ensure that the process is suitably in depth and iterative. It is vital that groups, community members and creative practitioners with different kinds of perspective and lived experience feed into the conversations about Barnsley's cultural strategy. A 'Creative Barnsley' is a diverse Barnsley and the

rich fabric of our creative communities will underpin the future cultural life of the borough

This phase will also include further conversations with Project Board and key partners to test the themes emerging from the wider community engagement.

## 2.10 Phase Four – Strategy Development

Once Phase 3 has been completed and broad and deep wider community and stakeholder engagement has been progressed, the findings of that work will be gathered together in a creative report. The emerging priorities identified in the summary note produced in Phase two will be reviewed.

The Project Board will work together to draft a short and focussed strategy based on the feedback and contributions received from the discussions with Area Councils, Ward Alliances, local communities and stakeholders.

Prior to finalising the outline strategy, a session between key participants in the strategy development process, key funders, creative organisations and relevant Councillors will be held to explore and discuss the report. This meeting will also cover the final composition of the cultural strategy and agreeing follow-up actions.

Suitable resources will be allocation for a small print run of the finalised strategy so that it can be distributed to key stakeholders.

## 2.11 Timetable for Barnsley’s Cultural Strategy Development

A suggested timetable for the delivery of the above steps is outlined below.

|   | Apr- July 23 | July – August 23 | Sept – November 23 | November - December 23 |
|---|--------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Phase 1 – research and development</b>                             |              |                  |                    |                        |
| <b>Phase 2 – Review and identification of next steps</b>              |              |                  |                    |                        |
| <b>Phase 3 – Further Engagement with communities and stakeholders</b> |              |                  |                    |                        |
| <b>Phase 4 – strategy development</b>                                 |              |                  |                    |                        |

This will be subject to change with the potential for some phases to overlap, but illustrates the direction of travel.

## 2.12 Potential priorities for the Cultural Strategy

Whilst the priorities and ambitions for Barnsley’s cultural strategy will be shaped

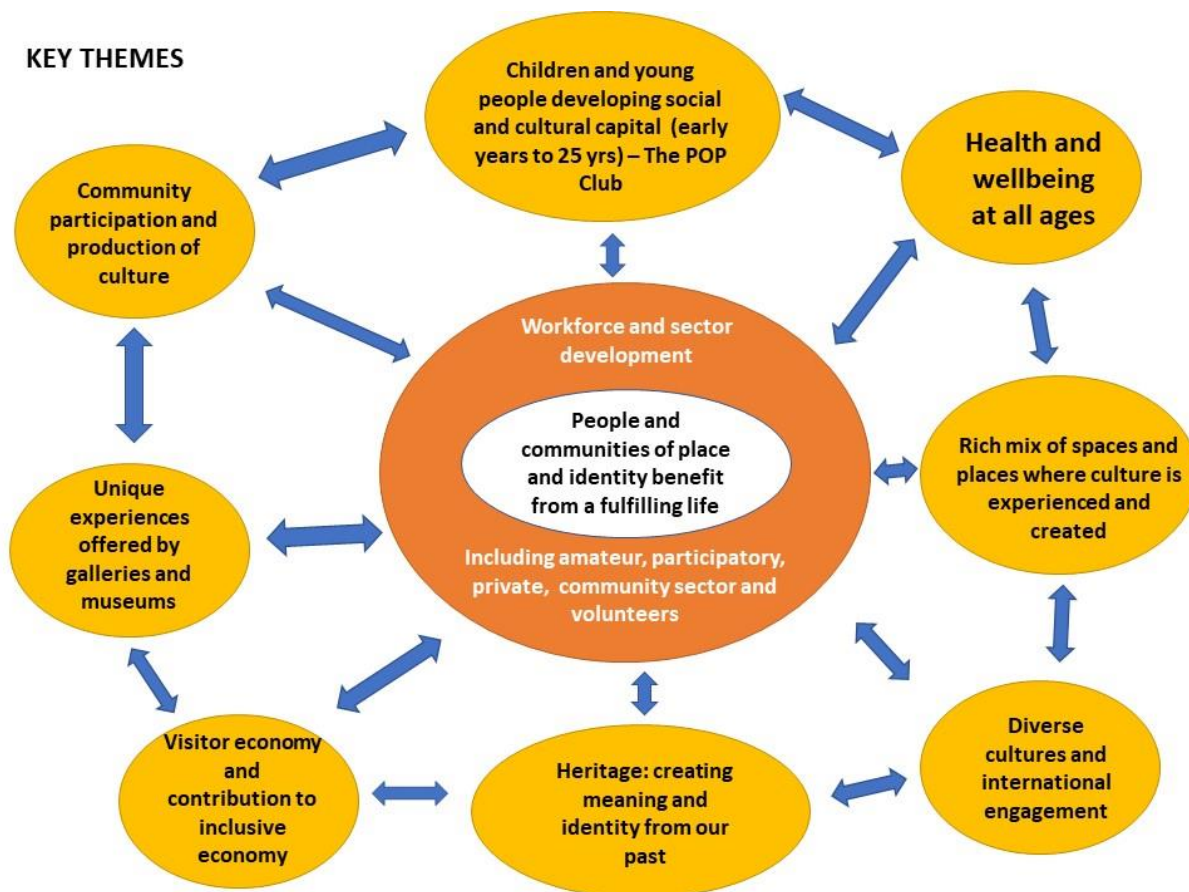


by the engagement with the borough's communities, cultural sector and other partners, the current understanding of the sector, previous research and conversations have indicated that some or all of the following areas may well be represented as the research progresses:

- Community participation and production of culture
- Children and young people developing social and cultural capital
- Tackling health inequalities and improving health and wellbeing outcomes
- Developing and using a rich mix of spaces and places where culture is experienced and created
- Embracing diverse cultures and international engagement
- Heritage: creating meaning and identity from our past
- Visitor economy and its contribution to inclusive economy
- Creating unique experiences offered by galleries, museums and engagement with culture in our outdoor and public spaces

When a creative ecology is working successfully these themes interact together to ensure people and communities of place and identity benefit from a fulfilling life. The diagram on the next page illustrates how this could happen.

## KEY THEMES



### 2.13 What would Barnsley's Cultural sector's role be?

It is essential that people and organisations which will be set to gain from the existence of a dynamic cultural strategy are involved in its development. This includes people and organisations who already count themselves as part of Barnsley's cultural ecology. This could include cultural organisations and venues, creative practitioners, artists and creative businesses, faith groups, privately run organisations, e.g. dance schools, youth services, local charities, voluntary sector, health care organisations, sports and other relevant interest groups, schools and colleges.

Cultural organisations and creative practitioners will be front and centre of the development of the strategy. They will lead the consultation and engagement process in all phases of the strategy development.

As well as encouraging the participation of specific individuals and organisations from the sector in Barnsley, there are also project collaborations and work streams that need to connect with the cultural strategy development process. These include:

- SYMCA's Culture, Arts & Heritage Engagement Report
- Barnsley MBC Community Listening work
- Barnsley MBC Principal Towns work
- The development of a Borough Creativity and Wellbeing plan

- South Yorkshire Integrated Care Strategy

The Barnsley Connects network development strand of the Cultural Development Fund project currently being delivered in the Borough is a timely opportunity to broaden the reach of the development of the cultural strategy. Barnsley Connects is planned as an impactful programme of activities, connections and exchange, through face-to-face interaction and digital engagement. The first phase, which will draw on the skills and energy of emerging creative practitioners and place-leaders and is described below, is planned to run during the same period as the cultural strategy development, so this work will be closely aligned to help the development of the strategy. Key strands of the work include:

- Identify existing creative activity taking place and spaces
- ‘Storying Barnsley’: creative place-based story-telling workshops, facilitated by University of Sheffield
- Conversations with businesses, community leaders & voluntary sector organisations engaged in cultural activity to understand barriers and the role culture plays in their work
- Map existing creative industries businesses at a Borough level.
- Bring together practitioners, creative industries businesses & place-leader locally to nurture an informal borough-wide Creative Barnsley Network

We will ensure close connection with the Barnsley Connects creative network to add value to each other’s work and closely coordinate our research to ensure best value from both programmes.

### 3 IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

#### 3.1 Financial and Risk

##### 3.1.1 Costs for the development of Barnsley’s Cultural Strategy

The costs for developing the cultural strategy depend very much on the level of engagement with local communities. An initial budget has been developed based on a model that assumes engagement with all Area Councils and a selection of Ward Alliances in Phase one, as well as other key networks such as Barnsley’s Youth Council. It also assumes up to four in depth pieces of engagement in phase three. This would provide sufficient resource for a robust community led development process and gives an overall cost to the strategy development process of in the region of £50k.

| Phase  | Cost |
|--|------|
| Phase One – Development and research                               | £15k |
| Phase two – Review and identification of next steps                | £5k  |
| Phase three – Further Engagement with Communities and Stakeholders | £20k |

| <b>Phase</b>                   | <b>Cost</b> |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Phase 4 – Strategy Development | £5k         |
| <b>Total cost</b>              | <b>£50k</b> |

3.1.2 Arts Council England has already committed £10K towards this process, with a matched contribution coming from the Culture team’s own resources. ACE have also indicated that they would be comfortable with the additional resource required coming from the Cultural Development Fund resources already secured.

