

Q3 Performance

Penistone Area Council Performance Report



Area Council Priorities

Health and Wellbeing



Supporting Young People



Supporting Local Economy + tourism



Helping People connect



Our Environment



Barnsley 2030 priorities













Barnsley 2030 Sustainable

Barnsley 2030 Growing

Barnsley 2030 Healthy

Barnsley 2030 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
	Environment Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Reactive Service ii. Community Support service iii. Environment projects grant 	Per annum £40k £40k £20k	April 2025	Vital Facilities Greenotes CIC	
	Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older people post		Recruited to Post		
	Debt advice service	£ 8,191	Funded until March 2025	Citizens Advice Barnsley	
	Information and Advice service	£5,198 per annum		DIAL	
	Working Together Grant Supporting Young People	£40,000	September 2024	Various	
	Principal Towns	No cost to PAC	Ongoing	BMBC	

Outcome Indicator	Q3 Oct - Dec 2024
Clean and Tidy activities which involve business	7
Young people making a positive contribution to the design/ maintenance of their local environment	8
People who feel they have the opportunity to influence the design and maintenance of their local environment	118
Apprentice and placements created and recruited to	0
People taking up work experience placements	0
Young People engaged in volunteering	26
Activities which involve young people under the age of 18	11
Community Groups supported	43
New Community Groups supported	8
Community Car Scheme Journeys	0
Adult Volunteers engaged	122
New volunteers	68
Residents and young people receiving advice and support	285
Benefit Gain	£120,777
FTE jobs created and recruited to	0
Local spend	94%
Volunteer hours contributed (£)	£5781.40
Volunteer opportunities created	36
People achieving a qualification/ accreditation	10
People receiving training	19

GREENOTES CIC

➤ Community Environmental Support Service

➤ £40,000 grant pot



Project Highlights

Training sessions with volunteers developed to include accredited health and safety training and tool and maintenance management.

Introduction of new volunteer visits to enable volunteers to learn from each others projects started with a tour of Greenmoor for any volunteers.

Activities to support young people included environmental activities such as ‘Marvellous Mini Beasts’ event in Hoylandswaine.

Volunteer nnetworking event with a Christmas quiz on the impacts of Christmas waste on the environment. * new groups were set up in response to need in the area, for example, the development of the grounds of St John’s Church in Penistone Town Centre.

Support to groups with promotion and how to use Social Media.

Major new projects planned and executed with existing groups to provide more sustainable approaches to maintaining local areas

KPIS	Quarter
New Groups	8
Existing Groups	24
New Volunteers	68
Existing Volunteers	118
New Young Volunteer	8
Existing Young Volunteer	0
Volunteer Hours	346 hours
Cashable Value	£4740.20



Vital Facilities

- Environmental Service
- £40,000 Grant pot



Jobs in Penistone West	Jobs in Penistone East	Total cost
10	18	£32,488.57

- Contracts awarded to Vital Facilities April 1st 2024.
- Direct purchasing of services with work paid for on an individual basis.
- 37 requests have been entered onto the service portal since April.
- All quotes have been received and approved totalling £32,488.57 to date.
- Communication channels have improved and response rate is now increasing.
- Major works have been taking place or are planned such as tree work at Springvale, Hood Green Recreation Ground and Cawthorne Cricket Club.
- The service has been able to respond to programme planning carried out with groups by Greenotes such as Wortley Parish, Greenmoor and HBee+ group in Hoylandswaine.
- Starting to get good feedback from the community on the quality of the work undertaken by Vital Facilities in the area.
- We are working with Vital Facilities to improve the communication of good news stories completed.

