# Sunderland City Council

#### Item 2 Annex 1

### North 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 North 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 North Neighbourhood and Community Board

Priority	Progress Update
Dynamic Smart City We Will Have	
North Ward Based Raising Aspiration Projects	<ul> <li>Ward Based Raising Aspiration Projects which ended December 2023 have been successful with funding applications via the Links for Life Programme until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024</li> <li>Southwick, St. Peters, Redhill and Fulwell Ward Based Raising Aspiration Projects are now fully delivered and complete with full updates on the projects provided to Members.</li> <li>Castle Raising Aspirations Project expected delivery up to March 2025</li> </ul>
North Communication Project	<ul> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> Newsletter Circulated May 2023</li> <li>Currently developing content for Newsletter to pick up celebrating projects awarded funding via Area Committee and delivery of funded projects</li> </ul>
Benefit Advice/Guidance for Residents Focusing on Digital Inclusion  • Digital Inclusion linked to UKSPF Digital Hubs in the North (funding in place)	<ul> <li>Go Online Sunderland 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Digital Inclusion Newsletter shared with Area Committee 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023</li> <li>UKSPF (UK Shared Prosperity Fund) Digital Health Hubs Update:         <ul> <li>Sites across the North are currently undergoing surveys to identify upgrades required which will include enhancing wifi capabilities, upgrade of digital devices/furniture, upskilling of staff/volunteers</li> </ul> </li> <li>Locations shown in Amber are on a waiting list for future investment, subject to future funding being secured.</li> </ul>

Dogular Undates on the Delivery of Law Carbon	<ul> <li>Southwick Community Project: The Salvation Army, Southwick</li> <li>Roker Life Church, Roker</li> <li>Thompson Park Community Centre, Southwick</li> <li>Friends of Fulwell / NE Sports, Monkwearmouth Academy, Fulwell</li> <li>Downhill Community Hub, Downhill</li> <li>Castle Ward Hub, Castle</li> <li>February 2024 Board received a presentation on Digital Dashboards for the Wards and members agreed the development of a Task and Finish Group to explore the support available for residents and the potential of adding value.</li> <li>Priority for action 2024 – 2026.</li> <li>February 2025 Board received an update on Smart City – Go Online and the support available for local residents.</li> </ul>
Regular Updates on the Delivery of Low Carbon Initiatives in the Community	<ul> <li>Presentation on Low Carbon initiatives received June 2023</li> <li>Ward Tree Planting Suggestions across the North submitted for consideration</li> <li>Ward Tree Planting scheme expected Winter 2023 is at Roker Park with plans to plant 50 heavy standards subject to further checks and discussions with Natural England</li> <li>Further tree planting schemes to be reported on for 2024 - 2026</li> </ul>
Healthy Smart City We Will Have	
Provision of a Wide Range of Youth Activities Particularly in Areas Suffering from Anti-Social Behaviour	<ul> <li>£20,000 ring fenced for Youth</li> <li>Feb Board received evaluations and an update on the 2022 – 2023 delivery of youth activities funded by Area Committee, members agreed to: <ul> <li>Re-invigorate the Task and Finish Group</li> <li>Develop an updated Call for Projects</li> <li>Recommend an alignment of £4,000 per ward to add to the remaining ward balances to March 2024 Area Committee</li> <li>March 2024 Area Committee agreed the alignment</li> <li>April 2024 Board to consider Call for Projects and release to the VCS Network.</li> <li>April Board agreed the Call which was subsequently released to the VCS Network</li> <li>June 2024 Area Committee to consider applications. Nine projects awarded funding.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul> <li>Remaining funding on hold pending the development of a Youth Strategy by Together for Children</li> <li>Redhill Ward Councillors awarded £4,070 Ward Improvement Budget to Active Families to deliver St. Cuthberts Active Camp – School Holiday Activity for Children aged 6 - 11</li> <li>July Board considered an Expression of Interest from Castletown Scouts for a Minibus from the Castle Ward Improvement Budget and Neighbourhood Fund, members agreed full application to be considered at September Area Committee which was approved.</li> <li>February 2025 Board considered the funding currently in alignment for youth provision within the North and agreed a proposal to invite the Youth Consortium to April Board to discuss how members can consider youth provision within their wards identified through ward engagement. The Board agreed to recommend to March Area Committee for consideration the alignment of the £20,000 funding for youth for 2024 – 2025 to be added to the existing aligned funds of £78,556         <ul> <li>March 2025 Area Committee agreed this alignment.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Redhill Ward members have engaged with the local community and are supporting a project from their Ward Improvement Budget and Ward Improvement Project funding which will deliver additional accessible play kit within Rotherfield Road Play         <ul> <li>March 2025 Area Committee agreed the approval of previously aligned Ward Improvement funding towards the play project</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
A North Quarry Run	<ul> <li>Park run is due to commence the end of September 2023</li> <li>Set up fees have been now paid to parkrun</li> <li>Volunteers have been engaged and have began to undertake core training</li> <li>The project has received support from the parkrun ambassador in establishing the route and other areas of the required / necessary for the set up.</li> <li>The volunteer project team have undertaken the required training</li> <li>Equipment is purchased and routes finalised with run planned to be operational March 2024</li> <li>Project complete and park runs have commenced with 150 runners taking part in the first run and subsequent runs now have over 300 runners</li> </ul>
Supported the Delivery of a Play Zone Project	Work has progressed and the design has been informed by a community engagement exercise. Residents want to see the new facility as a safe space

