

West Area Committee Delivery Plan 2023 - 2026

Updated March 2025

The Area Plan commits the Area Committee to a number of priorities, which will be delivered within the West of Sunderland. This Delivery Plan provides an update on progress on the Area Committee's Area Plan and will be monitored by the Area Committee and actions will be addressed throughout the next three years via the West Neighbourhood and Community Board

Priority	Progress Update
Dynamic Smart City We will have	
Improved small, neglected shopping and enterprise areas	
Young people with raised aspirations and increased training opportunities.	A variety of course information shared with West VCS Network and on West Sunderland Community Facebook Page. The Neighbourhood and Community Board discussed the findings from the task and finish groups and agreed to consider this at a future meeting, learning from any new policies from Together for Children and Learning and Skills Service
More fruit orchards, trees and improved electric vehicles at home infrastructure	Presentation on Low Carbon initiatives received June 2023. Options for fruit and tree planting submitted for consideration with locations suggested across the West. Members have been consulted on the EV residential community hubs proposals.
Updates on employment support projects	Project update circulated to members February 2025 The West REACT CLLD match funded project ended in March 2023 with the Neighbourhood Funded element continuing. Since April 2024 the project has supported 29 residents with information, advice and guidance and 12 into Education, Training or Employment. The support is offered from Thorney Close Action and Enterprise Centre and targeted outreach in other centres. The project is due to finish March 2025
Improved access to digital support	The Media Savvy Digital Project delivered sessions fortnightly across the West. Sessions were delivered to the young people at Barnes Park Event as well as a family session on the Saturday. The footfall in the fortnightly sessions has been 2079 since the beginning of the project. Media Savvy have been successful in receiving an external grant to continue some of the work in the

	West over the next 12 months, focussing on the Tansy Centre and Hope 4 All. The Neighbourhood Funded project ended September 2024.
Healthy Smart City We will have	
Safer and improved green spaces	<p>Bishopwearmouth Cemetery - Designs and costs were developed for improved parking. It was agreed to proceed with the 9/10 additional bays. Work is now completed on the new parking bays.</p> <p>Silksworth Ski Slope - Complex Designs and costs developed for improved parking working with Everyone Active. First phase of line marking complete, additional bays added. Fencing improvements due to be completed by early 2025, further car parking improvements are being considered, further updates to follow.</p> <p>Following the approval of £20,000 to work up designs and consider schemes for safer spaces phase 1 information and options were received at the June Neighbourhood and Community Board. At the June Area Committee £150,000 Neighbourhood Funding was approved, each ward has met and working through schemes. Schemes were approved at September and December Area Committee and more schemes are ready for consideration, detailed in Item 4 Annex 1</p> <p>Schemes include:</p> <p>CCTV airtime in Barnes, St Anne's, St Chad's and Pallion</p> <p>Fencing improvements in Pallion, Sandhill, Silksworth</p> <p>Play Improvements in Silksworth, Barnes and St Chads</p> <p>Lighting improvements in Silksworth and St Anne's</p> <p>Parking improvements in Silksworth, Barnes, St Chads and Pallion</p>
A scheme of environmental improvements	<p>11 Applications were received and approved at the March 2024 Area Committee, projects are being delivered across the West in the following venues and communities.</p> <p>Grindon Church Community Project, Broadway Youth and Community Centre, St Anne's in Bloom, Thorney Close Action and Enterprise Centre, St Mary's and St Peters, Pallion Plants, Hope 4 All, Tunstall Hill, Pennywell Community Centre, Silksworth and St Chad's in Bloom and Silksworth recreation park.</p>
A map of defibs across the West	The Department of Health and Social care released a grant (Sept 23) for local community organisations to apply for defibrillators, this opportunity was shared with the Sunderland West VCS network.
Additional Heritage walks	

Initiatives to reduce child poverty and child obesity	
Improved community assets	<p>Following the agreement of the Call for Projects to Improve community assets, 15 applications were received and considered at June Area Committee. £94,443 Neighbourhood Funding was approved to the following centres:</p> <p>Broadway Youth and Community Centre, Plains Farm Youth and Community Centre, Veterans in Crisis, St Luke's Neighbourhood Centre, St Mary's and St Peter's Project, Community Opportunities Thorney Close Action and Enterprise Centre, Grindon Young People's Centre, Silksworth Cricket Club, Lakeside CA Repairs, Silksworth Youth and Community Centre, Sunderland Training and Education Farm Ltd (STEFs), Pennywell Community Centre, Hope 4 All, 2nd Herrington Scouts and Farringdon Youth and Community Centre.</p>
Improved cultural and enrichment activities for young people	<p>Task and Finish group met in October 2023. Pop up events continue to be delivered as part of the Youth activities and Youth ASB projects.</p> <p>The Barnes Park 3 day event is due to take place 26th and 27th June for invited school children only and the family fun day on the 28th June</p>
An improved social prescribing offer across the West	<p>Information is included in the Service Plan a video has been produced all about Links for Life Sunderland – see here <u>Links for Life Sunderland - https://youtu.be/h8EizBukS40</u></p> <p>The following groups were successful in securing Links for Life funding and deliver activities to support groups in the West alongside multiple specialist providers.</p> <p>Pennywell Neighbourhood Centre and Community Opportunities at Thorney Close Action and Enterprise Centre. Two partnership projects are also being delivered with multiple partners.</p> <p>Pallion Action Group working with Pennywell Community Centre, Hope4All, Tansy Centre, Parker Trust, St Mary's and St Peters; Bethal Church, St Gabriels Church and Parker Trust</p> <p>Youth Almighty Project working with Kayll Road Library, Broadway Youth and Community Centre, Friends of Silksworth park, Farringdon Youth and Community Centre, Tom Urwin House, Holy Rosary Church and Plains Farm Youth and Community Centre</p> <p>The links for life website Links for Life Sunderland Links for Life Sunderland is live and the West VCS network members received a presentation on how to use the site and what its purpose is, groups were encourage to input their activities and use the website to refer residents to other activities.</p>