3.1.3 ACE have also indicated that the development of a Cultural Strategy would be a requirement for a future bid to the Place Partnership Funding pot. Together we have identified that this would be a positive funding programme to bid to in order to progress some of the work involved in delivering the Cultural Strategy. We see this as a key element of our ‘Priority Place’ work with ACE.

3.1.4 Cabinet are asked to approve the BMBC £10K contribution to the Cultural Strategy Development process and the use of £30K CDF funds for this purpose

### **3.2 Legal**

3.2.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

### **3.3 Equality**

3.3.1 The principles of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion will be at the heart of the Cultural Strategy Development process. A Full Equality Impact Assessment would be completed in advance of any public consultation and before the final Strategy is produced to ensure the Strategy genuinely engages diverse communities and populations, is equitable and inclusive and recognises the value of diversity as a creative force in the cultural life of the borough

### **3.4 Sustainability**

3.4.1 The zero carbon Decision-making wheel will be completed once the consultation on the strategy has been concluded

### **3.5 Employee**

3.5.1 There are no employee implications associated with this work

### **3.6 Communications**

3.6.1 A comprehensive communications strategy and plan will be developed to support the wide and deep engagement that will contribute to and shape the cultural strategy with the Comms lead in Culture and Visitor Economy, working collaboratively with all Comms officers working across the Council and with Comms partners across the borough.

3.6.2 Digital engagement, which was a key feature of the work of our CVE team, will also feature heavily.

#### **4. CONSULTATION**

4.1 Consultation has taken place with Growth and Sustainability DMT, SMT Executive members, Cabinet spokesperson for Regeneration and Culture and Cabinet spokesperson for Transport and Environment. We have also consulted our Partners Arts Council England on the development process as they would be a key partner in supporting the strategy development process.

#### **5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

5.1 The option of not to develop a Cultural strategy was considered but this has been identified as a significant strategic gap for Barnsley by Arts Council England through our work as a priority place. It is therefore essential we get this in place as it will enable us to have a more strategic relationship with our residents, communities and funders

#### **6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

6.1 Our Culture and Visitor Economy work has been hugely successful in the last ten years and seen extraordinary growth and achievements in that period. In order to build on this, it is essential to develop a more strategic framework for the work of the service, moving from a more citizen and community led model, which focusses on the Council having a key role in supporting workforce development and sector development as well as offering a high-quality museums, heritage and archive service.

#### **7. GLOSSARY**

Not required

#### **8. LIST OF APPENDICES**

Not applicable

#### **9. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

#### **10. REPORT SIGN OFF**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Financial consultation &amp; sign off</b> | Senior Financial Services officer consulted and date<br><br><i>Steve Loach, 16 Feb 2023</i> |
| <b>Legal consultation &amp; sign off</b>     | Legal Services officer consulted and date<br><br><i>Sukdave Ghuman, 16 Feb 2023</i>         |

**Report Author: Jon Finch**  
**Post: Head of Culture and Visitor Economy**  
**Date: 10 March 2023**



# South Area Better Together Service

## Ellie Green



## Who We Work With

Local older people

Area council teams

BOPPAA

Local businesses

Community groups

Volunteers

Schools - intergenerational projects

Age Friendly Barnsley





# Delivered

One to ones - 250 over the two years.

312 local older people attending groups each week.

New groups set up - 21

Community groups supported - 38

Intergenerational projects - 14

Events - 26 across the 4 wards over the 2 years.



# Information & Advice service

£81,343.88 Benefit Gains for the South Area.

This has been achieved through the support of a specialist advisor one day per week.

Pension Age only - full support.

Includes benefit checks, housing advice, blue badge, wills, care packages, home energy checks and so much more.



## Key Milestones

- ▶ Service started 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021.
- ▶ Community groups established in all four wards.
- ▶ Established community car scheme.
- ▶ Increased awareness about the service.
- ▶ Events have taken place in all wards.

# BOPPAA

- ▶ Barnsley Older People Physical Activity Alliance.
- ▶ Increases physical activity opportunities for older people across Barnsley to improve strength and balance.
- ▶ SIOs refer service users in the groups.
- ▶ BOPPAA groups in the south include:
  - ▶ Walking groups
  - ▶ Tai Chi
  - ▶ Falls Management Exercise Classes.



# Events and Celebrations

- ▶ 26 events attended over the 2 years including:
  - ▶ Winter Warm events
  - ▶ Jubilee parties
  - ▶ Age Friendly celebrations
  - ▶ Christmas parties
  - ▶ Summer Galas
  - ▶ Intergenerational events
  - ▶ King Charles Coronation
  - ▶ Dementia Awareness Week
  - ▶ Many more!



# Key Challenges

- ▶ Mobility and transport.
- ▶ Volunteer recruitment.
- ▶ Reaching the most isolated/vulnerable people.
- ▶ Receiving appropriate referrals.
- ▶ Improving confidence to get service users out.

# Volunteers

Total active volunteers: 23

1,317 hours of volunteering  
across the 2 years.

Social value of: £21,089.66

115 Community car journeys

Recruitment



## Next Steps/Focus

- ▶ Volunteer recruitment drives.
- ▶ Strive to reach the most isolate and vulnerable in the community through Eyes On The Ground.
- ▶ Identify gaps for new social groups to expand the offering in communities.
- ▶ Continue to work with service users one to one to build confidence and reduce loneliness / isolation.







# Recent Events







Any Questions?

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# South Area Council





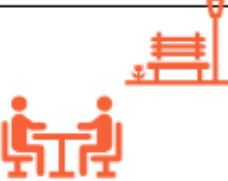


Darfield, Hoyland Milton, Rockingham, Wombwell

# Performance Report Q1

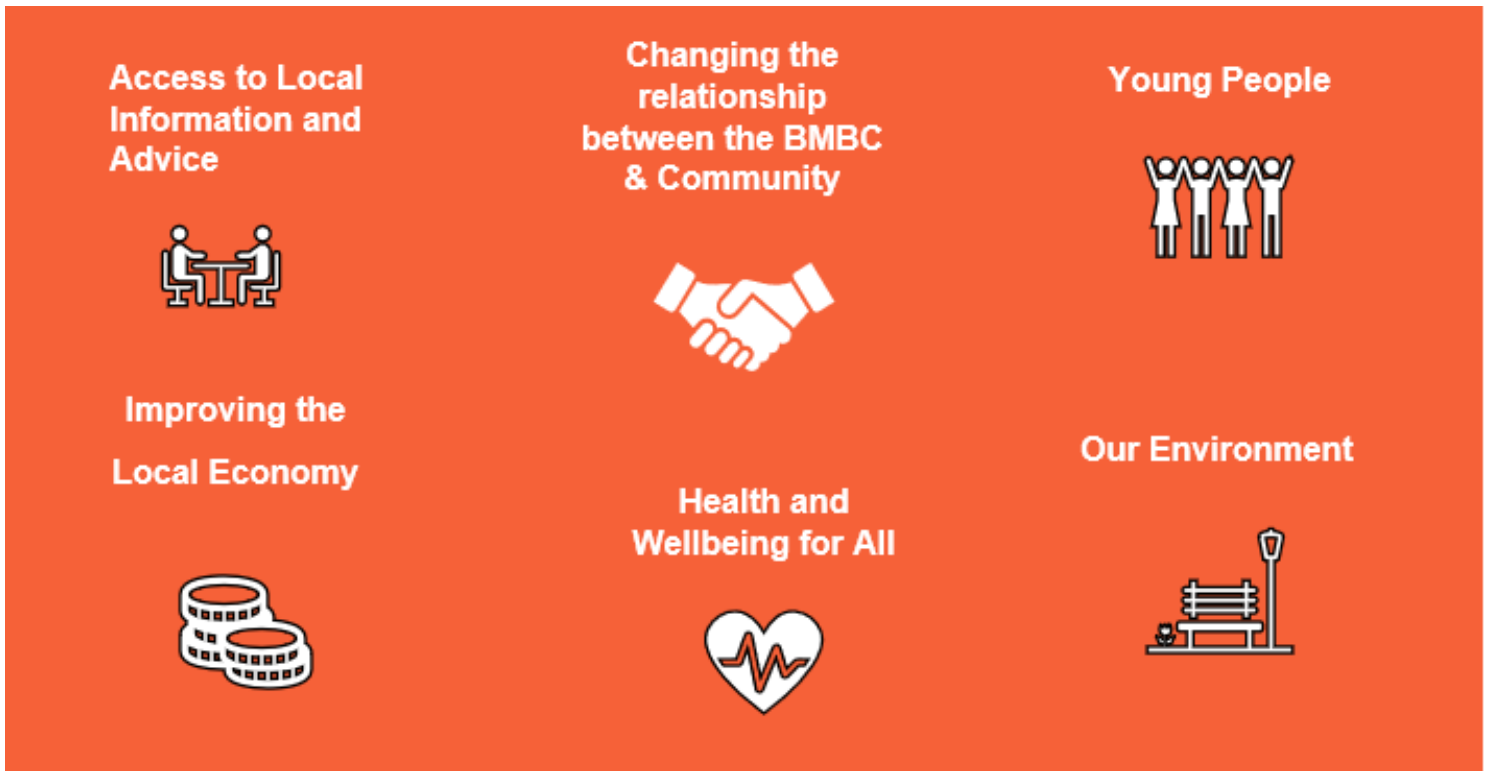
Q1 - 2023/24 (April - June 2023)