with the opportunity play sports such as football, basketball and netball. Football Foundation have approved application in principle and £50,000 secured from Health City Fund as match. Construction is hoped to start before the end of 2023 – currently in the planning process.

- Planning application successful. The Football Foundation have appointed a construction company to complete the works, awaiting start date once commenced it is envisaged 10-12 weeks for completion
- December 2024 Update
- The PlayZone is to be built on the old MUGA, off Church Street
- The PlayZone will be managed by Southwick Neighbourhood Youth Project (SNYP)
- The build cost is £242,192 (net), including contingencies
- All match funding is in place including, £10,000 from North Area Committee
- Currently awaiting the signing of the JCT build contract
- Once the JCT contract is signed, a construction start date can be announced and the media release shared.
- There is a 4-6 week mobilisation period once the contract has been signed and a 12 week build programme
- SNYP to undertake training of the PlayZone online booking system
- An 'activation group' involving a range of partners will be established whilst the PlayZone is being constructed, to ensure a sport and physical activity programme is in place for when the PlayZone is ready
- A provisional construction start date has been agreed, 4 March 2025, pending the signing of the JCT build contract. This will be a 12 week build programme
- A media release has been drafted and will be released mid-February 2025
- A banner will be erected on the current MUGA fencing to let residents know the area will be refurbished
- Letters will be distributed to nearby residents notifying them of the work, prior to construction works starting
- A site welfare unit and cabin will be located on the car park overlooking the PlayZone site
- SNYP are undertaking training of the PlayZone online booking system

	<ul> <li>A PlayZone 'activation group' involving a range of partners is currently being established, to ensure a sport and physical activity programme is in place for when the PlayZone is open.</li> <li>Works on site commenced on 10 March 2025 and it will be an approximate 12 week build programme. Members receive regular updates from the Health and Wellbeing Team</li> <li>A PlayZone 'activation group' involving a range of partners has already met, to ensure an activity programme is in place for when the PlayZone is open. This group will continually evolve and currently includes the following partners – SNYP, Active Sunderland, Leisure United, Change the Game - Southwick, the Council's Healthy Lifestyle Programme</li> </ul>
Health Related Projects	£10,000 ring fenced for future health related projects- potentially air quality monitoring therefore on hold for now to be discussed at future Board
Wildlife, Walking, Cycling and Running Destinations	Ward members currently meeting with Environmental Services and feedback has been provided
Hylton Dene	<ul> <li>Proposals for this priority were considered at November 2024 Board with members agreeing to receive proposals at February 2025 Board.</li> <li>February Board received proposals on the opening up of pathways within Hylton Dene and making the Dene Accessible. The funding to cover the proposals is from Strategic Access Management and Monitoring funding and the Board agreed to recommend to March Area Committee consideration of additional funding of £28,000 to increase the works to be carried out.</li> <li>March 25 Area Committee agreed the funding of £28,000</li> </ul>
Wide Range of Social Prescribing Services and Activities	<ul> <li>UKSP Funded Links for Life Call for Projects circulated to North VCS Network members 4<sup>th</sup> 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.</li> <li>Successful projects within the North:         <ul> <li>Roker Life - Establish a portfolio of activities at the community hub - including specialist exercise, cookery, gardening, food growing, creative crafts, community fridge project, family activities, volunteer training, digital support (digital hub), to promote wellbeing and reduce the impact of the cost of living crisis, whilst bringing the community together and offering the opportunity to</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

