

July to
September
2023

Penistone Area Council Performance Report



Barnsley – the place
of possibilities.



Penistone Area Council
Penistone East, Penistone West

Area Council Priorities

Health and Wellbeing
Supporting Young People
Local Economy + tourism
Helping People connect
Our Environment

Sustainable

Growing

Healthy

Learning

These services address the priorities and deliver the outcomes and social value objectives for the Penistone Area Council.

Priority	Service	Contract /Grant	Contract end date	Provider	2030
	Clean, Green and Tidy	£100,000 per annum	Funded until end of September 2023	Twiggs	
	Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older people	£70,000 per annum	Funded until June 2024	Age UK Barnsley	
	Debt advice service	£ 10,589 Per annum	Funded until March 2025	Citizens Advice Barnsley	
	Information and Advice service	£5,198 per annum	Funded until January 2025	DIAL	
	Working Together Grant Supporting Young People	£40,000	September 2024	Various	
	Principal Towns	No cost to PAC	Ongoing	BMBC	

	Outcome indicator	Q2 Jul-Sept 2023	Year to date	Year 2022/23	To date
	Clean & tidy activities which involve businesses	1	15	77	298
	Young people making a positive contribution to the design/ maintenance of their local environment	12	68	9	724
	People who feel they have the opportunity to influence the design and maintenance of their local environment	47	100	132	840
	Apprentice and placements created and recruited to	0	0	1	6
	People taking up work experience placements	0	0	0	32
	Young People engaged in volunteering	12	13	13	794
	Activities which involve young people under the age of 18	8	14	111	510
	Community groups supported	8	24	48	725
	New community groups supported	0	2	7	67
	Community car scheme journeys	101	228	381	1643
	Adult volunteers engaged	104	195	629	4249
	New volunteers	3	6	150	1096
	Residents and young people receiving advice and support	106	217	931	3407
	Residents referred to health and advice	1	1	6	167
	FTE jobs created and recruited to	0	0	2	24.5
	Local spend (average across all contracts)	95%	95%	95%	95.4%
	Volunteer hours contributed (£ value)	£9,535.20	£ 21,700.80	£48,123.45	£417,314.54
	Volunteer opportunities created	77	177	76	2129
	People achieving a qualification / accreditation	0	5	0	162
	People receiving training	15	64	48	1185

Clean, Green and Tidy Service



Twiggs

- 47 volunteers supported
- 121 volunteer hours supported
- 40 rubbish bags filled
- 5 community groups supported
- 1 local business worked with

This contract provides a service to help maintain a clean, green and tidy environment in the wards of Penistone East and Penistone West. The emphasis is to work with the community; incorporating volunteers, local businesses, parish councils and local schools to empower and enable a sustainable approach. The contract has been on a final 6 month extension ending at the end of September 2023 and now provides a team of 4 to the area two days per week on a rotational basis to ensure all groups can still be supported. This is the last quarterly report for this service which concluded on 30th September within this reporting period.

Highlights

The focus for this last quarter has been mostly on proactive work to keep the area clean and tidy with 41 additional areas identified and worked on against a target of 10.

5 established groups worked with (against a target of 10) as no new projects have been started with the team not being able to follow through. Groups worked with included: Team Green Moor, HB+, Silkstone Care, TPEG (working with volunteers from McDonalds) and working to support a group new to Twiggs South Yorkshire Industrial History Society providing support to the clearance of the heritage site around Rockely Furnace. This group has identified the need for some future support to keep the area maintained for visitors





The Twiggs apprentice for the area has continued to make great progress whilst she has been here, She has achieved a good standard of learning and has been commended on her mowing and strimming skills. It has been recommended that she continue to work on petrol powered tools and hedge cutters as part of her next phase of learning.

Summary for the extension period April – end Sept 2023

	Target	Actual
Additional areas targetted	15	77
Existing groups supported	20	19
Activities working with schools	8	6
No of adult volunteers	320	100
Volunteers trained and recruited	15	19
No of school pupils worked with on Env project	45	68
No events assisted which support economy	8	9

5 Twiggs led social action initiatives – Activities arranged by Twiggs but including volunteer input. This quarter included: Oxspring Car park supporting volunteers to reinvigorate the bedding surrounding the site and enabling long term ownership, RE-working the incredible edible bed at Windermere road with the long term volunteer there, Re-replacing a vandalised commemorative oak tree at Watermeadows park with a Twiggs donated Acer working with 4 sustained volunteers there, Pinfold Oxspring garden area maintenance and bench restoration, Hood Green recreation area support to volunteers with hedge management and overgrowth and long term planning for trees in the area.