<p>A Walk and Talk project / Ward Improvement Budget</p>	<p>A number of ward-based initiatives have been delivered across the West, including.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Chad's - improvements to play facilities in Farringdon and school/community events. • Barnes - improved CCTV in Barnes Park as well as improved toilet facilities at Broadway Youth and Community Centre. • Pallion - improved banners at St Luke's Terrace and a replacement cycle stand • Sandhill - highway improvements in Sandhill as well as a defibrillator at Hastings Hill. • Silksworth – Memorial clean and improved festive lights. • St Anne's - Increased CCTV in King George Playing Fields and St Anne's in bloom. • St Anne's Christmas tree and Improved lighting of Wrapped Trees • Pallion Drop kerbs and highway improvements. <p>Scheme now finished with £24,235 returned to Neighbourhood Funding</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Funding awarded for 2024/25 includes an award of £15k per ward for a Ward Improvement Budget. The budget will be used for priorities to help improve the ward and for activity that is both in keeping with council policy and contribute to the Area Committee's Area Plan.</p> <p>At the June Area Committee it was confirmed that Ward Improvement Budget would be utilised in the West. The budget will be used for priorities to help improve the ward and for activity that is both in keeping with council policy and contribute to the Area Committee's Area Plan. A maximum of 3 projects will be funded from the £15k budget.</p> <p>Members have been attending ward based meetings to agree proposals, approved schemes are included in Item 4 Annex 2</p>
<p>Regular updates on Clean and Green/Rangers projects and consider future options</p>	<p>Project update circulated to members February 2025</p> <p>6 projects deliver in each ward across the West, working with communities to improve the area, carrying out litter picks, graffiti removal, shrub reduction and a variety of other environmental improvements. Litter picks/community cleans continue to take place and are well attended.</p> <p>Clean and Green It Barnes, St Anne's and Sandhill Facebook</p> <p>Clean and Green Pallion, Facebook</p> <p>Silksworth and St Chad's Ranger (2) Facebook</p>
<p>Regular updates on Environmental Enforcement project and Tackle ASB</p>	<p>Project update circulated to members February 2025</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Enforcement Officer continues to carry out proactive patrols across the West with over 1700 enforcement actions delivered since April 2024. The West ASB officer has</p>

	<p>continued to collaborate, working closely with Northumbria Police and other partner agencies to address key issues affecting the local community.</p> <p>At the December Area Committee it was agreed to extend the project by 12 months, realigning the underspend and an additional £5000 Neighbourhood funding taking the project to December 2025.</p>
Regular updates on the Youth Activities Projects and consider future options	<p>Project update circulated to members February 2025.</p> <p>Youth activity sessions continue to be delivered in all wards, some centre based, some activities delivered in parks and open green spaces. Youth Activities across all 6 wards sessions are aimed at 10–19-year-olds.</p> <p>Footfall since April 2024 is over 11,000 supported by 1100 volunteer hours, attracting nearly 200 new young people to the sessions.</p> <p>These activities are complimented by the Youth ASB project which delivers detached, outreach and additional centre based activities across the West. More details can be found by following Sunderland All Together Consortium on Facebook</p>
Regular updates on The Welfare Rights Project	<p>The project which supported residents with information advice and guidance including better off calculations has now finished. The funding approved towards the specialist advice has been returned to West Area Committee.</p> <p>Project ended June 2024</p>
An evaluation on Mental Health and Wellbeing in Young People and consider future options	<p>Project delivered in schools across April 23 to August 23 with over 600 young people accessing the support bringing the overall total to just less than 3000 pupils. Final evaluation submitted November 2023 and circulated to Members.</p>
Vibrant Smart City We will have	
An increased knowledge of recycling	<p>The Waste and Recycling Centre Visitors Education Centre (WRVEC) continues to engage with local schools and community groups offering an active education program focusing on the 3R's (reduce, reuse, recycle) including free sessions in the Centres rooms and garden as well as tours of the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC). The West VCS Network received a presentation on what services are offered from the WRVEC.</p>
A young people access fund	
Support in place to help the VCS to grow their capacity including growing more community groups	
An evaluation of the West Area event and consider future delivery	<p>Following the success of the 3 day event in Barnes Park June 2024, at the September 24 Area Committee the funding was approved to Youth Almighty Project to deliver the 3 day event in Barnes Park in the Summer of 2025.</p>

	Area Committee accepted £10,000 from Sunderland City Council to deliver or extend a community event(s). The Neighbourhood and Community Board are asking Area Committee to align an additional £2000, from Neighbourhood Funding to allow for a Call for projects to deliver ward based events.
Regular updates on the Stephenson Trail	The project has achieved its objectives and promoted and improved the Stephenson Trail. Environmental works including footpath improvements, shrub work, litter picks, new slim line signage boards were all part of improvements made. Environmental works including replacing waymarkers will continue until June 2026
A project to tackle school parking	Site meetings took place at 6 schools in May and June. The Area Committee aligned £12,000 Neighbourhood funding to support small scale improvements. Schemes were approved in December 2024, with one final scheme being considered at March Area Committee.