Environmental Community Grants Pot

- Various Community Environmental Projects
- Total spent on projects £13,077.55
-



Group	Project	Cost
Team Green Moor	New Buy Project	£560.40
Hoylandswaine Events Group	Floral Displays	£988.79
Hunshelf Parish Council	Marvellous Mini Beasts litter pick	£196.49
Hunshelf Parish Council	Marvellous Mini Beasts sunflowers and songs	£188.15
St Peters Church Tankersley	Ground Maintenance	£1,000.00
Tankersley Community Association	Community Green Maintenance and Xmas Tree	£1,000.00
Tankersley St Peter's Primary School	Gardening and tidy up	£556.00
Thurgoland Village Welfare	Join Two Footpaths	£1,000.00
Hoylandswaine Events Group	RHS Village in bloom	£1,000.00
Oxpring Parish Council	Trivitors	£927.57
Silkstone CARE	Sunshine Gardens	£500.00
Silkstone CARE	Refurbishment Station Gardens	£750.00
Friends of St Johns Penistone	Friends of Flora and Founa	£1,000.00
Friends of Wortley Hall Gardens	Tree Trail	£916.00
Hoylandswaine Bee Plus	Meadow Turf	£494.15
Team Green Moor	Damage control and replacements	£1,000.00
Trans Pennine Trail Conservation Volunteers	Wetlands project - Information panel	£1,000.00

Following more promotion of the grant by the Penistone Area Team and Greenotes CIC, there has been a significant uptake of funds by groups in the last quarter.

Grants have mostly been for equipment replacement and green resources for projects to provide more sustainable planting schemes.

A regular grant panel is now established to include reps from BMBC parks, Area Council and a community rep. Greenotes have been able to provide advice and support to the panel giving background to the projects requiring resources.

A small amount remains from the allocation for the year and this will be reviewed as part of the environmental contracts for the next financial year.

Barnsley Citizens Advice

99 Client contacts

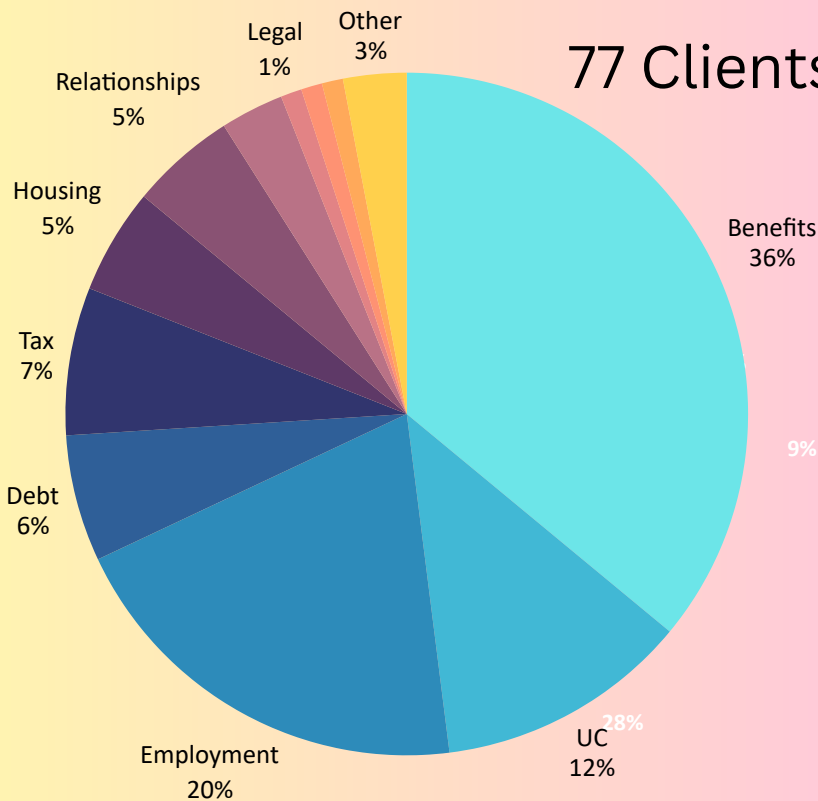
29 face to face sessions

£21,018 benefits claimed this quarter



This is the third quarter of a two year contract which completes at the end of March 2025. 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.