Work with one school this quarter – Thurlstone Primary working with TESCO to provide 12 school pupils the opportunity to plan and develop a garden area using donated plants from TESCO and introducing new learning for pupils. Total of 3 schools worked with overall against a target of 4 for the 6 month extension period

New partnership activity was introduced this quarter with Wentworth Castle Gardens , supporting volunteers with the development of the Union Jack garden designated for future community maintenance

Feedback (Silkstone CARE group)

“Firstly, I would like to thank everyone at Twiggs for supporting our work over the last couple of years.

The team has supported us on many occasions, mainly during the week, laterally on a couple of Saturdays.

We have found the team members to be helpful and supportive when working in our community. We are few in number and the extra help has been very useful.”



Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older people

Age UK Barnsley



2400 interventions

12 new referrals

35 volunteers worked with

382 volunteer hours

101 community car journeys

Social Action and Volunteering

Ageing Well in Penistone is the contract delivered by Age UK Barnsley to address loneliness and social isolation among older people in the electoral wards of Penistone East and Penistone West. The Service provides support at a one to one level through volunteer be-friending , helps to establish group activities with a particular emphasis on health outcomes, provides information and advice targeted to older people, special events and a community car scheme to help people access social and health activities and appointments. Two social inclusion workers are attached to this contract employed by Age UK Barnsley.

Highlights

- There have been 12 new referrals : 8 have had a 1 to 1 support and been given information on all groups and dial a ride referrals made on their behalf. 4 have received support over the phone, 4 BMBC referrals to aids and adaptations, 2 for repairs to Berneslai homes 1 had severe mental health issues sign posted to adult social care. 1 gent with Dementia, 2 suffer with anxiety and ill health therefore both have been referred to DIAL. 8 have become permanent service users within our groups and activities. 2 referred to handyman and garden services. 3 are using shopping services.
- 16 clients received information and advice, 9 were new clients and 7 were existing clients. Total benefit gain £28,359.76 this quarter with £1,159.08 for Pension Credit. highest benefit gain for this quarter was £5291 per annum. Continue to support clients on advice around fuel poverty ensuring clients are aware of the Cost-of-Living Payments, extra government help or help available via the BMBC Household Support Fund Grants and free Warm Home Energy Check.

Outputs	Target	Actual
Number I&A Service Users	15	16
Community Car Journeys	75	101
Number Volunteers <i>Existing , active volunteers</i>	40	35
Number of new volunteers; <i>Includes befrienders/good neighbours/car drivers</i>	No target	3
Increase in Wellbeing	+4	No figure this quarter
Decrease in Loneliness	-2	No figure this quarter

35 active volunteers: 30 are established, 5 are relatively new 3 new ones are now seeing service users on a 1 to 1 befriending basis.

Penistone Men in Sheds; Age Uk now no longer support the Penistone project, but can refer men to the Barnsley central project.

Millhouse Green & Thurlstone Lunch Club due to low volunteer numbers Age Uk can no longer sustain this service users being signposted to the New Inn lunch club that takes place on the same day.

New Inn Pub Lunch Group (Penistone) This group continues to meet every week on Wednesdays 12 till 2. We have between 8 & 20 attending.

Other groups operating independently with support from Age Uk include:

- Healthy Life, Pilley exercise group meets on a weekly basis with regular attendance of between 9 and 11.
- Wortley Afternoon Social run by the church volunteers. They are finding it difficult to attract new, members and volunteers Age UK supporting with this.
- Tea & Chat, Weavers Court meet each month and is run by 2 volunteers. On average there are 14 attending each time.
- Board Games Group now run by a volunteer, very popular since starting in February and has an average of 11 regular attendees.

Trips and Events

- Cleethorpes trip. Funded by former Penistone mayor Neville Shiggins.
- SOPPA networking event in July which was well attended. The aim was to provide information on services and activities that are relevant to older people to other professionals and the community alike.
- Diane Ackroyd , of Crossroads Caring for Carers, attended Millhouse Green Chapel to deliver a talk on scam awareness.
- Promotional event for Social Inclusion included St Saviours and Tesco
- Age Friendly – Love Later Life event boroughwide event held to celebrate the input of older people in our communities and to promote aging in a happier, healthier more socially inclusive way. 25 attendees from the Penistone area. People attending who don't normally go out and engage in groups for various reasons.