# Table of Contents

| Provider                         | Service   | Contract Value/length | Contract end date  | Priority  |
|----------------------------------|---|-----------------------|--|---|
| Environmental Caretaker contract | Environmental, volunteering and education service | £120,963 per annum    | TBC  |    |
| Age UK                           | Social Isolation                                  | £59,944 per annum     | Funded for 3 years. <u>Commenced 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021</u> |    |
| District Enforcement             | Environment Enforcement                           | £17,550               | Funded until March 24  |   |
| BMBC                             | Environmental Enforcement                         | £5,000                | Ongoing  |  |
| BMBC                             | Private Sector Housing Enforcement                | £42,844 per annum     | Ongoing  |  |
| CAB                              | Advice Services Contract                          | £83,000 per annum     | Funded till June 2024  |  |
| Stop Smoking Advisor             | SWYFT   |                       | Funded through Public Health                                     |  |

# South Area Council Priorities



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

COMMISSIONS

CAB

Environmental  
Caretaker

Age UK

Private Sector  
Housing Officer

District

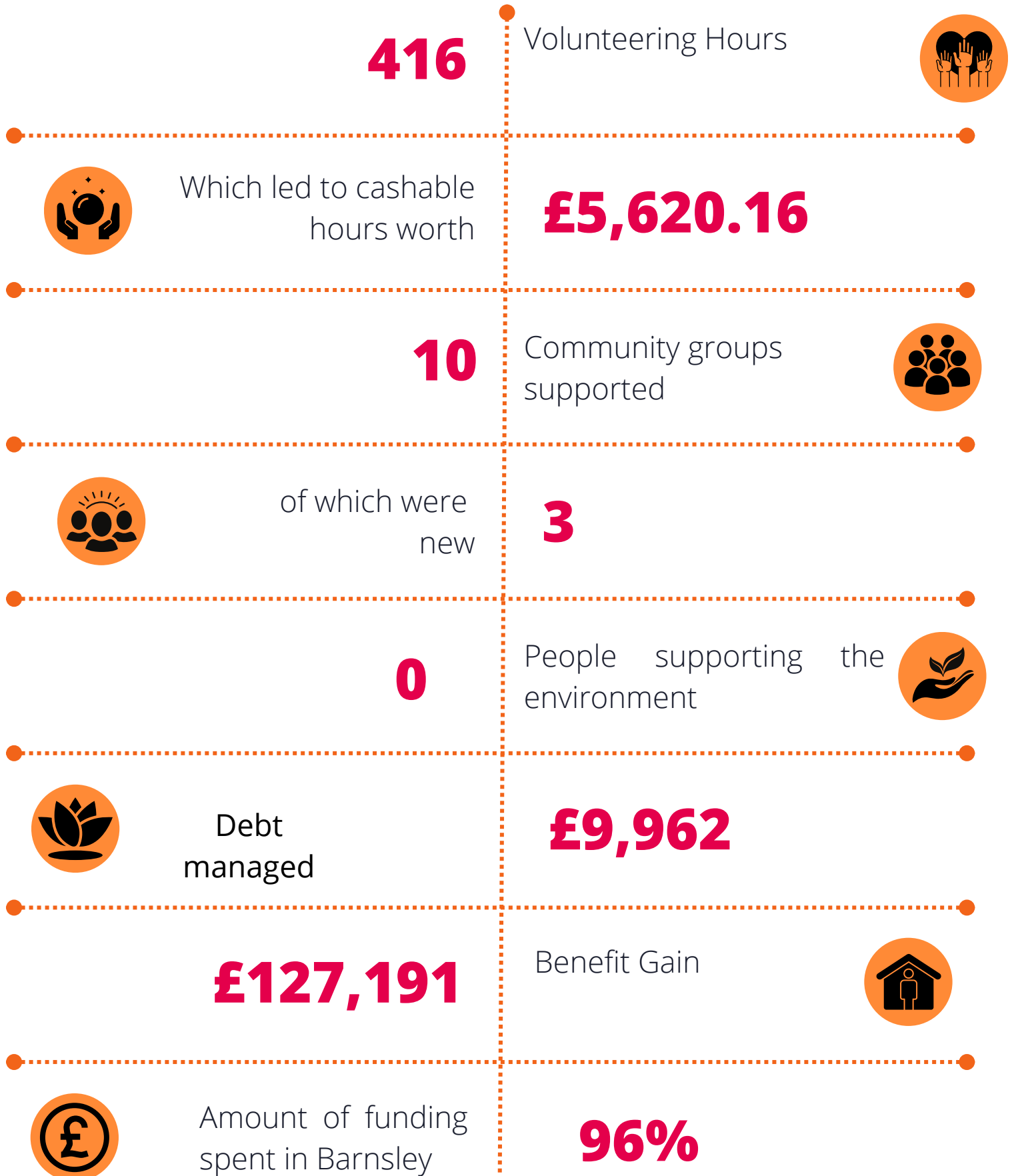
Young People  
contract to be  
commissioned

|                         |  |   |   |   |   |   |  |
|-------------------------|--|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| Healthy<br>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<br>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<br>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<br>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



## Overview of Performance

### Environmental Caretaker Contract



The South Environmental Caretaker service team have been recruited. The team leader started in July 2023 and the driver operative and apprentice in August 23 following an induction and training programme. The Key Performance indicator have been agreed with the South Area Council Members and will be monitored against from the 1st September 23. The first full quarter information will be available in January 2024 for the period October - December. Monthly scheduling meetings will take place in between to ensure Members requests are delivered against.