77 Clients supported this quarter



During this quarter, 3 clients have been supported with debt advice and one of these clients was fast tracked to the Specialist Debt Team. Since the start of the service in Penistone (1st April 2019) we have assisted clients with £1,191,577 of debt and claim £21,018 of benefits in the current quarter (£286,910 of benefits since 1st April 2019)

Case Study

Jean* was living at home with her elderly husband, who was suffering from dementia. Both of them received state pension and had some additional money from occupational pensions. She called in to see Citizens Advice Barnsley at her local outreach to see if there was further help available to support them in continuing to live at home independently; she had heard of some people receiving Carer's Allowance.

The adviser explained that they were not eligible for that, as they received State pension; however, they were almost certainly eligible to apply for an Attendance Allowance. Attendance Allowance could be £72.65 or £108.55 a week - the amount depends on how much help is needed.

Because it isn't means tested, the amount of pension they were receiving and any savings they had managed to keep to one side were unaffected. They would continue to receive their pensions without any change.

The adviser arranged to have an application form posted out to Jean. She also explained that the application form is very long, but that guidance was available, and that they could access help in completion of the form either from Citizens Advice, Barnsley, or through DIAL.

When Jean returned to see the adviser, it was to tell her that she and her husband had been awarded Attendance Allowance at the higher rate, and that they had also received an amount backdated to the time of their claim.

As Jean was also interested in applying for a Blue Badge to further support them in continuing to live independently, the adviser invited her to return so that CAB with relevant information so we could help with the online application. Jean was really pleased that she had turned to Citizens Advice Barnsley for assistance.



DIAL Barnsley

Delivered 19 sessions

Supported 61 Residents face to face

Supported 125 residents by Telephone

For every £1 invested by the Pensitone Area Council Outreach Fund, in the last quarter £83.05 has been generated for the local economy



DIAL helps to reduce the financial exclusion of residents and work towards lowering anxiety. Our visible brand ensures that we are able to reach and engage with residents, although the highest number of residents come to us through recommendations from family and friends.

Referrals into the service from the following:

- CAB 7%
- Social Prescribing
- GPs
- Barnsley Hospital

External referrals to the following:

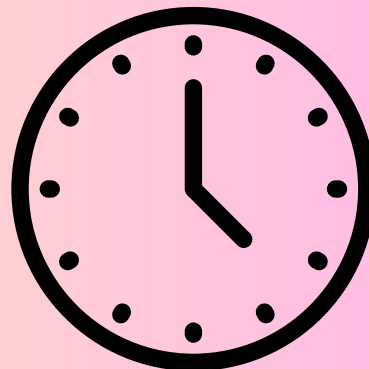
- Barnsley Food Bank Partnership
- BMBC Warmer Homes

Volunteers

Volunteers support our outreach either as meet and greeters at the venues or staffing our First Contact service, where they make appointments. They are also involved in following up with residents on the outcomes of their benefit claims and in monitoring outcomes. 68%



2 Volunteers
19 Opportunities

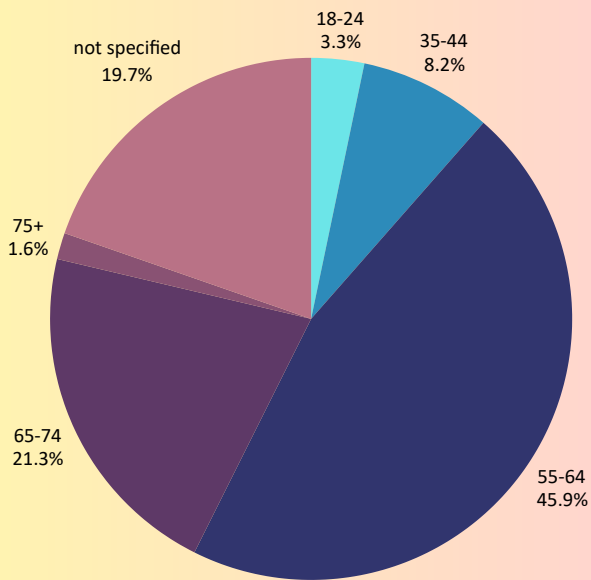


76 Volunteering
Hours



£1,041.20 Cashable Hours

Beneficiary Information



Are you more confident now to deal with issues that arise?