Dementia Support Happy Vibes Memory Café

This group continues to meet on a fortnightly basis with exercise monthly, craft sessions and memory games. Numbers average 5 to 8. People who attend the group benefit enormously and it really does give them something to look forward to and their families tell us that it makes a positive difference in their overall wellbeing.

Plans to look at running a further MCST (mild cognitive stimulation therapy) programme in the Penistone area in the new year.



New activity links and support to Huskar Group Silkstone

This group meets fortnightly in the Huskar rooms and is an informal group and gives a great opportunity to meet new people. There is much diversity, many are recently retired, unemployed or carers. Some have disabilities, dementia and mental health conditions. The SIO continues to attend this group once a month and the volunteers know that they can make contact if they have any concerns about anyone. By attending this group we have received: 3 new referrals to Social Inclusion 2 to Information and Advice 4 to Social Services inc Aids and Adaptations 1 to the shopping service shopping

Other additional support to this contract from Age UK

Barnsley Older People Physical Activity Alliance (BOPPAA)

- Healthy Bones Class at Hoylandswaine Church Hall
- Started in July Pilates/Wellbeing programme at Lower Coates Farm, Silkstone Common Penistone Area - 'Wellbeing Wednesday' Pilates programme, Jul - Sept (14 participants)
- Penistone. Healthy Bones class, Thurgoland Village Hall, Thursdays 10am to 12noon
- Tai Chi, St. John's Community Centre, Penistone, Fridays
- Walking Rugby, Wortley RUFC
- Walking Football, Thurgoland Village Hall
- Equanimity – Healthy Body, Healthy Ageing, Thurgoland Village Hall
- Equanimity – Nordic Walking, Cannon Hall

Affordable shopping service

This was set up to offer a cheaper way for our clients to ensure they can purchase all that they need at a more affordable price than popping to the corner shop. Our shopping project officers either shop for, or accompany our clients to a local supermarket to enable them to do a more cost effective shop.

Handyman and gardening service

This was set up to give clients a trustworthy, affordable service where someone can come along and do those jobs around the house and garden that they can no longer do safely themselves.

Barnsley Citizens Advice

66 people supported (39 target)

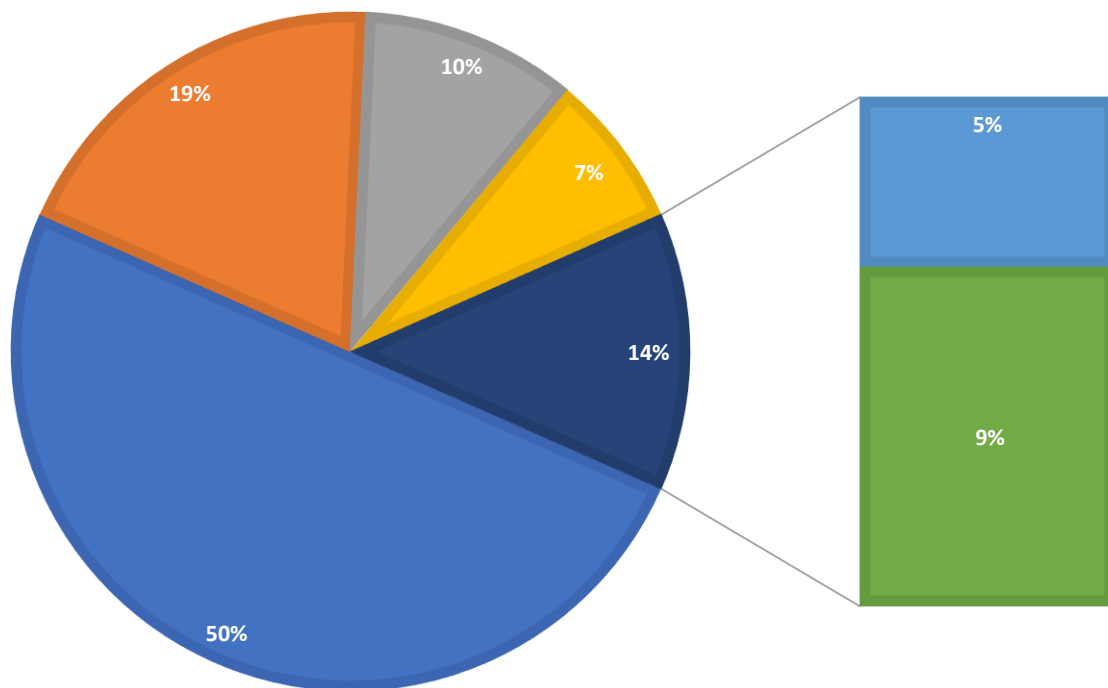
£100 of debt managed this quarter (£1.1m since project started in 2019)

£4,420 of benefits claimed (£251k since 2019)



The advice service has supported clients with a variety of different issues, but as in previous years, the most common are Benefits and Tax Credits, Debt, and Universal Credit. As well as improved financial outcomes the support provided by the advice service also helps to improve health and wellbeing, reduces client stress, and improve resilience by increasing the client's ability to cope through self-help.