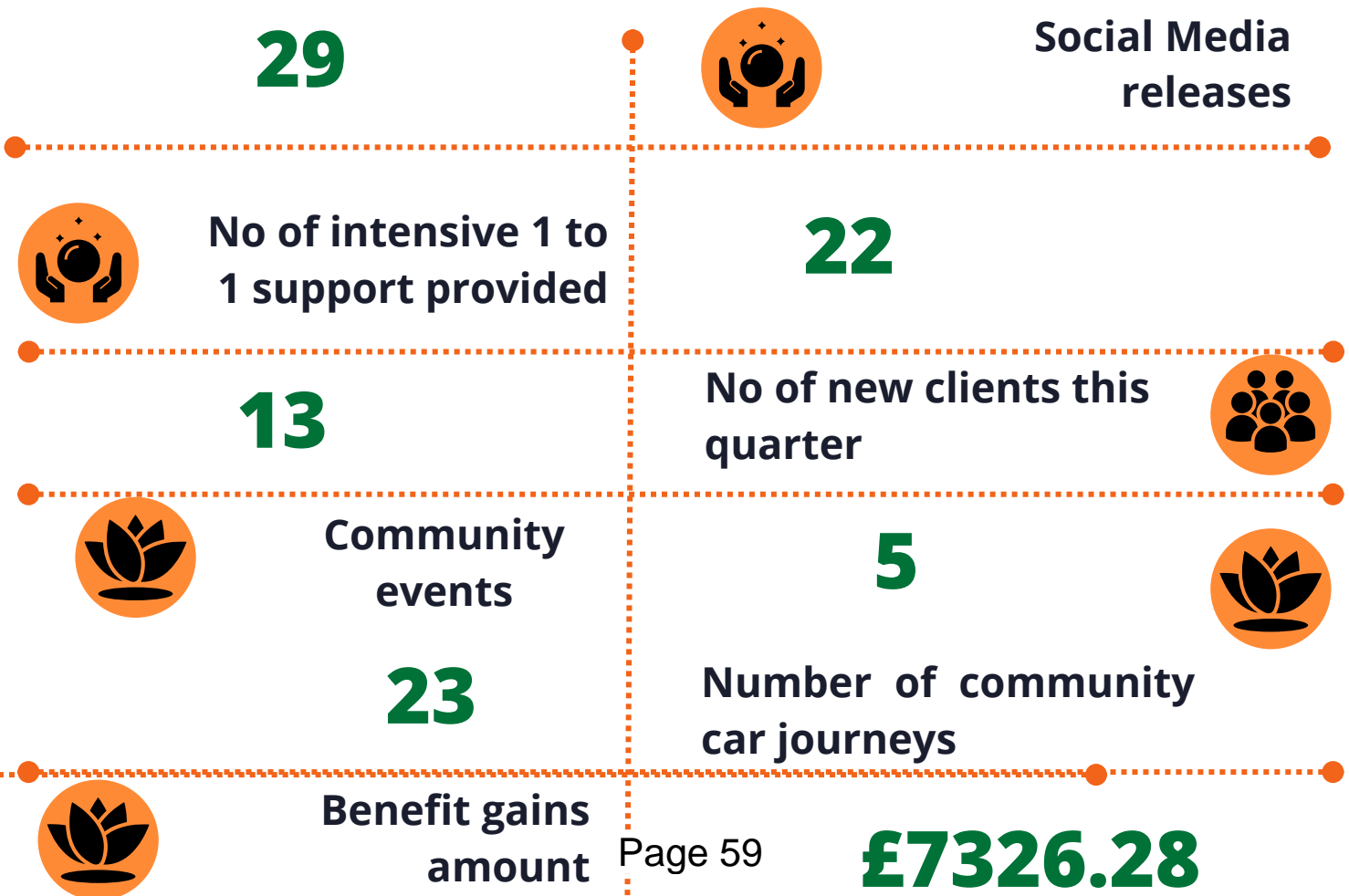


**This service is funded by the South Area Council. There are three Social Inclusion Officers in post supporting Hoyland/Milton, Rockingham (two posts job share), Wombwell and Darfield (1 x 32.5 hrs post). We also have 1 Information and Advice Worker in the South who provides 7.25 hours per week as part of this contract**

**1:1 Working**

Social Inclusion Officers (SIO's) have been working pro-actively within the South Area Council this quarter. There are three Officers in this area. One Officer left the organisation in May and has been replaced by another who is concentrating on 1-1s.

We are currently working with 48 clients in total and 17 have referred into us since April. Thirteen of these new clients are Female and four are Male. This quarter has shown a slight decrease in new referrals coming through from other professional organisations i.e. NHS Social Prescribing. SIO's actively seek out clients who may need extra support when we attend groups and community events.





### Social Value Objectives

**£7042.88**



Social value calculation



New Groups created

**3**

**10**

No of existing groups supported



Number of groups supported to become more inclusive

**10**

**5**

New volunteers



Total number of volunteers

**23**

**416**

Page 60 Volunteer Hours

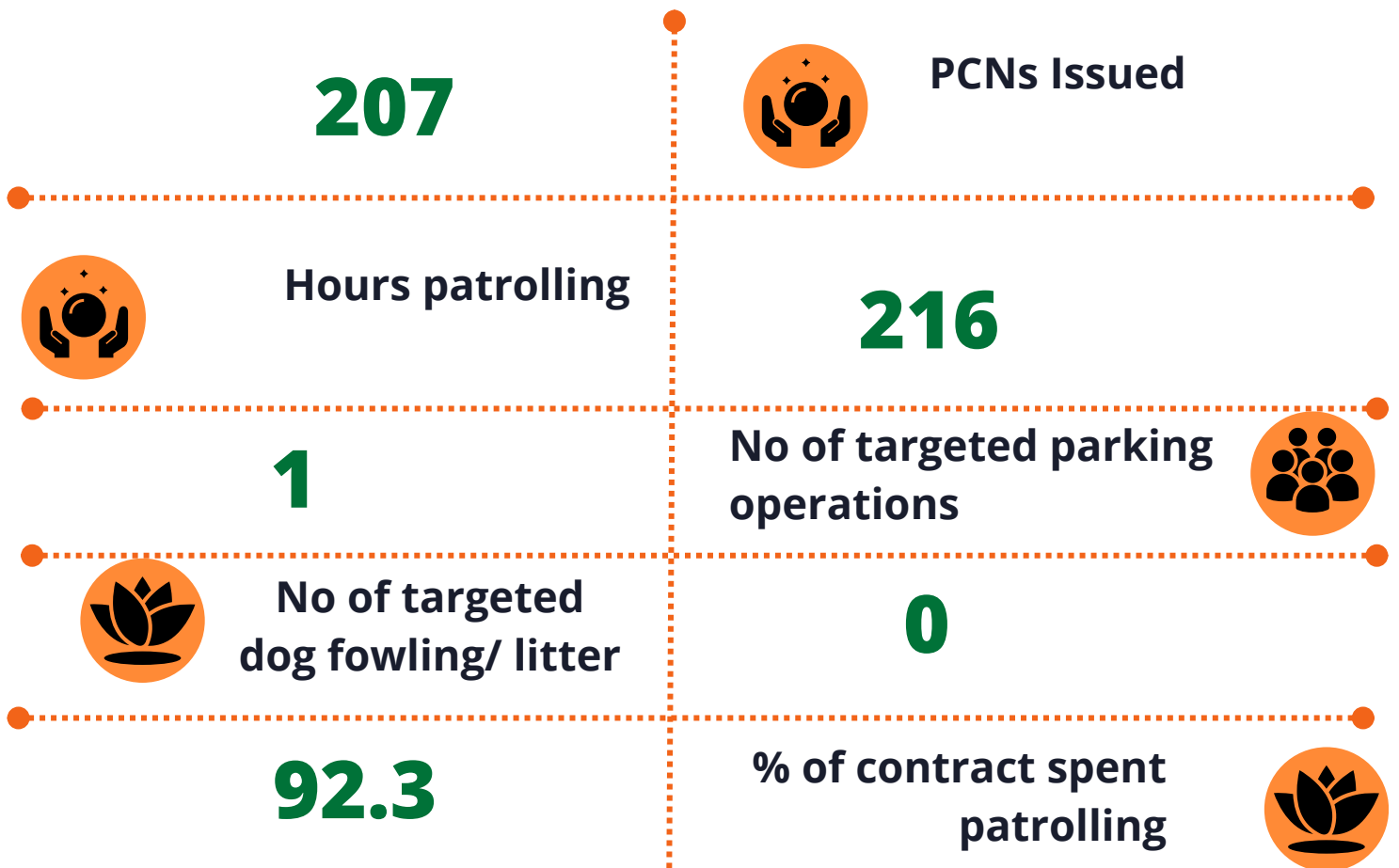


# Civil & Environmental Enforcement

## Our Environment



This quarter we have issued 207 PCN's for parking in the area (160 in Wombwell, 21 in Hoyland and 26 in Darfield). Again, the increase in the numbers in Wombwell have been in the main down to the continued roadworks that are still place on Wombwell High Street. As motorists have not been able to park on the High Street, they have been trying to find alternative parking just as close, but just as often still parking illegally. The increase in numbers in both Hoyland and Darfield are after the walk around with the operation manager of BMBC Parking who specified that areas which were previously off limits were now able to be issued against. Hoyland also has new RTO's/road markings on High Street, King Street and Market Street.





**BARNSELEY**

Metropolitan Borough Council

Report by the Private Sector Housing Enforcement Officer

Changing the Relationship between BMBC and the Community

**200**



No of contacts made



No of vulnerable households identified

**14**

**9**

No of inspections



No of properties improved

**9**

**2**

Informal requests to landlords



Informal requests to landlords

**6**

**4**

No of formal notices issued



No of interventions  
Rockingham  
HMR  
Darfield  
Wombwell

**4**  
**12**  
**7**  
**21**



**BARNSLEY**

Metropolitan Borough Council

Report by the Private Sector Housing Enforcement Officer

Changing the Relationship between BMBC and the Community

## Outcome Indicators



Targeted  
campaigns  
undertaken

7

25

No of contacts with  
household waste on  
premises



No of households  
directly supported  
with waste  
recycling

25

12

Households making  
improvements during  
intervention






This quarter I have also organised/attended:

- 7 pop up stalls across wards
- 2 drops in sessions
- 2 walkabouts
- 1 PACT meeting
- D Clutter Club



Citizens Advice Barnsley  
Access to Local Information and Advice

# Barnsley Citizens Advice

## Generalist Advisor

During this quarter of this project (1st April - 30th June 2023) the generalist advisor assisted a total of 284 client contacts. Out of this figure there were 99 unique clients and 185 repeat clients.

The top enquiries were, benefits, debt, employment, housing, relationships, utilities and communication, travel, charitable support and food banks, immigration and asylum, and consumer. However, there were also enquiries relating to financial, legal, health & community care, GVA and hate crime and other issues.

