

East Area Committee Delivery Plan 2023 - 2026

Updated June 2025

The Area Plan commits the Area Committee to a number of priorities, which will be delivered within the East 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 East Neighbourhood and Community Board

Priority	Progress Update
Dynamic Smart City We will have	
An evaluation of the Go Get Online project and consider future delivery	Evaluation discussed at February 2024 Board Meeting – recommendation to align funding to facilitate a further phase of the project was approved at the March 2024 Area Committee. The response to subsequent call for projects to be discussed at July 2024 N&C Board meeting, the project will not be progressed at this time and the funding was returned to Area Committee in September 2024.
Low carbon initiatives in the community	Presentation on Low Carbon initiatives received June 2023. Options for fruit and tree planting submitted for consideration with locations suggested across the East. Consultation with members regarding locations for EV Community Hubs is ongoing.
Healthy Smart City We will have	
Youth clubs in each of the 5 wards	Applications were approved in September 2023 then extended so delivery could continue until September 2024. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doxford Activities for Young People, The Box Youth and Community Project • Youth Work in Every Place and Space, Back on the Map • Future in Mind, Blue Watch Youth Centre • Millfield Youth Activities, Sunderland All Together Consortium • Next Steps St Michael's, St Michael's Community Centre

	<p>Project updates circulated to members in April 2025, sessions established in all areas with over 1300 children and young people participating in these projects to date.</p> <p>Area Committee will consider a recommendation to align funding to ensure a further year of delivery until September 2026 at the June Area Committee meeting under Item 4.</p>
Information on what support the Youth Consortium require to build capacity and attract external funds	The East Area Committee continues to support the Youth Consortium through the funding of the delivery of youth activities in the Millfield ward. Furthermore, East Area Committee recently supported the Youth Consortium to deliver a programme of holiday activities in Hendon ward throughout the 2024/25 academic year.
An understanding of external funding opportunities for Youth Activities during school holidays and consider the gap in provision	<p>Eight organisations across the East area delivered holiday activities for children and young people under the banner of 'Fancy a Day Out' during Summer holidays 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blue Watch Youth Centre - Ryhope - 2/3-hour sessions taking place throughout the summer holidays providing around 500 places for children and young people age 5-16 to participate in fun activities and receive a healthy meal • The Box Youth and Community Project -Doxford - 22 sessions to take place over the 6-week period providing around 200 places for CYP to take part in fun activities and trips • Back on the Map - Hendon - twice weekly sessions proving around 240 places for CYP to participate in onsite activities and trips to parks, beaches and the cinema • Sunderland All Together Youth Consortium – Millfield - six pop events in local parks and six centre based holiday clubs aimed at young people aged 7-16, expected to attract around 500 participants • CHANCE – Hendon –18 sessions over the summer holidays, providing around 540 places for CYP to participate in fun activities and trips while also receiving a healthy meal • Keep Active – Hendon - 6 hour sessions Monday- Thursday throughout August, around 640 places where CYP will take part in sporting activities and receive a meal each day • Sunderland Community Action Group - St Michael's- separate sessions for 4-10 and 11-16 year olds taking place every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday throughout the summer, around 160 CYP are expected to participate each day where they will enjoy multi-sport sessions and messy play

- Young Asian Voices - Hendon- sessions will take place every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday throughout the summer holidays, its anticipated that over 120 CYP will participate in multi-sport sessions and trips to the beach and local parks

Furthermore, Members approved another 7 projects to allow holiday activities with food to be delivered throughout the 2024/25 academic year as follows:

- Blue Watch Youth Centre - Ryhope - 2/3-hour sessions taking place throughout holiday periods providing around 900 places across 30 sessions for children and young people age 5-16 to participate in fun activities and receive a healthy meal
- The Box Youth and Community Project -Doxford – 30 sessions to take place over the 6 holiday periods providing around 370 places for CYP to take part in fun activities and trips
- Sunderland All Together Youth Consortium - Hendon – 32 sessions over the 6 holiday periods proving around 200 places for CYP to participate in onsite activities and trips to parks, beaches and the cinema
- Sunderland All Together Youth Consortium – Millfield – mixture of outdoor and centre based holiday clubs aimed at young people aged 7-16, expected to create around 700 places.
- CHANCE – Hendon –33 sessions over the six holiday periods, providing around 900 places for CYP to participate in fun activities and trips while also receiving a healthy meal
- Evolve Youth Inclusion– Hendon – Free Friday evening health and fitness sessions during school holidays for young people aged 9-16, funding will create around 560 places.
- Sunderland Community Action Group - St Michael's- separate sessions for 4-10 and 11–16-year-olds taking place every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday throughout the holidays. Around 800 places will be available during holiday periods throughout the year.

Two applications which were deferred pending further information were approved via the Responsive Local Decision process in February 2025 as follows:

- GEN D CIC - three digital art sessions per week during holiday times for young people aged 6-16, 725 spaces will be provided over 30 sessions.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • African Caribbean Community Association – Saturday morning football sessions to take place during school holiday times, each participant will receive a meal following the session, 11 sessions will be delivered during Easter, May and Summer, 375 places will be provided. <p>Area Committee will consider a recommendation to align funding to ensure a further year of delivery until September 2026 at the June Area Committee meeting under Item 4.</p>
Projects that increase physical and wellbeing activities for young people and support healthier lifestyles and lessen the impact of the cost-of-living crisis	<p>As outlined above, eight organisations across the East area delivered holiday activities for children and young people under the banner of 'Fancy a Day Out' during Summer holidays 2024, it was a condition of the funding that all participants received a healthy meal as part of each session.</p> <p>Members approved another seven projects at the September Area Committee on the same premise that children and young people participating will take part in physical and wellbeing activities and also receive a healthy meal. A further two projects were approved in February 2025.</p> <p>Through two rounds of East Can Do, East Area Committee have supported six young people led projects as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Box Youth and Community Project – Christmas Eve Boxes • Sunderland Community Action Group – Pool Table and National Trust Passes • The Box Youth and Community Project - The Funky Flamingos – sound equipment • Doxford Park Community Association - The LCK Party Planners – lighting equipment • Blue Watch Youth and Community Centre - Blue Watch United – football equipment • Back on the Map - Hendon Girls Group – heritage project <p>To date the East Area has undertaken two rounds of the East Can Do with another planned for October/November 2025.</p>
Improved social prescribing	<p>UKSPF Funded Links for Life Call for Projects circulated to East VCS Network members September 2023. The programme will build on the learning from the warm and welcoming spaces, ensuring we are able to offer services and support within our communities – support and activities which bring residents together, enable active engagement and improve health, wellbeing and financial resilience.</p>