**BARNSELY CITIZENS ADVICE
98 ISSUES DELT WITH THIS QUARTER**



- Benefits & Tax Credits 34
- Universal Credit 13
- Employment 7
- Consumer Goods & Services 5
- Debt 3
- Housing 6

This Quarter has been a mix of phone and e-mail contacts and a move to a new face to face service delivered 2 mornings per week based in Penistone Library. 66 clients have used the service this quarter including 6 Face to face via the new sessions that started in August. Excellent links have been made with Penistone Library who are actively promoting the service to members of the public.

The breakdown of the 98 issues dealt with this quarter (34% were benefits, 13% Universal Credit ,12% relationships & family, 8% utilities, 7% employment,6% housing, 5% consumer,3% debt, 3% education, 2% legal 1% charitable support, 1% Immigration and 1% travel with 4% other issues) highlights that benefit enquiries remain the highest and Debt advice is still relatively low however, CAB are expecting the numbers of clients seeking help and assistance through the Penistone service to increase while inflation is still quite high.

The service is backed up by a universal offer (funded centrally) so as in previous quarters many in our area still chose to access the service on-line or via telephone.

Recruitment of Advisers is still an issue across the sector and plans are in place to seek more volunteers to train in the longer term.

Impacts of Cost of Living.

CAB are continuing to support this with additional funding (outside of this contract) but this quarter has not shown a high demand. This is expected to increase during quarter 3 and 4 over the winter period.

DIAL
Barnsley

- 30 enquires made
- £169,155 benefits claims supported
- 50 hours of volunteer involvement
- For every £1 invested in the project £22.37 returned to the area

Icons: Accessibility (wheelchair), Communication (speech bubble), Finance (calculator)

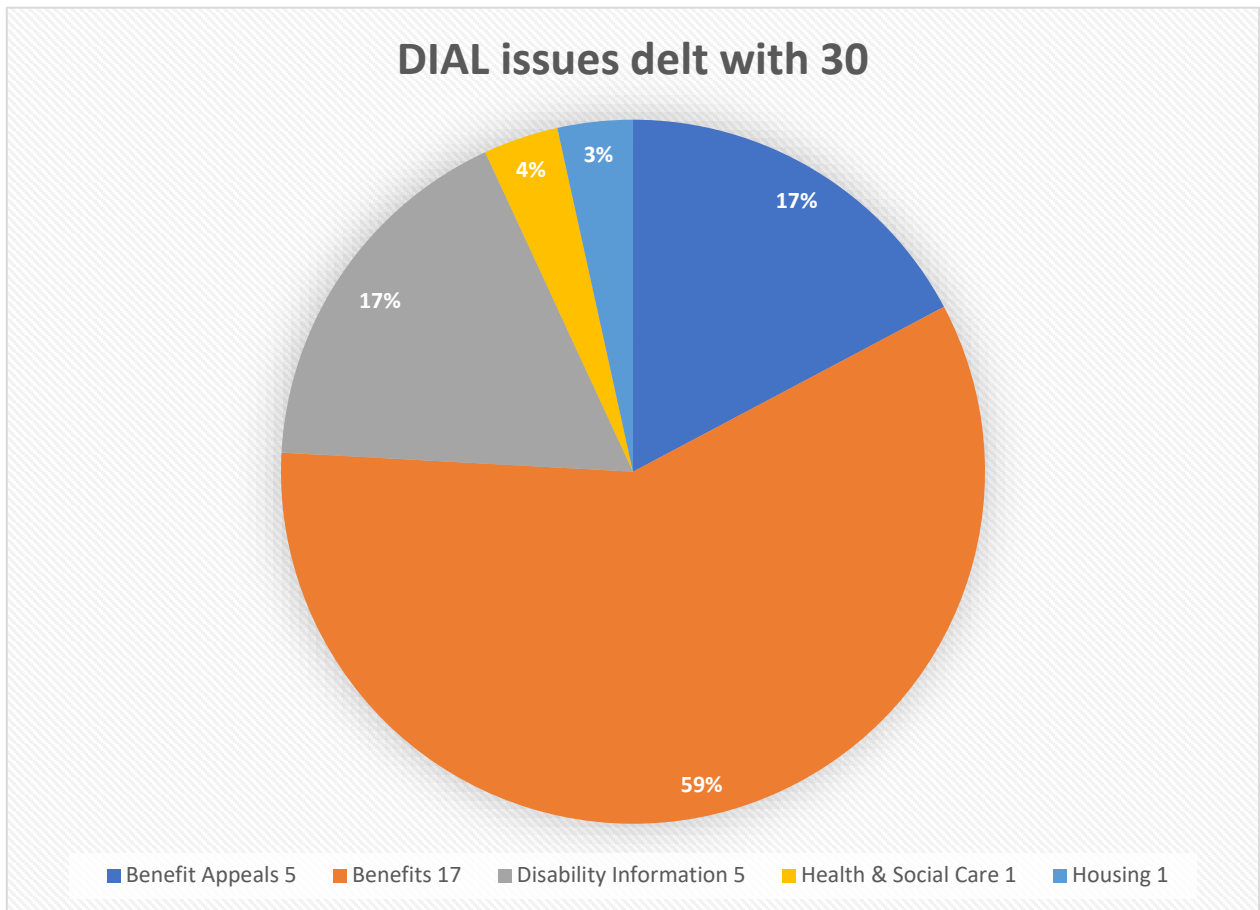
DIAL help to reduce the financial exclusion of residents and work towards lowering anxiety. This is the third quarter of the current contract which began in January 2023.