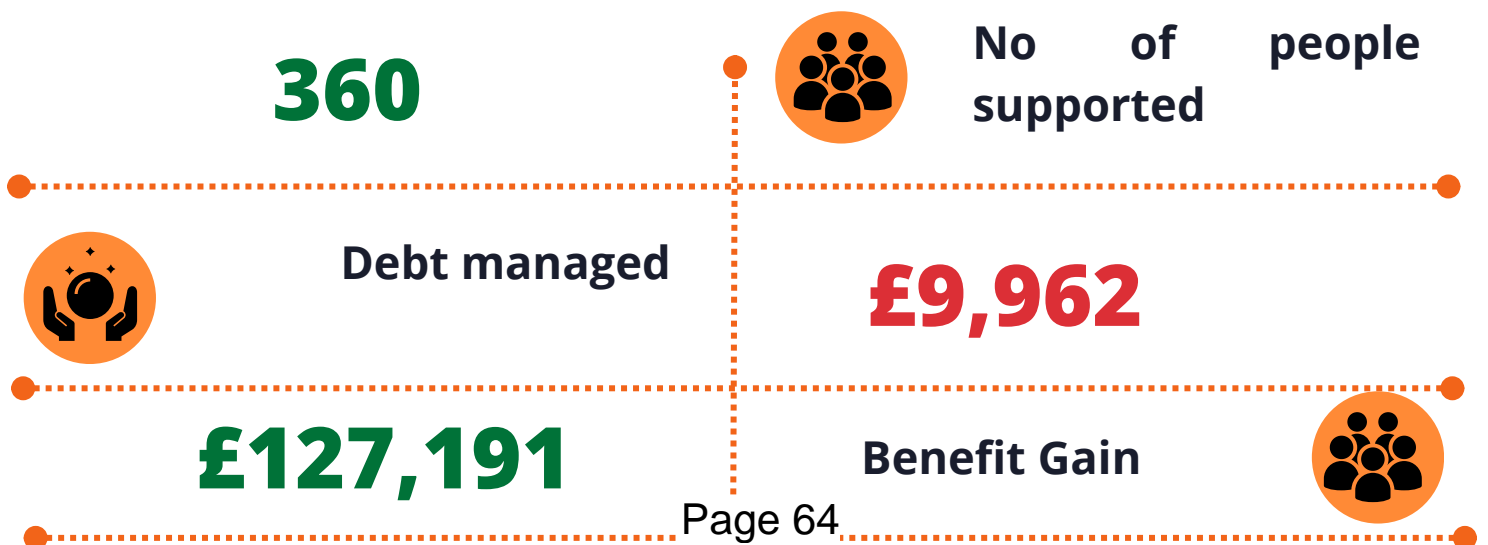
Of the 284 client contacts, 57 were from Darfield, 64 were from Hoyland Milton, 80 were from Rockingham and 78 were from Wombwell with 5 Out of Area.

## Welfare Rights Advisor

During this quarter of this project (1st April - 30th June 2023) advisors assisted a total of 166 client contacts. Out of this figure there were 76 unique clients and 90 repeat clients.

The top enquiries were, benefits, benefits Universal Credit, debt, housing, employment., tax and utilities.

Of the 166 client contacts, 35 were from Darfield, 34 were from Hoyland Milton, 43 were from Rockingham and 46 were from Wombwell. There were 8 Out of Area client contacts (4 clients) who attended an outreach and were given basic contact information, these clients lived just over the border.





Celebrating

10  
years

of working together

## A decade of Area Councils, Area Teams and Ward Alliances



# Commissioned Services Case Studies



The Elsecar Natterers – The SIO made a home visit to a client in Elsecar. During the discussion, it became apparent the client was lonely and wanted to get more active and join a group. The SIO made enquiries to find a suitable venue and contact was made with the Elsecar Cricket Club. An invitation was sent out via social media and posters, to invite people to an initial drop in, to gauge interest. The attendance was positive, and they all agreed that they would like a coffee, conversation, crafts, and trips group.

A trip to Wentworth Garden centre was organised where the members did some shopping and later met up in the café for drinks and cake. They are currently arranging their next outing.

Examples of the benefits that two members have gained from attending the group:

One female who is not originally from Barnsley but moved here recently, said that she did not know anyone. However, since joining the group, she has gained 10 friends!

One client, who is male, came to the first meeting but said he doubted that he would come again as everyone was female. He is still coming! Moreover, everyone has made him welcome



**Thank you so much for organising this group, we have all made friends and we look forward to each meeting. I am excited about the things we will be doing in the future**



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# Commissioned Services Case Studies



Concerned neighbours raised concerns about the resident, working from home, isolated from family and friends with no visitors and an accumulation of waste visible. The front room was full of household waste including takeaway cartons, cardboard boxes, and a large amount of wine bottles. There were no smoke alarms, and the kitchen was inaccessible due to the waste. The boiler hadn't worked in three years, and they were taking cold showers and had no heating. The resident was sat on one side of the sofa with the waste surrounding them, whilst working on a camping table. They hadn't been into the kitchen for several months and due to mobility issues couldn't walk around the outside, along the other terraced properties to the rear door to access it. I had been meeting the fire service for a different visit to they came straight to the property and installed smoke alarms. Together we cleared the area at the front door so there was a clear exit. The resident asked for support in finding a clearance company and agreed they were now ready to accept the help.

A week later, after getting a quote for the waste clearance the room was cleared, funded by the resident. All excess waste throughout the property was removed, access was gained to the kitchen and the resident was able to move freely in the property with no obstructions.

“ the biggest change is being able to cook meals again and invite family and friends' round, rather than living on takeaways ”

Celebrating

10  
years

of working together

A decade of Area  
Councils, Area Teams  
and Ward Alliances



## Commissioned Services Case Studies



The Highways team have placed 2 new disabled bays in the vicinity. One on King Street (an extension of the previous loading bay – outside Staniforths), whilst the other has been placed on Market Street, (again an extension of the already existing loading bay – opposite the B & M store). These bays have helped immensely with the problems encountered by disabled drivers wanting to use the local amenities. Previously the only place they could park close to the shops was in the loading bays, which in reality should only have been used for loading and unloading. Disabled motorists would also often park on the yellow lines with kerb markings, which is in contradiction to their terms and conditions on the use of the Blue Badge, and if the driver not located and warned, resulted in a PCN being issued.



Celebrating

10  
years

of working together

## A decade of Area Councils, Area Teams and Ward Alliances



# Commissioned Services Case Studies

citizens  
advice

Barnsley

Jimmy decided he should go to see someone from Citizens Advice Barnsley - and was really glad that he could do so at an outreach really close to home! He explained the situation to the adviser who was very happy to check through Jimmy's financial situation with him and to look at whether he was entitled to further financial support.

Having looked at the details of their current situation, the adviser explained that, as Jimmy was over pensionable age, he could claim Attendance Allowance. If it was decided that he was eligible, then his wife would be able to claim Carer's Allowance also. The adviser telephoned for a claim pack to be sent out to Jimmy. The adviser also told Jimmy that he could return to the outreach if he wanted assistance with the form, or, if his claim was rejected, for help with the appeals process.

But that wasn't all - the adviser's calculations indicated that Jimmy wasn't receiving enough Pension Credit: he recorded the figures for Jimmy so that he could check with the pension service. He also suggested that Jimmy should apply for a Discretionary Housing Payment to help with his housing costs, it was estimated that Jimmy would be better off by £8655 if he followed our advice .

“

I am so pleased i went to see Citizens Advice Barnsley they have given practical, informed advice and a promise of further support if i needed it.

”

## BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

**South Area Council Briefings:  
1<sup>st</sup> September 2023**

**Report of South Area Council Manager**

**South Area Council – Procurement and Financial Update**

**1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To provide a financial and procurement update and provide a steer on future commissioning and projects intentions for:
- Age UK Barnsley – Better Together Service
  - South Area Environmental Caretaker Service update
  - South Area Council commissioning budget

**2. Recommendations**

**Age UK Barnsley – Better Together Service**

- 2.1 That Members note the information at section 3 on the Age UK Barnsley Better Together Service and give approval to option a) which is to continue the contract for 1 year from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024. The cost would be £59,944. This funding is currently ringfenced to this contract from the South Area Council commissioning budget.

**South Area Environmental Caretaker Service update**

- 2.2 That Members note the update at section 4.

**South Area Council commissioning budget**

- 2.3 That Members note the information on the South Area Council commissioning budget at section 5.

**3. Age UK Barnsley – Better Together Service**

**Background**

- 3.1 In 2021 the South Area Council tendered for a provider to deliver a service that addresses loneliness and isolation amongst older people living in the four wards that make up the South Area Council. The aim of the service was to complement existing service provision, increase the security, independence and health and well-being of older people at risk of, or experiencing loneliness and isolation.
- 3.2 Age UK Barnsley successfully tendered and won the contract to deliver the 'Better together' service which started in September 2021. Quarterly report attached for information.