92% Yes



Do you have a better understanding of your rights and entitlements

100% Yes



Reduced financial exclusion of local residents

17



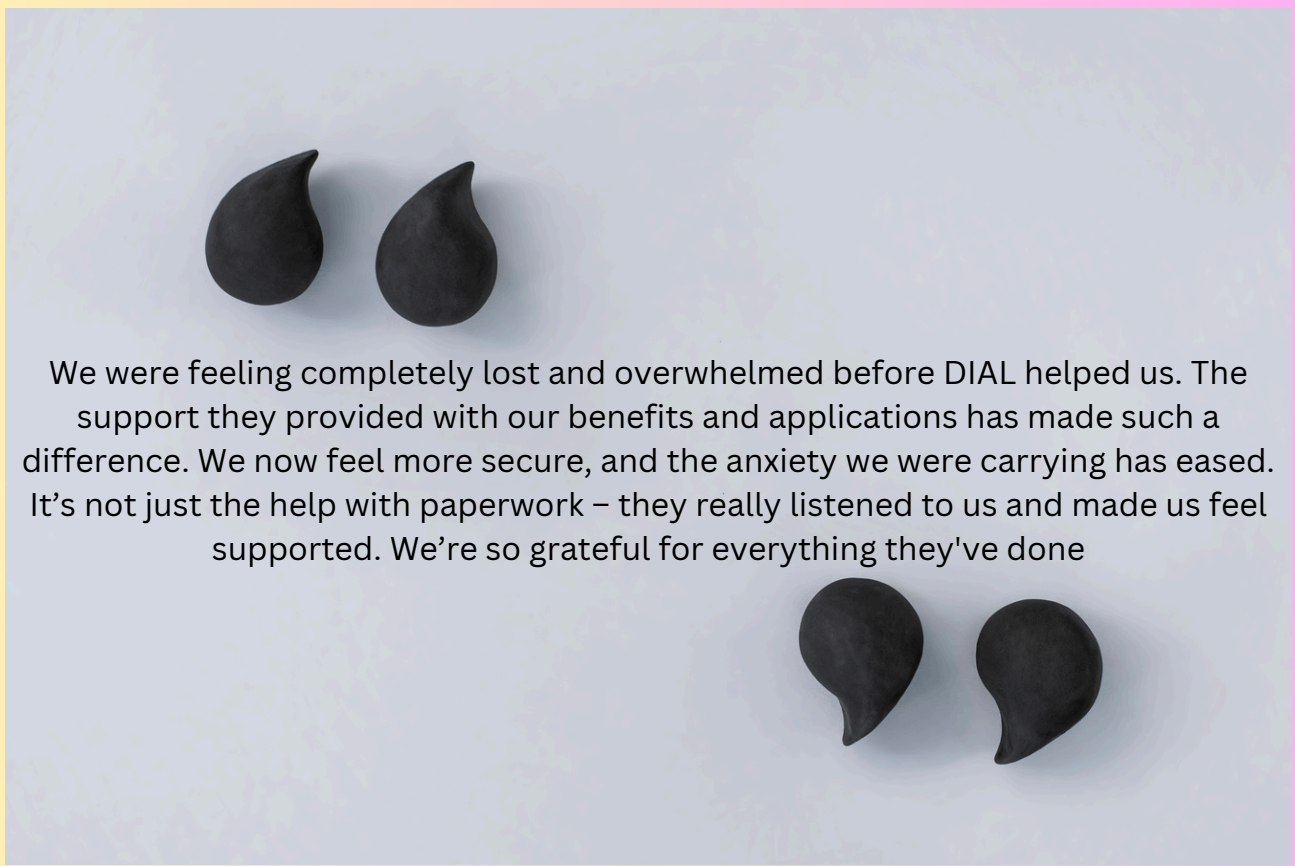
Reduced anxiety in local residents

56



Increased confidence of local residents

56



We were feeling completely lost and overwhelmed before DIAL helped us. The support they provided with our benefits and applications has made such a difference. We now feel more secure, and the anxiety we were carrying has eased. It's not just the help with paperwork – they really listened to us and made us feel supported. We're so grateful for everything they've done