The service continues to be offered on a face to face basis from Penistone Town Hall one morning per week. All clients are seen on an appointment only basis and at the time of this report appointments are booked until mid December. However advice and support is offered by phone and on-line and 84 residents have accessed this during the quarter (funded centrally outside of this contract). Appointments are given to priority issues that need a face a face contact such as PIP applications, renewals and appeals. Benefit checks can be done on the phone where clients have their details.

Adviser recruitment has been addressed by the development of apprenticeship posts that started in September. The apprentice will shortly be visiting Penistone to observe the Adviser to gain an understanding of the issues in our area compared to other areas.

Cost of living support. (Added Value)

DIAL continue to support clients in different ways to support with cost of living impacts, including energy advice and signposting to food and other additional funds. For the winter period, using further additional funds (Household support grant) Winter Duvets will be provided to clients most in need, as identified in our area.



Other additional approaches for the Penistone area

DIAL has approached the area to look into the possibility of providing an alternative advice service based on a potential mobile service model. A meeting has already taken place with representatives from outlying villages in our area to explore the potential for this. External funds will be need to be sought for this provision. A futher meeting is planned in the new year.

Working Together Grant Fund

Angel Voices

Singing workshops for adults to improve health,
wellbeing and confidence

12 month project started January 2023

This 12 month programme is aimed at providing an opportunity for adults to learn how to sing, increasing confidence and techniques to support with overall health and wellbeing. This is the third quarter of the project which concludes in January 2024.

Project outcomes

	Quarter 1 Jan - March		Quarter 2 april – June		Quarter 3 July- Sept	
Activity/Intervention	T	A	T	A	T	A
Number of people attending singing sessions	10	8	14	8	12	8
Number of Workshops	4	5	4	6	4	5
Number of volunteers	4	2	8	4	6	2
Events		1	1	2	1	
Exams				To be taken in January		

Angel Voices Performing Arts Academy
18 Sep · 🌐
...

Looking forward to tomorrows Adult Singing Workshop 🎤
★ 🎤
 ... See more

15th September '23
Cawthorne Village Hall
ST5 4EH
1:30pm - 3pm
£5

Penistone Area Council
Penistone East, Penistone West

**ADULT EDUCATIONAL SINGING
 WORKSHOP**

Call Debbie Angel
01454 611111

Quarterly updates

The workshops have been consistently attended by 8 singers, who are developing in confidence and extremely supportive towards one and other.

We have had lots of enquiries, but they all say they are very nervous to join, we book them in and then they are no shows.

A number of them are very camera shy so we don't push the "let's have a group photo too much".

We always begin the sessions with confidence building breathing exercises that both relax the mind but start to activate the vagus nerve which helps bring a feel-good factor. We then move on to voice scales which are fun but also, I have designed them for the group as I have got to know them each scale is going to encourage a rounded and more toned sound and the group is always pleasantly surprised when they realise how naturally they have reached notes both high and low, and how comfortable it feels.