	<p>Eight projects are delivering in the East area as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Michael's Community Centre - Funding will be used to provide a warm, welcoming space for local people to reduce social isolation by bringing people together to participate in a range of activities every week. • The Bunker - The Bunker will deliver a variety of music and creative media-based activities alongside a wellbeing support and development programme aimed at local people with mental health issues. • The Box Youth and Community Project - Delivery of a range of preventative initiatives, aimed at improving personal resilience and making a positive impact upon health outcomes. • Ryhope Community Association – working collaboratively with Blue Watch Youth Centre to deliver activities including after school clubs and mental health courses. • Back on the Map - This programme aims to create an inclusive approach to improve the overall well-being of the community, targeting diverse age groups and specific challenges they face. • NERAF (Northern Engagement into Recovery from Addictions Foundation) - The HARP (Health and Recovery Pathways) Project will increase the support available for individuals experiencing substance and alcohol issues. • ICOS The project will support BME individuals including refugees who have recently been granted refugee status, women fleeing domestic abuse, or recently arrived migrants. It will provide help with accessing mainstream services and benefits. • Friends of Drop in (FODI) – programme of activities aimed at improving the mental health and wellbeing among Asylum Seekers. <p>The links for life website Links for Life Sunderland Links for Life Sunderland is now live and the East 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>
Improved green spaces including fruit orchards and wildflowers	<p>Options for fruit and tree planting submitted for consideration with locations suggested across the East Area.</p> <p>Members seeking to make improvements to green spaces through Ward Improvement Budget in some areas including:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hendon Community Allotments – site clearance and creation of growing beds, community events to encourage people visit/volunteer. • Back on the Map – Project 86 – creation of a community outdoor space with new fencing to enhance security as well as new paving and seating to improve accessibility. • Invigor8 North East – clearance of an extensive area of overgrown open space near Valley Road School, this will provide a site for grassroots football and other community uses. • Western Hill Bulb Planting – 225m2 of spring bulbs planted to create an attractive floral display during Spring/Summer on Western Hill, Ryhope.
Received information on the Rangers projects and consider future delivery	<p>Applications to extend the project for another year until September 2025 were approved at the September Area Committee.</p> <p>Project update circulated to members in April 2025 Over 1400 hours of volunteering have taken place and 804 bags of rubbish have been collected during quarter 4.</p>
Received information on the Enforcement project and consider future delivery	<p>Presentation received at November 2023 Neighbourhood and Community Board containing information on performance of the Enforcement project to date and options for future delivery Board will not progress with a further award at this time but may revisit in the future.</p> <p>Funding of £15,000 awarded to part-fund a dedicated ASB Officer who will form part of the new Motorcycle Disorder Taskforce – update report received in November 2024, East impacts December 2023-November 2024 as follows:</p> <p>Seizures -18 Call backs – 111 Orders – 11 Arrest/ reports –8 Patrols- 181 Nights of Action- 5 Social Media Posts- 11</p> <p>East Neighbourhood and Community Board agreed to recommend the realignment of £5,000 previously allocated for preventative measures, as well as the allocation of an additional</p>

	£5,000 to support the staffing element of the project. This will allow the project to continue for another year.
Delivered the WOW features project	<p>Projects across the East at differing stages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doxford – planting scheme for roundabout on Doxford Park Way near to Morrisons currently in development, expected to be complete by Autumn 2025. • Hendon – funding aligned to support the High Street Revolution initiative in Vilette Road area. • Ryhope – Planter scheme complete Summer 2023 • Millfield – scheme for Millfield section of the Stephenson Trail currently in development expected to be complete by Autumn 2025 • St Michaels – Planter scheme complete Spring 2024
Delivered improvements to community assets	<p>The following organisations received capital funding to make improvements to their respective centres, Members will continue to receive more detailed updates via the quarterly monitoring updates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Back on the Map - Hendon Community Growing Garden • Blue Watch Youth Centre - Safe Outdoor Fun • CHANCE - Upgrade CCTV • Ryhope Community Association - Kitchen Upgrade • Sunderland Area Parent Support - Making SAPS Safe • Sunderland MIND - Accessible Entry • The Box youth and Community Project - Improvement/Repairs to Main Hall • St Michael's Community Centre - Internal refurbishment and alarm system • Media Savvy - Creation of kitchen and workspaces • Church of Nazarene - Roofing works and improvements to facilities • Samaritans - Refurbishment of training room and duty room • The Bunker - Accessibility upgrades • St Marks - Development of community garden and play area • Oasis Community Housing – Shower upgrades <p>£125,000 aligned at September 2024 Area Committee to support more capital improvements to community buildings. The project call out was circulated to East Voluntary and Community Sector Network Members and via the Sunderland Voluntary and Community Sector Alliance on the 8th November with a deadline for applications of the 2nd December 2024. 22</p>