**Aim of the contract**

- 3.3 The service:
- Provides one to one support and interventions to help people become more independent.
  - Provides support to increase the number of people accessing services that they need.
  - Helps to increase the number of people engaged in physical activity.
  - Provides support to community groups and partners to become more inclusive and help understand the needs of the community.
  - Supports and develops opportunities for volunteering within the South Area.
  - Provides information, advice and guidance to residents in the South.

- Aims to Increase the number of people reporting improved levels of loneliness and isolation.
  - Supports services, community groups, businesses, and partners to become more Dementia Friendly.
  - Actively refers people to appropriate services including the South Area Council Commissioned services.
  - Helps to support and improve the relationship between the Council and the Community.
  - Delivers projects and community activity to improve social isolation and loneliness in the South Area.
  - Acts as eyes and ears in the community, developing supportive networks and gathering local intelligence that can help improve the understanding and better delivery of support to tackle social isolation and loneliness.
- 3.4 The contract will finish its second year of delivery on the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023. There is an option to continue the contract for a further year from 1<sup>st</sup> September 23 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 24.
- 3.5 Members are asked to make a decision on the contract based on the options below following the quarterly performance information and Age UK Barnsley presentation:
- Option a)** Continue the contract for 1 year from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024. The cost would be £59,944. This funding is currently ringfenced to this contract from the South Area Council commissioning budget.
- Option b)** Instruct South Area Council manager to work with the commissioning team and legal to issue 3 months' notice to cease the contract and reallocate the budget.

#### **4. Neighbourhood Services, Environmental Caretaker service update** **New Service update**

- 4.1 All roles have now been recruited to and are now in post. The Team leader started in June 2023, followed by the driver operative and apprentice in August 2023.
- 4.2 The first month has included training for all the team members to ensure they are able to work in a community setting safely. The team leader has been carrying out an assessment of tools that will be needed based on previous work requests. Equipment has been ordered and will be available to the team in September. Equipment is currently being loaned from internal services.
- 4.3 The team have been getting to know the area and locations and meetings are being planned with Ward Councillors to develop monthly scheduling meetings.
- 4.4 Ward Councillors have already shared some hotspot locations that require attention and the team have been working with Area council commissioned services and the area team to join up the work.

#### **Community Development Officer post update**

- 4.5 The South Area Council agreed to fund an Environmental project officer post to help deliver the South Area Council priority of 'improving the environment'. The job specification has been amended and the post has been regraded to grade 6 and hours increased to 32 hours per week for a 12-month temporary post.
- 4.6 The post will be out to advert in September 2023. The post will be advertised on BMBC's job vacancy pages and promoted through the South Area Council mailing list and Facebook page.

## South Area Council Finances

- 5.1 The South Area Council currently have a commissioning budget of £42,950 which is unallocated, and £37,996 ringfenced for Children and Young people activities. The list below outlines funding to date including external funding being managed by the South area.

| <b>Contract / Service / Project</b>  | <b>Contract start / end date</b>  | <b>Value</b>   |
|--|---|--|
| Welfare rights drop in service   | 1 <sup>st</sup> July 21 – 31 <sup>st</sup> August 24  | £81,261 per year   |
| Environmental Caretaker Service – Service Level Agreement  | 1 <sup>st</sup> April 23 – 31 <sup>st</sup> March 24<br>Not started so will roll over from start date,          | £120,963   |
| Environmental Community Development Officer  | 1 <sup>st</sup> April 23 – 31 <sup>st</sup> March 24<br>Not started so will roll over from start date,          | £34,804  |
| Private Sector Housing Officer – Service Level Agreement   | 1 <sup>st</sup> October 22 – 31 <sup>st</sup> March 24  | £42,844 per year   |
| Environmental Enforcement – District Enforcement Ltd   | £24,000 + £1740 Service Level Agreement – up to June 2023   | £25,740  |
| District revenue   | To be allocated   | £334 (£6666 allocated to 12 months resource for education and school parking issues) |
| Better Together service – Age UK Barnsley  | 1 <sup>st</sup> April 21 – 31 <sup>st</sup> March 24  | £59,935  |
| Summer Sports Van  | Summer 2022, 1 day per week X 5 weeks.  | £1875  |
| Healthier Communities Covid Pot  | Ringfenced to Children and young peoples activities   | £37,996 Income   |
| Household support grant – South Area application   | Support to schools, residents and groups for cost of living support – Funding approved June 23.                 | £20,000  |
| Safer Street Funding – Community safety funded devolved to South area.   | £10,000 Wombwell<br>£10,000 Darfield<br>£5000 Hoyland, Milton<br>£5000 Rockingham<br>To be spent by August 2023 | £30,000  |
| UK Shared Prosperity funding – South Area application  | Allocated – 2022/ 23<br>Provide cost of living support to residents, schools and groups.                        | £19,000  |
| Health & Wellbeing Funding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age UKB – Men in Sheds in Wombwell</li> <li>• Reds in the Community (Fit Red session left to</li> </ul> | Allocated in 2019 – 2020.   | £10,000  |

|                                     |  |                |
|-------------------------------------|--|----------------|
| deliver in a community setting)     |  |                |
| Tackling off Road Biking initiative | Allocated - Community safety have the equipment  | £2130          |
| Covid Practical Support Fund        | Allocated and distributed in 2022 to schools and targeted through PSAs and Private sector housing officer. | £20,000 Income |
| Functional Fitness MOT training     | No longer required. Reallocated into commissioning budget.   | £1200          |

**Officer contact: Lisa Lyon, [lisalyon@barnsley.gov.uk](mailto:lisalyon@barnsley.gov.uk)**



## Age UK Barnsley Monitoring report April – June 2023

**1:1 Working:** Social Inclusion Officers (SIO's) have been working pro-actively within the South Area Council this quarter. There are three officers in this area. One officer left the organisation in May and has been replaced by another who is concentrating on 1-1s.

We are currently working with 48 clients in total and 17 have referred into us since April. Thirteen of these new clients are Female and four are Male. This quarter has shown a slight decrease in new referrals coming through from other professional organisations i.e. NHS Social Prescribing. SIO's actively seek out clients who may need extra support when we attend groups and community events.

### Information and advice case study

**Overview:** This quarter we have worked with 22 Clients; 9 of these being existing clients that we have worked with previously and we have seen 13 new clients access the service. Our highest benefit gain per client is detailed in the case study below with a total benefit gain of £7326.28. Benefits is the most popular type of enquiry we have dealt with this quarter with Wombwell seeing the highest client demand. We continue to support clients on advice around fuel poverty when offering benefit advice and ensure that clients are aware of the Cost-of-Living Payments they are due to receive in terms of extra government help or help available via the BMBC Household Support Fund Grants. Where applicable clients are also offered a free Warm Home Energy Check.

Additional advice and benefit work has been done in the South area and has been coded to other funded projects.

Case Study: I visited the client at home with her son present. I did the online Benefit Check. The client husband passed away in February and her Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support has been stopped.

The Benefit Check showed the client would be entitled to £148.89 pw.

Pension Credit £36.19pw

Council Tax Support £18.64pw

Housing Benefit £86.06pw

I completed the HB/PC/CTS for the client online with the information she provided.

The client had a total financial gain of **£7326.28** for the year.

**Volunteers** : Age UK Barnsley (AUKB) recognise the importance of volunteers and their role in supporting elderly clients in the Barnsley Area. Our volunteers have worked a massive **416** hours this quarter that has resulted in a Social Value of **£7,042.88**.

This quarter we have been proactive in recruiting volunteers and have seen five new members sign up with AUKB. We, as a Charity, held a "THANK YOU" event in our new Elizabeth Centre at Queens Road to celebrate the good that our volunteers do each day. AUKB honoured the long service volunteers with a certificate, and everyone received a gift

and lunch to show our appreciation for their hard work. This event also created an opportunity to discuss other volunteering opportunities and we hope to see our volunteer numbers increase next quarter.

**Activities and groups:** AUKB have ten community groups within the South Area Council. Seven of these groups are established and have very good attendance; two groups are new, and one group (The Men's Group) is growing slowly, due to initial setbacks. The SIO is consulting with the members to build the activities in a direction they would like to go.

Age UK SIO's are continually supporting and referring into these groups. Feedback from clients has identified a need for the SIO to continue being involved, and having a presence at the groups allows us to maintain a sense of group belonging. They have stated that without the input of the SIO, they will no longer attend. The South SIO's work tirelessly in the community to identify where there is a gap in service and set up new groups to meet this need. As an example, the SIO's have created 2 new groups this quarter.

**Group One: Darfield "Let's do Lunch".** The SIO initially created this group to run from Audrey's Coffee House in Darfield. It became clear within the first few weeks that this was not an appropriate venue as the costs were to be increased, and this could have an impact on clients' finances. The SIO immediately searched for alternative premises and agreed a competitive price at Darfield Cricket Club. Due to this search and negotiation the SIO created, "**Let's do Lunch**" (see detailed case study). The group runs every Monday and provides a two-course meal with unlimited hot drinks for £7.00. This group is growing in strength and is consistently well attended.