- make new social connections. Activities will be open to local adults and families and will be free to all. Quarterly blocks of delivery approx. 20 hours per week
- Sunderland Community Action Group By working with local young people from all backgrounds we will engage and support them to make better informed choices, enabling them to take advantage of a range of positive opportunities made available to them. We want young people to become happier, healthier, safer and more linked for life. 4 x Youth Sessions per week 1 x Sports & Cycle Session per week
- Redby Community Centre Links for Life will support the regeneration of Redby Community Centre as a fully inclusive community venue that will actively meet/target the needs of the most vulnerable within the community. Providing a cohesive approach via a range of programmes that will proactively improve holistically the health and wellbeing of local residents. 4 Sessions per week Jan - Dec. Exercise, Arts & Crafts, Walking, Talking, Sport, Family targeted activities and exercises, offer of transport of those that may find it difficult to get to the Centre
- Community Opportunities for Castle and Redhill Wards A range of activities
  will be available including coffee afternoon, finance/benefit advice, household
  support, keep warm packs, employability, arts & crafts, walking, trips, parent
  and toddler groups, bingo etc from warm and safe spaces in Downhill Hub
  (Digital Hub), The Castle, Redhouse CA and Castletown Church. We will
  help residents to improve their health and well being and will signpost and
  work with external partners to access additional support as required. Weekly
  session (2hrs) alternating from 4 venues within Castle and Redhill Wards
- Southwick Neighbourhood Youth Project Using three themes we aim to improve the lives of the residents of Southwick; to do this we will address issues around the cost of living crisis; provide a community support hub and deliver a youth work programme. 12.5 hours per week. In partnership with Thompson Park CC (Digital Hub) Foodbank and Community Fridge Project, Cooking/Recipes, Benefits Advice, Support, Careers, Health & Wellbeing Activities Exercise, Dance etc, Youth Work Projects
- North East Sport Fulwell Links for Life Providing a Family/Community
  Wellness Hub offering a wide range of services and activities to the local
  community youth support, digital inclusion/literacy, health and wellbeing,

cultural & community events, family support & community outreach, healthy lifestyle initiatives, volunteer engagement. 12 hours per week

 Projects have commenced January 2024 and regular updates and promotion provided via project lead social media pages and North Sunderland social media page

## Vibrant Smart City We Will Have

Delivery of a Wide Range of Heritage and Culture Projects

- Hylton Castle Current NF Project
- Crossley Project
- Southwick Illumination Project Current NF Project up to 2024
- Fulwell Christmas Lights
- Redhill Community Christmas
- Cenotaph Area in Redhill
- Castle Mural Project
- Town End Farm Community Christmas

- Area Committee June 2023 funding awarded for Crossley Project. The project lead has advised that this project is no longer going ahead therefore the funds were returned at September 2024 Area Committee
- Area Committee June 2023 funding awarded Fulwell Christmas Lights Project
- Culture House Leanne attended July 2023 Board
- Redhill Community Christmas Ward members currently developing proposals via the Ward Improvement Budget. Decision on funding made via responsive decision with a Santa is Coming to Redhill event to be held on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023 and lighting to be installed early December 2023. Successful Redhill event delivered and lighting installed on living tree December 2023. 2024 project currently being developed, funding applications presented and agreed at September Area Committee. Successful Switch on Delivered 20<sup>th</sup> November 2024
- Successful Southwick Switch on Event held on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023. 2024 Switch on Event successfully delivered on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> of November.
- Castle Mural Project Ward Improvement Project November Board agreed for full application to be presented to December 2023 Area Committee. Area Committee December 2023 awarded funding for the Castle Mural Project. Mural and commemorative panel unveiled at event June 2024.
- Town End Farm Community Christmas Ward members have developed proposals via the Ward Improvement Project Budget, funding applications were presented and agreed at September Area Committee. Successful Switch On event delivered 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024.
- February Board 2025 Board discussed proposals for Southwick/Redhill/Town End Farm Illuminations to be delivered in 2026 and agreed to receive proposals at future Board.

North Events programme      Battle Re-enactment     Thompson Park Event     Future Events	<ul> <li>Successful Battle Re-enactment Event delivered 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> July 2023 with over 10,000 visitors</li> <li>Thompson Park Event unfortunately cancelled twice due to the weather –to be rescheduled June 15<sup>th</sup> 2024.</li> <li>July Board discussed the proposal for a Battle Re-enactment Event 2026 agreed to propose an alignment of £40,000 with agreement to secure additional £10,000 match funding from Sunderland City Council Events Team which was agreed at September Area Committee</li> <li>February Board considered the full application and agreed for this to be considered at March Area Committee.</li> <li>March Area Committee approved the full application</li> </ul>
Regeneration of Thompson Park  Thompson Park Refurbishment – Current NF Project Accessible Kit	<ul> <li>All new play areas and refurbishment complete July 2023</li> <li>November Board received a funding proposal for the Thompson Park Toilets members agreed full application to be presented to December Area Committee . December 2024 Area Committee awarded funding for the Thompson Park Toilet refurbishment project.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Support to VCS &amp; Community Hubs</li> <li>Downhill Hub – Current NF Project</li> <li>Hylton Castle Community Hub</li> <li>Redhouse Community Association</li> <li>Community Warden Project to support community hubs</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Redhouse Community Association Expression of Interest for Neighbourhood Fund to be presented to November Board</li> <li>November Board agreed for Redhouse Community Association full application to be presented to December 2023 Area Committee</li> <li>December 2023 Area Committee awarded funding for Redhouse Community Association Refurbishment Project.</li> <li>April 2024 Board agreed to recommend full application to be presented to June Area Committee to support Veterans in Crisis with their Access for All Project from the St. Peters Ward Improvement Project NF.</li> <li>June 2024 Area Committee awarded funding for the Veterans in Crisis Access of all Project from the St. Peters Ward Improvement Project NF.</li> <li>November Board received an update on the potential of a Ranger project to be delivered within the Castle and Redhill Wards and members agreed to receive proposals to the February Board to deliver this project. February Board agreed a project brief to deliver a North Ranger Project for Castle and Redhill Ward and agreed to recommend consideration of the alignment of £100,000 to March Area Committee.</li> </ul>