We always have a chat about how they feel they are progressing and work on insecurities and demonstrate how issues can normally quickly be resolved.

They are almost exam ready and will be taking the group exam rather than individually in January 2024.

They have learnt to harmonise beautifully, and we are hoping to find a care home that we can go to and entertain in very soon, it's just been a question of building everyone's confidence and self-belief that they are good enough to perform in-front of an audience.

This we achieved however in this quarter as firstly two of our singers came along to the Ten-Year Celebrations at Wortley (I cannot express how much coaxing it took us for them to come) we did think they both may not turn up as they were so nervous at being what they believed to be judged.

We expressed they had nothing to worry about and they were amazing on the night.

Then at the Paramount Theatre we had the entire group up singing with both teams and they all enjoyed it. They had solos to sing, which was a massive success and achievement for them to get on that stage.

They also volunteered to help out on the day, assisting with backstage duties and helping myself and Adam with the teams.

All in all, this quarter has been a turning point for the singers who are now looking forward to more events through the Christmas period.

We are collaborating with the Penistone Town council and the singers will be singing on the 2nd of December at SJCC for their Christmas fete.



Adults who have benefited from the workshops :

- This gentleman comes to the workshop with a lot of determination although he suffers with his hearing and his health. He has told us that his health has improved since singing and he has been singing with his grandchildren who are both studying music at college and university. He performed solos at both The Ten Years Celebration and was on Team Adam, his confidence and contentment on stage shined through. He says he is hitting notes he never thought he would and singing songs now that he believed before the workshops out of his ability.



- This lady joined the workshops so nervous but eager to get back on the stage after she had given up singing to bring up her three young children. Her potential is huge and now she is getting in control of her nerves her vocals are strong and she has got the first time in almost 10 years plus got back in the stage and wowed us with two fabulous solos. One at the Ten Years Celebration and another on Team Debbie at the Paramount She is looking forward now to more solo's performances., and the upcoming exam.



Supporting Young People Grant Fund

A second year of funding was allocated from PAC funds to support this grant in 2022/23. Four projects were successful in gaining funds to deliver projects to support young people in the Penistone area. All projects have now completed this quarter, with some completing in the last quarter. A new allocation of grant funding was approved in September 2023 with new projects starting from October 2023.

Ad Astra

Weekly group support for young people with emotional wellbeing – targets year groups per term

One to one support to young people pre-16 from referrals



This programme completed at the end of the summer term 2023, with final outcomes reported in the previous quarter. Funding has been applied for from the 3rd round of Supporting Young People Grant Fund which was approved at the end of September. The new project starts after October half term 2023, with the first quarterly report due in quarter 3.

Penistone Grammar School

Supporting 40 students with a level 2 qualification in peer mentoring

Inspirational speakers in school promoting anti-bullying and positive wellbeing.



This project completed at the end of June with final outcomes reported in the last quarter. As a legacy from this project a group of post-16 students have proposed a 'Student Mentor programme' which will see post-16 students mentoring pre-16 students on matters centred around different outcomes of the school's core values; Be Proud, Be Determined, Be Supportive, Aim High, Be Brave. An initial trial will be undertaken with Yr 12 students so that feedback can be gained. This builds on the RSPH level 2 qualification achieved by pupils as part of the PAC funded programme.

Girlguiding Barnsley West

Activities to provide learning and skills for independence and confidence away from home accredited through badge attainment

Attendance at the proposed events at Kingswood



This is the final report of this project which culminated in an full activity session which included overnight stays at Kingswood activity centre.

Project Outcome	Intervention/ activities that will contribute to achieving project outcome	Target
Young women and girls have skills and increased confidence to undertake independent activities away from home	Activities to provide learning and skills for independence and confidence away from home completed and where appropriate accredited through badge attainment Attendance at the proposed events at Kingswood individual learning and achievements logged using feedback process after the event	250 girls take part
Volunteers support the project over and above weekly meeting commitment	Volunteer training Attendance at the proposed event. Supporting the girls with planning for the event. Planning the event.	50 volunteers support the project.

Activity/Intervention	Quarter 4 April - June		Total Project target
	T	A	
Young women and girls complete activities to support learning independence and confidence away from home	100	250	250
New Volunteers supporting the project over and above weekly meeting commitment	5	13	10
Existing volunteers supporting the project above weekly meeting commitments	30	28	50
Young Women and Girls attending event to increase independence and confidence	250	192	250
Individual evaluation sheets completed to show improvement in confidence	250		Unable to complete in a meaningful way with the younger girls under 10. All volunteers confirmed it helped with confidence – many girls first trip away from home for 2 years.