***"I love this group and the food is amazing, thank you so much. I hope you do not stop coming as I am worried the group will end if Age UK Barnsley aren't there".***

**Group 2: The Elsecar Natterers** – The SIO made a home visit to a client in Elsecar. During the discussion, it became apparent the client was lonely and wanted to get more active and join a group. The SIO made enquiries to find a suitable venue and contact was made with the Elsecar Cricket Club. An invitation was sent out via social media and posters, to invite people to an initial drop in, to gauge interest. The attendance was positive, and they all agreed that they would like a coffee, conversation, crafts, and trips group. A trip to Wentworth Garden centre was organised where the members did some shopping and later met up in the café for drinks and cake. They are currently arranging their next outing.

Examples of the benefits that two members have gained from attending the group: One female who is not originally from Barnsley but moved here recently, said that she did not know anyone. However, since joining the group, she has gained 10 friends!

One client, who is male, came to the first meeting but said he doubted that he would come again as everyone was female. He is still coming! Moreover, everyone has made him welcome

***"Thank you so much for organising this group, we have all made friends and we look forward to each meeting. I am excited about the things we will be doing in the future"***



**Group 3 Men in Sheds – Wombwell** – This Quarter a lot of work has been done with the Men’s group in Wombwell. It has proved difficult to get things on track with this group as some of the members were pushing for a model similar to the Men in sheds Barnsley. The SIO arranged meetings with the Project Officer from the main Shed Group, the local Councillor and the Community Development Officer from South Area Council to discuss a realistic way forward and manage expectations with the group members.

This proved a big turning point, and everyone seems happy with the options of games, crafts and flat pack woodwork which the main shed will supply. Last week the members left the group stating, *“the time has flown by, I could have stayed longer.”*

Over the coming weeks the SIO is to purchase relevant tools and equipment from the funding the group successfully obtained. With the help of social media and positive promotion we hope to see new members coming along.

During this Quarter the men had a trip to the local bowling club where they all enjoyed lessons in Crown Green Bowling, they all enjoyed it one member said he was considering taking it up as a Hobby.



**King Charles’s Coronation – Darfield:** We organised two Coronation tea parties – one in Elsecar, and one in Darfield. The attendance was pleasing, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The SIO’s provided bucks Fizz for a toast, sandwiches, tea and scones, and everyone was entertained with a Royal Family Quiz. The lucky winners won prizes. During the Darfield party, we met a lovely person, who came with her daughters. Her daughters expressed a worry about their mum, and that she rarely spoke anymore. The SIO suggested other groups and support we could offer, which they agreed to try. (For further details, see Wombwell/Darfield case study)



**King Charles's Coronation – Elsecar:** This event was delayed slightly due to the group being on a Monday and interrupted by bank holidays. However, the group was not going to let the day pass without a celebration. All the members came together and prepared sandwiches; baked a copious number of cakes, and donned party hats. It was a glorious day, so everyone sat outside in the sunshine to toast the King.



**National Dementia Week – AUKB held 7 Events: Fitzwilliam Court**

To mark the National Dementia Week, the SIO visited Fitzwilliam Court, Hoyland and spoke to residents about the services that AUKB can offer to support with Dementia. The people that came to the talk were quiet at the start but as I explained more to them, the questions started coming. They were interested in the Age Friendly initiative in the South Area Council and were happy about the 'Take a Seat' opportunities in local businesses

***"I am really scared about getting Alzheimer's, but feel much better having listened to what support is available"***



**Barnsley Hospital:** The SIO held a Dementia information stall at Barnsley Hospital. It was well attended and many of the hospital staff stopped for a chat about what AUKB can offer and how they can help. There were many other partners in attendance and proved a great opportunity for networking.



**Darfield lunch club:** This week's lunch club was themed to raise awareness of Dementia. Blue and purple flowers decorated the tables, and the SIO was on hand to discuss any concerns the members had. ....



**Chatty Crafts:** Dementia Awareness was the theme for another of our groups. The craft group in Wombwell Library really engaged in discussing Dementia and many shared personal stories about how it had impacted on their lives.

**The Tavern Lundhill :** SIO visited the Tavern and discussed dementia Awareness and took leaflets and information. This group welcomes talks and information and found the leaflets helpful. They now know more about dementia, and the many support services that are available in the community.

**Darfield Bowling Club – Intergenerational day:** Age UK Barnsley were invited to take part in the open day at Darfield Bowling Club. Older people to join in matches with the younger generation. This was a successful afternoon and was enjoyed by everyone who attended



**CURRENT ESTABLISHED GROUPS:** One of AUKB’s existing and extremely successful groups held at The Tavern, Lundhill enjoyed a day out in Bakewell, Derbyshire. The members wanted to have a trip and decided, as a collective, to book a coach and go to Bakewell. The SIO supported them on the trip and we were lucky enough to have a member who knew a lot of information about the town we were visiting. He wrote us some facts down and asked the SIO to use the coach microphone to give these facts. Everyone applauded him for sharing his knowledge; he was very happy and had a very big smile. The sun was shining, and the rain came and went, but everyone had a fantastic time.

*“We are so thankful that this group was set up as we are all friends now, and feel part of a Community”*



The Tavern at Lundhill also had a visit from the South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service, offering excellent advice and guidance for home fire safety

**Added Value – South Cost of living assistance -Clean and tidy project**

This project has been completed this quarter. It has seen us identify 95 people in the area who would benefit from the packs. They included 22 items for personal hygiene and household cleaning and the aim is to offer support with hygiene poverty. These have been delivered by local volunteers.

**Help Home From Hospital** This saw AUKB commissioned to support older people home from hospital after an overnight stay and offer ongoing support to anyone that didn't meet the Adult social care threshold for ongoing support. Such as social inclusion, to put in place a meal delivery, aids and adaptations referral, I&A advice and day services where appropriate.

61 people from this area received the service.

### **Men-In-Sheds**

The shedders continue to work with men experiencing loneliness and isolation. Putting in over 600 volunteer hours to support our clients from across the borough. We continue to refer men to this excellent opportunity for peer support, to volunteer, have a chat, try their hand at woodwork or build on their digital skills

**BOPPAA** Age UK Barnsley continues to support older people to be active and lead healthy lifestyles. Barnsley Older People Physical Activity Alliance (BOPPAA) is continuing to grow and the SIOs regularly refer service users into current groups.

The project looks at gaps in the provision of exercise classes for older people and provides taster sessions to gauge interest in new classes. When there is an interest in the classes, the alliance works in partnership with Age UK Barnsley to set up and promote the classes for a longer term.

**Digital Project** The digital project is still taking referrals and has had 2 new clients in the area this quarter. They received a digital device, support to set up and use the device and a referral to Digital Champions.

**Heart Health** Our Senior Social Inclusion Officer will be supporting AUKB groups, other community groups and members of the public to access a mixture information on of exercise, healthy eating and healthy choices regarding smoking and drinking. All aimed at maintaining or improving heart health. With particular emphasis on men.

**Affordable shopping service** This service was set up after receiving feedback from many of our clients regarding how difficult they found it to do a weekly shop. Transport was an issue as was carrying their groceries. Online shopping wasn't an option as they didn't feel competent to do so.

The Project Officers offer 3 parts to this service.

Assisted shopping. Where they will transport the client and support them around the shop.

Shop and drop. The client is contacted and a list provided. The Project Officer then does the shop and drops it off at their home.

Online shopping assistance is also offered. 8 people accessed the service this quarter.

**Handyman and gardening services**Our gardening service can be accessed for garden maintenance such as lawn mowing and hedge trimming.

15 People from this area accessed the service. The handyman service can put up curtain rails, help move/build furniture and other basic DIY tasks. 5 People from the area accessed this service.

These services were also facilitated after consulting with older people to see where support was needed.

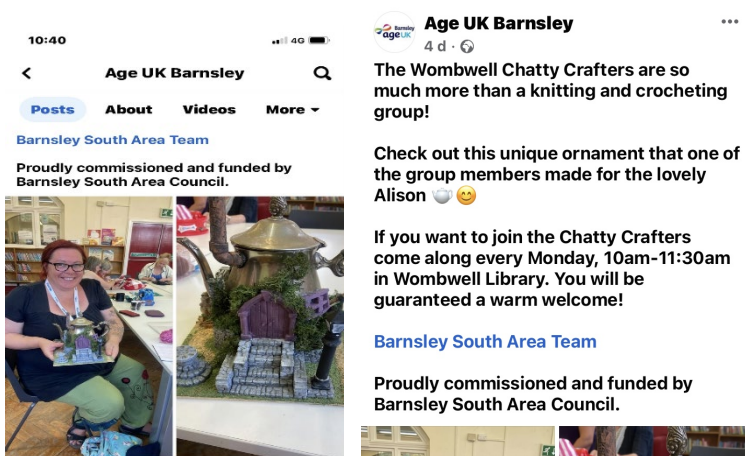
**Elizabeth activity & care centre and Ken Littlewood wellbeing suite** The wellbeing suite offers the services of a hairdresser, nail technician, massage therapist and foot care specialist.