Redevelopment of Downhill Wheeled Sports Park	<ul> <li>March Area Committee agreed the alignment of funds and the Call for Projects was released to the Voluntary and Community Sector Networks on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025</li> <li>Area Committee June 2023 funding aligned for the development of a project</li> </ul>
Development of site into a Great North     Forest	<ul> <li>Which regenerates the site. Meeting held 7<sup>th</sup> August to commence discussions and planning</li> <li>Property Services are currently securing a cost for demolition of the Skate Park and an update will be provided to Ward Members at November 2024 Board</li> <li>November 2024 Board considered the demolition proposal for Downhill Skate Park and agreed full application to be presented to December Area Committee. December 2024 Area Committee awarded funding for the Downhill Skate Park demolition project.</li> </ul>
Delivery of Roker & Seaburn Washing Facilities Project	<ul> <li>Area Committee June 2023 funding awarded for the delivery of the project.</li> <li>Shower installation complete.</li> </ul>
Delivery of a Project which Addresses Motorcycle Disorder	<ul> <li>November 2023 Board received a report on a Motor Cycle Disorder Taskforce Pilot and considered proposals to support Sunderland City Council with an additional ASB Officer, preventative measures and electric bikes for Northumbria Police – Board agreed full application to be presented to December 2023 Area Committee –December 2023 Area Committee awarded funding for the Motor Cycle Disorder Taskforce Pilot project</li> <li>To date the project has delivered the following:         <ul> <li>The ASB Officer has focused on educating younger people ages 12+ on the dangers of riding off road bikes and attended Castle View Enterprise Academy along with Northumbria Police to deliver the Operation Capio presentation to over 150 students throughout 5 sessions.</li> <li>71 proactive patrols of the area have been carried out consisting of 2 leaflet drops to areas where intelligence received that offroad vehicle disorder was causing an issue.</li> <li>2 nights of action in the North in which ASB Officer worked with Northumbria police to conduct out of hours foot and vehicle patrols to show a visible presence within the community. As part of the nights of action in the North, enforcement action was taken against 2 individuals who had both been identified after reports from the public as causing Anti-Social Behaviour on a</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	motor-propelled vehicle, this was in the form of 1 Acceptable Behaviour Agreement and 1 Community Protection Warning.  There have been 3 vehicles seized by the motorcycle disorder taskforce in the North and 2 arrests/summons made.  The ASB Officer has also been working to identify hotspot areas in the North by liaising with partner agencies to share intelligence and a meeting has taken place with the crime prevention officer and Environmental Services team to develop a plan for what measures can be put in place at these locations using the allocated AC funds to prevent access by those committing anti-social behaviour, these visits will be planned in for the next quarter with an update to follow.  24 people who made reports to the council and police have received call backs from the op capio team to discuss the issues they are experiencing.  Full updates are provided within members Quarterly Monitoring Updates and North Sunderland Social Media page  November Board received a presentation on the Neighbourhood Funded Motorcycle Disorder project and agreed to recommend to Area Committee the realignment of the existing £6,000 Neighbourhood Funding preventative budget to be Officer costs and approve an additional £4,000 Neighbourhood funding to allow the project to be extended for a further 12 months.  December 2024 Area Committee agreed the realignment and the additional funding to support the Motorcycle Disorder Project
Additional CCTV	<ul> <li>April 2024 Board discussed a project to extend air time for existing CCTV purchased via North Area Committee.</li> <li>June 2024 Area Committee awarded funding for the Sunderland City Council CCTV Airtime project.</li> </ul>
Community Safety	<ul> <li>July Board received an Expression of Interest for a Fulwell VAS project on Sea Road to be considered within the Fulwell Ward Improvement Neighbourhood Fund project, members agreed full application which was considered and agreed at September Area Committee.         <ul> <li>Installation work has now commenced</li> </ul> </li> <li>A responsive decision was successfully progressed in March 2025 for an additional Fulwell VAS project for Dovedale Road within the Fulwell Ward Improvement Neighbourhood Fund Project.</li> </ul>