The event was successfully held in May 2023, enabling all age groups to enjoy the event with the Rangers, Guides and Brownies staying two nights and the Rainbows visiting for one day. The cost of living crisis meant that fewer girls were able to attend than hoped, with a couple accessing 100% support for the stay with the cost being subsidised by the divisions own funds.

The girls confidence improved with a good number of the girls being away from home for the first time in 2 years. Some girls were homesick on the first night but no one went home, everyone stayed and enjoyed the event, working through their anxiety with the support of the adults around them and their peers.

A number of the younger girls commented on wanting to stay in Guiding as they got older to do the activities the older girls did, so seeing the chance to further build their skills and try new activities, which was a great sign of confidence building and the ambition to challenge themselves further.

There were other examples of girls asking during the weekend for support with worries and adults were able to support with resources and conversations that simply aren't possible during the 60-90 minute weekly sessions.

The cost of the event increased from when initial inquiries were made to when the event was held, so the cost per head was more than planned. The funding paid about half the cost per person, which is a fantastic contribution.

There has been a change in the volunteer leadership team of Girlguiding Barnsley South, meaning some communication on final reporting was delayed.

A huge thank you from us all.

Angel Voices

Singing workshops for young people up to 18 in Penistone or surrounding village venues

Quarterly local performances to raise money for charity

Young People achieving ABRSM qualifications



This is the final report for the 2022/23 grant funded programme, providing singing workshops, qualifications and live performances for the young people.

We have this last quarter been working towards our final production at the Paramount Theatre on the 1st October. This event was kindly attended by the Mayors of both Barnsley (his consort) and Penistone and a BBC singer who all judged the two teams.

We collaborated with Greenotes CiC for this production and one half of the event was based on saving the planet and a strong commitment to being aware of issues with pollution and asking the audience to be aware of nature's plight.



The other team worked on an original story by Debbie and has been asked to be repeated again by all the workshop singers, so we will repeat and put on another showing of this next year.

We also joined our Adult Educational Singing Workshop into the productions and several had solos in the shows.



In July we were invited to The Travellers Inn Oxspring for a number of our singers to entertain there. This was a big confidence boosting exercise as we gave the singers the chance to sing up to six songs and they were performing as they would if this was their own gig (not just singing one song). They had to speak to the audience by introducing themselves and each of the songs. The ones who attended definitely took giant steps here.

We also attended the Ten-Year Celebrations at Wortley Hall, and several singers had the chance to show off their skills they had been developing with us.

We have been working on young people's teamwork and gaining trust and strong friendships throughout this quarter showing that supporting each other boosts confidence and enhances social skills. Our aim was to show that the music business is not solitary and that in the industry we have to work as a team be that with the theatre/cruise production or management.

Team members set up chat groups and have now bonded so much they wish to work together on other songs, this they would not do when we first started the workshop.

We have been attending meetings and organising with The Penistone Arts Council regarding next years Arts Week and have a potential date booked in for this.

We were approached by Cllr Lisa Cork for The Educational Singing Workshop to perform at the Christmas Fete at SJCC on the 2nd December and we have arranged this for the 2:30 until 5pm in the afternoon and are now preparing singers with their songs for this.

Through the Facebook advertising we are getting new students applying to join the workshops and have extended the time to give us more opportunity to work individually with the singers.

Our volunteers have been so supportive and helpful this quarter. Assisting in setting up and taking down, refreshments, meet and greets, arranging, creating and making props and running errands for us and other singers. Collecting prizes for raffle. Arranging outings to go and see our singers in productions.

Outcomes

	Quarter 4		Total project target
Activity / intervention	T	A	
No of workshops delivered	1	7	4
No of young people attending workshops	20	27	20
No of new YP attending workshops	2	4	12
No of volunteers supporting	5	17	20
Funds raised through concerts	500	Awaiting to hear what money was made from Penistone Theatre	£1000
Number of YP supported with additional health issues		5	No target

No of collaborations with other organisations in the community		Greenotes CiC	No target but list
Number of young people receiving training	5	15	20
Number of YP achieving qualification	4	Exams taken in previous quarter	10

Young people benefitting from the workshops include:

- This young girl has come on strength to strength she joined us more as a dancer and had no confidence in her vocals. She has now landed a role in the Leeds Playhouse adaptation of Oliver, she has also had a call back for the West End Production of The Witches in January 2024 She is also studying her Grade 2 ABRSM Singing Exam
- This young man suffers from autism and has had to work so hard on expressing his emotions on stage. We gently have guided him over this last quarter to recognise how he may come across to people in the audience who will not understand that he has autism. He has improved so much that he has with our guidance attained a license from the council to work in bars and restaurants in the area. He is getting re booked and this has boosted his confidence in leaps and bounds.
- This young 17-year-old has developed a true love for singing and recently auditioned for Opera North and has been accepted. She is now applying for 6 conservatoires, and she has told us that she would never have had the confidence or self-belief if she hadn't regularly been to the workshops.
- This young 10-year-old girl suffered with depression, anxiety and no confidence, since joining the workshops she has made so many friends and her singing/ confidence has exploded. her mum wrote on our Facebook: "...XX came a scared and worried little girl and over the past year has come on leaps and bounds! Everyone has been so kind, caring and supportive we are forever grateful. Massive thankyou to Debbie and Adam for everything " This young girl is also studying through the workshops for her Grade 1 Singing Exam in March, which from first meeting her is amazing.



Area Team Updates July – September

Supporting Young People

Cawthorne Primary School approached one of our coucillors on the issue of road safety outside the school. The Area Team has been able to connect the school to services who can help on this issue creating those all-important working relationships moving forward. The local policing team has agreed to visit the school in September to work with a group of children whilst they use the speed gun and issue dummy parking tickets to those parking inconsiderately. Colleagues from Safer Communities are arranging to have the posters created by the children made into signs which can be displayed roadside along the front of the school. Options to help alleviate the parking will be explored between Safer Communities and the school including a walking bus from other areas of the village. The

school has expressed an interest in exploring the Junior Road Safety Warden scheme moving forward. The young people highlighting this as an issue have rightly so had the opportunity to make their voices heard with the road safety talk being attended by local press who have since published an article around reducing the speed limit in and around school to 20mph.



Summer Activities for Young People in the Penistone area.

The Area Team was approached by colleagues in Sports & Recreation about the opportunity of having the RampUp and summer sports van provision, so it made sense to marry this up to the Penistone Ward Alliance ringfenced pot of money called the School's Out Fund which is available to fund school holiday provision across the Penistone East and West electoral wards. This led to providing a weekly selection of activities for our local families during the 2023 summer school holidays.

- Weekly sporting activity took place every Monday and Tuesday during the school summer holiday. This included 5 sports van sessions (due to the bank holiday) and 6 RampUP sessions.
- Both activities were extremely well received attracting a total of 394 young people between them of which 115 attended the sports van sessions.
- The sessions provided support to our local families who were looking for activities to keep the children entertained during the school holidays but who perhaps were finding money tight.
- Penistone Ward Alliance's Schools Out Fund allowed for an enhanced offer of provision within the community.



Addressing the cost of living rises by growing a Penistone Food network.

In the light of the escalation in the cost of living and mounting financial pressures, the Penistone Area Team working together with the Area Council and others in our networks including Penistone Town Council and Good Food Barnsley has recognised the need for an innovative food solution in the Penistone area. The overarching aim is the need to provide a more sustainable and affordable food model for the community that could be accessed at any point of need. To develop this, we needed to gather local information, recommendations, and potential collaboration from local food providers regarding the feasibility and structure of a new food model.

All local food providers were invited to a consultation event scheduled for 14th August 2023 at St John's Community Centre

Discussion and data collection: During the consultation, providers were mapped and presented with a series of pertinent questions:

- Do you think that creating a Penistone food network is a good idea?
- If supportive of the idea, how might your organisation fit into this?
- What do you think of the idea of setting up a food hub as part of the network which would operate as a community pantry or a food discount scheme?
- Would your organisation be interested in joining a task group dedicated to progressing and implementing these ideas?



Post event on-line survey for those unable to attend the event

The results of the survey showed a keen interest in a model for a Penistone Food network. The Area team has since been working with Good Food Barnsley to look at the development of a potential Food Hub. A model is in development and once this has been firmed up will be brought to Area Council to look at ways in which they may wish to support this. Further work will then be undertaken with all those who took part in the consultation and other food offers in our area to try and build an connective network.

Celebration of 10 years of Area Working in Penistone.

The area team were thrilled to invite partners, volunteers, parishes, local businesses and community groups to join us in celebrating 10 years of working together for the Penistone community. It was great to catch up with everyone in our network and celebrate just how much has been achieved by working together.