Case Study

Mr and Mrs G, December 2024

Before DIAL

Mr and Mrs G, a married couple in their 70s, live in Penistone and face significant challenges due to their health and financial circumstances. Mr G has a long-term medical condition that affects his mobility, while

Mrs G lives with chronic pain and fatigue, making it difficult to manage daily tasks. These health challenges severely impact their ability to leave the house and engage in everyday activities, which made them feel very isolated.

With a low income, the couple rely on benefits to meet their basic needs but they were unsure whether they were accessing all of the support that they were entitled to. This uncertainty, combined with their health conditions, left them feeling anxious and helpless.

Advice Provided by DIAL

Mr and Mrs G were referred to us by their GP surgery, who recognised the difficulties they were facing and recommended to attend our Penistone outreach.

To fully understand their situation, our team first completed a comprehensive benefits check to see what they were entitled to. From this, we found there were several benefits that we recommended they apply for. We supported Mr and Mrs G with an application each for Carer's Allowance, as they support each other with their needs, and Attendance Allowance, to support their individual needs.

We also helped Mr and Mrs G with applications for Pension Credit and Council Tax Support to further increase their income.

Finally, we aided them in applying for a Blue Badge, which would support their mobility needs and allow them to gain access to accessible parking.

After DIAL

After seeking support from us, Mr and Mrs G were successful in each of their applications. They were awarded Attendance Allowance at the higher rate each (totalling £217.10 per week), Pension Credit including two underlying entitlements for Carer's Allowance (£38.27 per week), and Council Tax Support (£25 per week). This increase of £280.37 per week significantly improved their financial situation. Their Blue Badge application was also successful.

With their increased income, Mr and Mrs G can better manage their household expenses, including heating and groceries, which were previously a source of stress. The Blue Badge has made it easier for them to leave the house, improving their mobility and reducing their feelings of isolation. Additionally, the financial security from their new benefits has eased their stress, enabling them to focus more on their health and general well-being.

Walking The Goats

Big Farmers Project

Number of YP attending - 18

Number of sessions delivered - 7

No of schools worked with - 4

No of volunteers - 2



We have had an enriching and impactful few weeks wrapping up the 2024 project! It's great to see that the benefits of focusing on such valuable topics as emotions and communication, and specifically anger—an emotion that's often misunderstood but plays a key role in our decision-making and interpersonal relationships. By diving into team working situations and challenging students to reflect on their experiences, we have given students the opportunity to better understand how to manage their emotions, especially anger, in real-life contexts.

Additionally, the students have been involved in hands-on activities like preparing sheep for sales and showing, helping with lambing preparations, supporting winterizing the animals, and tending to their home-grown vegetables. These activities are not only practical but also reinforce the connection between emotional intelligence, teamwork, and responsibility. It's clear that the project has fostered a well-rounded learning experience that blends emotional development with practical skills.



CASE STUDY 1

Peter is facing some significant challenges in adjusting to both his new environment and the demands of school, especially with his recent ADHD diagnosis. Navigating emotions can be especially difficult for someone dealing with ADHD, as it often impacts impulse control and emotional regulation. This can lead to difficulties in making friends, interacting with peers, and building positive relationships, especially if there is a lack of confidence.

Peter has benefitted from more personalized support and strategies that address his specific needs. Creating a safe, supportive environment where he feels understood has helped improve his confidence and interactions with others. It has also been helpful to engage him in conversations around his ADHD diagnosis, explaining how it affects him and what strategies he can use to manage his emotions more effectively.

MUM:

A huge thank you to you- I cant even begin to put into words the difference you and the farm have made to Peter this year, but it has given him and us hope that he will be ok and 2025 will be better.