	<p>applications were received and considered by Members at the February meeting of the East Neighbourhood and Community Board, the following projects received support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Michael's Community Centre- Replacement fire door and improvements to stage area • The Box Youth & Community Project - Car park resurfacing • Sunderland Maritime Heritage - Partition wall and extraction system • CHANCE - Refurbishment of men's, women's and accessible toilets • The Bunker CIC - Accessible toilet facilities • The Salvation Army - Upgrade accessible toilet • Ryhope CA - Install cavity trays and paint walls with water seal, false ceilings • Sunderland and North Durham Royal Society for the Blind - Wheelchair ramp/safety rail/electronic shutter • New pool hoist Everyone Active - Raich Carter Centre • Invigor8 North East CIC - Boundary fencing, • Deptford & Millfield CA - New curtains, pelmet and backdrop for the stage area, painting and decorating
Delivered a Walk and Talk programme	<p>Several ward-based initiatives have been delivered across the East, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doxford – capital works to community centre, footpath improvements, holiday activities • Hendon- environmental improvements, highway improvements, holiday activities • Millfield- highway improvements, public art • Ryhope- highway improvements, community event • St Michael's – highways improvements, environmental improvements, blood kits. <p>The East Area Committee aligned £15,000 per ward from the 2023/24 budget to ward-based initiatives. The Neighbourhood Funding awarded for 2024/25 also includes an allocation of £15,000 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 contributes to the Area Committee's Area Plan. A maximum of 6 projects will be funded from the £30,000 budget. Members have been attending ward-based meetings to agree proposals, approved schemes are included in Item 4 Annex 1</p>

	<p>Extension and Allocation for 2025/26</p> <p>In April 2025, the Area Committee, through a delegated decision, approved the continuation of the £15,000 per ward as part of the Ward Improvement Budget, funded through Neighbourhood Funding. This renewed funding is intended to maintain momentum in ward improvements and will continue to support projects that align with council priorities and contribute to the Area Committee's strategic objectives.</p> <p>To ensure effective allocation, each ward will be permitted to fund a maximum of three priority projects from their £15,000 budget, with careful selection to maximise the impact in the community</p>
Vibrant Smart City We will have	
Supported community assets to develop, grow and sustain	<p>Capital improvements to community centres – please see above</p> <p>Dedicated capacity building projects for Ryhope Community Association and St Michael's Community Centre – please see below</p> <p>Capacity building project for Doxford Park and District Community Association agreed at June Area Committee.</p>
Improved the Stephenson Trail	<p>Presentation from steering group shared. Environmental works have continued with way markers and information panels being installed during Autumn 2023.</p> <p>The steering group have extended current ward-based maintenance arrangements (Groundwork Northeast and Cumbria for Millfield and The Box Youth and Community Project for Doxford) for another two years commencing from Summer 2024. New signage detailing some interpretation information was installed in Autumn 2024 and a section of the Trail that runs between Eden Vale Road and Chester Road was also upgraded with path resurfacing and the cutting back of trees and shrubbery.</p> <p>A small length of redundant palisade fencing has been removed and the low-level wall reinstated at St Mark's Road, this will serve to reduce the build up of litter and improve the overall appearance of the area.</p>
Delivered and supported St Michael's and Ryhope Community Centre projects	<p>Ryhope Community Association – Neighbourhood Funding used to provide additional staffing capacity to support the development of funding and volunteering strategies. Award of over £140,000 secured from The National Lottery to support the continuation of activities at the Ryhope Community Centre over the next three years.</p>

	St Michael's Community Centre – Neighbourhood Funding used to support the appointment of a dedicated Community Development Worker who was successful in extending the programme of activities delivered at the Community Centre and securing additional funding to allow the project to continue.
Received updates on highways schemes and consider future options	<p>Presentation from Transport and Infrastructure Service at the February Neighbourhood and Community Board meeting regarding the Highway Maintenance Programme for 2025/26.</p> <p>Attendance of Assistant Director for Transport and Infrastructure at October 2023 Neighbourhood and Community Board meeting.</p>