This is done in a clean, safe environment where even the most anxious of client can be put at ease.

The Elizabeth Centre offers more intensive support to our clients as they move to that stage of their lives. A free day is offered in the centre to all prospective new clients.

**Social Media** In this quarter, we released **29** Facebook posts that directly related to the South Social Inclusion Project.

These reached **47,208** people; generated **569** reactions, **44** comments and **120** shares. Social Media has enabled us to promote current and new groups and encouraged participants to attend. Social Media advertising, along with the Social Inclusion promotion and 1 – 1’s visits has seen a healthy uptake in people attending the South Area Council Community groups.



**Training** Social Inclusion Officers have completed, and renewed training over the past quarter; this training is essential to support AUKB’s high standards when SIO’s are working in the community with elderly clients.

Safeguarding

GDPR

Data Protection

Dementia Awareness

Mental Capacity Act 2005 and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DOLS)

Lone Worker Training

Barnsley Sexual Abuse & Rape Crisis Service Awareness Training

Health & Safety



## **Case Studies**

### **AGE UK BARNSELEY Social Inclusion Case Study**

**Date 04/07/2023**

**Ward Area: Darfield**

Summary:

The Objective of the Lunch club was to provide a healthy and homemade meal and reduce isolation and loneliness for older people in Darfield.

It provides a regular meeting place and a great opportunity to meet new people.

Originally Audreys coffee house was identified but after running a few weeks it became apparent it wasn't fit for purpose and the price increase enforced by the venue made it impossible to continue as the numbers dramatically declined.

The attendance figures showed a real need for this group, the SIO was determined to find a new venue quickly.

After meeting with the groundkeeper and chef at Darfield cricket club it was agreed that Age UK Barnsley would relaunch the group at an affordable price of £7 for a 2-course meal with unlimited tea/coffee. Telephone calls to the previous clients were made to those who attended Audrey's and invited to the new venue.

The lunch club has been well attended from the start, and the group has welcomed many new people over the past few months.

The Daughter of Mr and Mrs X contacted me to book her parents in, she explained that they had not left the house in months and her mum very rarely spoke. She brought them along and I chatted about other services we offer.

After just a few weeks, Mrs X has opened up and become very chatty. She said she looks forward to Mondays now and interacts with me and the group.

Mr and Mrs X now attend via dial a ride and have found independence again for the first time in years. They also attend Age Uk Elizabeth Activity and Care centre once a week which they were not aware of before.

Mr and Mrs X's daughter said she cannot thank Age Uk Barnsley enough for the difference it has made to their lives but also to hers. She worries far less about them now and doesn't have the guilt she previously felt about not having enough time for them.

### **Key Learning Points:**

Continue to promote the Group therefore reaching more older people and enabling them to engage in other services.

Who was involved:

- The venue
- Social Inclusion Officer
- Dial a ride
- Volunteers

### **Age UK Barnsley Social Inclusion Case Study (Hoyland)**

The client is known to the SIO as they previously as they volunteered for AUKB. I first came to know X when they moved back to England from Australia. X contacted AUKB because they wanted to give some time back to the community and it would help their social connections. After all the relevant checks X started to make telephone calls to a client who had just come out of hospital. This arrangement was I well until the volunteer themselves became ill.

Due to the SIO already being in contact with X through volunteering, I knew straight away of the illness and stepped in to offer support. The SIO immediately made a home visit to X and spent the time listening to her feelings and worries. I rang each week leading up to the operation and checked again as soon as X was home.

X is a very strong person and determined to get well but is willing to accept support and help where they need it. In view of this the SIO suggested AUKB's shopping service which they have gratefully accepted and has the opportunity to have the shopping delivered or to go with the AUKB shopper to the supermarket. This offers the opportunity to get out of the house with the support of the shopper.

The SIO also allocated a volunteer to support X. A joint visit was made by the SIO, Volunteer and X, this was a successful meet up and the volunteer will make contact and arrange suitable times to visit.

This case study highlights the importance of making connections with people in the community, to developing relationships, and have a presence so people would know whom they could come to for help.

X is now doing really well. With support from AUKB's Social Inclusion Officer, Shopper service, and the volunteer they will continue in this direction, all is possible due to funding from the South Area Council

Who was involved:

- Social Inclusion Officer
- Dial a ride
- Volunteers
- AUKB Shopper

### **Next Steps**

Continue working in the community and supporting the elderly in the south Area Council

New Tai Chi group, Hoyland

Continue to develop Men in Sheds, Wombwell

Continue supporting South Area Council to events and attending meetings

Supporting Social Action Cloughfields clean up

Intergenerational Tea and Entertainment afternoon at Netherwood School

Elsecar by the Sea summer fayre

Darfield Summer fayre

### **Visits to external groups**

**Jump WMC – Visit:** AUKB visited the group at Jump WMC. This is a well-established group and they asked if we could go and give an information talk, about our services. We welcomed this invite as it gave the SIO the opportunity to reach a large number of people. The SIO discussed how the funding from the South Area Council enabled us to feed back into the local community and offer support. AUKB are now able to offer an affordable shopping service, gardening service, and a handyperson service. All these services enable the older people in the South Council Area to access safe services. ***“I didn’t realise you did so much”.***

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## **2023/24 WARD FUNDING ALLOCATIONS**

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

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

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

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

The carry-forward of any 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.

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

**DARFIELD WARD ALLIANCE**

For the 2023/24 financial year the Ward Alliance have the following available budget.

£10,000 base allocation  
 £158.69 carried forward from 2022/23  
 £0 unspent grants  
**£10,158.69 total available funding**

| <b>Project</b>                 | <b>Allocation</b> | <b>Match funding element of allocation</b> | <b>Non Match funding allocation remaining</b> | <b>Allocation Remaining</b><br><b>£10,158.69</b> |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|--|---|--|
|                                |                   |  | <b>£5079</b>                                  |  |
| Darfield Amenity Society       | £137              | £0   | £4,942.34                                     | £10,021.69                                       |
| Darfield Summer Gala           | £2200             | £1027                                      | £4,942.34                                     | £7,821.69  |
| Houghton Main CC               | £500              | £32,880                                    | £4,942.34                                     | £7,321.69  |
| Friends of Thornhill House     | £350              | £685                                       | £4,942.34                                     | £6,971.69  |
| Friends of Darfield Churchyard | £450              | £0   | £4,492.34                                     | £6,521.69  |
| Darfield Library Events        | £500              | £0   | £3,992.34                                     | £6,021.69  |

## HOYLAND MILTON/ROCKINGHAM WARD ALLIANCE

For the 2023/24 financial year the Ward Alliance have the following available budget.

|                   |                                |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| £20,000           | base allocation                |
| £936.20           | carried forward from 2022/23   |
| £0                | Returned Grants                |
| <b>£20,936.20</b> | <b>total available funding</b> |

| Project                        | Allocation | Match funding element of allocation | Non Match funding allocation remaining | Allocation Remaining |
|--------------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|--|----------------------|
|                                |            |                                     | <b>£10,468.42</b>                      | <b>£20,936.20</b>    |
| Volunteer Training             | £2,000     | £0                                  | £8,468.42                              | £18,936.20           |
| Hoyland Library Gardening Club | £1,000     | £0                                  | £7,468.42                              | £17,936.20           |
| Town Centre Flags              | £564.96    | £0                                  | £6,921.46                              | £17,371.24           |
| Healthy Holidays               | £1500      | £0                                  | £5,421.46                              | £15,871.24           |

## WOMBWELL WARD ALLIANCE

For the 2023/24 financial year the Ward Alliance have the following available budget.

£10,000 base allocation  
 £343.25 carried forward from 2022/23  
 £704 Income/ Returned Grants  
**£11,047.25 total available funding**

| Project            | Allocation | Match funding element of allocation | Non Match funding allocation remaining<br><b>£5,523</b> | Allocation Remaining<br><b>£11,047.25</b> |
|--------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| Defib project      | £1040      | £328                                | £5,523  | £10,007.25                                |
| Wombwell Dam       | £600       | £2520                               | £5,523  | £9,407.25                                 |
| Wombwell Mens Club | £1500      | £3699                               | £5,523  | £7,907.25                                 |
| Picnic in the park | £500       | £2055                               | £5,523  | £7,407.25                                 |
| Healthy Holidays   | £1000      | £3014                               | £5,523  | £6,407.25                                 |
| Wombwell Library   | £345       | £0                                  | £5,178  | £6,062.25                                 |
| SWS Football       | £463.17    | £0                                  | £4,715  | £5,599.08                                 |