

Cabinet

30 May 2012



County Durham Partnership Update Report

Report of Corporate Management Team
Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive
Cllr. Simon Henig, Leader of the Council
Cllr. Brian Stephens, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods and Local Partnerships

Purpose of the Report

1. To update Durham County Council's Cabinet on issues being addressed by the County Durham Partnership (CDP) Board, the five Thematic Partnerships and all Area Action Partnerships (AAPs). The report also includes updates on other key initiatives being carried out in partnership across the County.

Background

2. As the AAPs and the wider County Durham Partnership Framework continue to be embedded across the County it remains important that Cabinet receive regular updates on this work.

County Durham Partnership Forum

3. The CDP Forum in February heard from the Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership (GAMP) and Teesdale Action Partnership (TAP). This was the second Forum meeting at which two AAPs showcased their work to the Forum members. Members again found this very useful to share the work of the AAPs and to learn from their colleagues in other areas.
4. The thematic focus at the February meeting was on Altogether safer. Rachael Shimmin, Chair of Safe Durham Partnership (SDP), gave a presentation giving some background information on the work of the SDP before looking at how AAPs and the CDP can work with Local Multi-Agency Problem Solving groups to tackle the complex interlinked problems facing some of our communities.

Altogether wealthier

5. A joint meeting of the Business and Employment Groups was held in March to welcome a presentation from Andrew Hodgson, Vice Chair of the North Eastern Enterprise Partnership and lead for the Skills agenda. The outcome of the meeting focused on agreeing joint strategic aims, representation and a renewed focus on delivery. Further joint working with the LEP is planned through the Transport, Rural and Innovation agendas.

6. Rural communities in County Durham are set to benefit from a share of £15m worth funding as part of a Government scheme to help reduce business isolation and promote growth. The money will be used to establish three rural business networks that encourage and promote rural businesses, as well as a number of physical local hubs that will inject intensive business support. The successful bid, submitted by The North Eastern Farming and Rural Advisory Network (NEFRAN) on behalf of the North Eastern Local Enterprise Partnership, will provide support for rural businesses across Northumberland, Durham and Gateshead. The money has been awarded by DEFRA as part of the Rural Growth Networks pilot scheme to help support and grow rural enterprises. The three networks will focus on enhanced business support, better broadband provision, a simplified planning approach and an estates management framework across uplands areas.
7. The business hubs are spread across the pilot area and will include business support, networking opportunities, dedicated mentoring, and high quality workspace and office units. There will also be specific support for creative enterprises and a project that focuses on the redevelopment of redundant buildings.
8. The Derwent Valley Enterprise Hub will develop an enterprise hub in the Derwent Valley, supporting up to eight creative businesses in the Garden Shed, which is utilising underused buildings within the National Trust's Gibside Estate. In Durham it will promote tourism businesses (especially the development of bed and breakfast accommodation), food and drink related activities, and exploring the development of other land and property assets in rural Durham and Gateshead for business use.
9. Middleton Farmers' Auction Mart Development is about providing new office space for rent in Middleton in Teesdale both as individual units and as shared space. It will provide a facility for farmers markets and agricultural and business training. The facility will enable the growth of around 24 businesses through access to managed workspace not currently available.
10. For more information please contact Angela Brown, Partnership Support Officer on 0191 387 2117 or email angela.brown@durham.gov.uk

Altogether better for children and young people

11. The Children, Young People and Families Plan 2012-2016 is currently proceeding through the approval process and is on target for final sign-off by the Children's Executive Board (CEB) on 13 June 2012. A formal consultation period for the plan ended on 29 February 2012. 26 responses were received and considered from a variety of stakeholders including the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the LSCB. All responses have been considered and the vast majority have been reflected in the plan. The comments received focused mainly on layout, formatting, performance measures and additional information to strengthen particular points made within the plan (e.g. Elected Member involvement).
12. The Plan has two main elements. Firstly, it will focus on those areas that are root causes of poorer outcomes rather than focus on both the causes and effects of poorer outcomes. Secondly, the team will mobilise their resources to

intervene early. The needs of vulnerable families will be identified at the earliest opportunity and they will receive the support that they need at a much earlier stage. This will be delivered through One Point, the integrated service.

13. Children, young people and families have been central to the shaping of the CYPFP at every stage. In addition to this, a Children and Young People's version of the CYPFP is currently being developed in conjunction with children and young people from Investing in Children.
14. Following a review of the Children's Trust, the CEB is now in the process of developing an underpinning structure for the delivery of partnership work at a local level. Partnership arrangements at an area and local level are now being set up and letters have been sent out to partners requesting them to identify suitable representatives to contribute to these new locality arrangements. The review identified that a greater focus should be on 'Think Family' and as such, the Children's Trust will now be known as the Children and Families' Trust.
15. For more information please contact Claire McLaren, Planning, Quality and Research Manager on 0191 383 3604 or email claire.mclaren@durham.gov.uk

Altogether healthier

16. The Health and Wellbeing Partnership has agreed revised terms of reference for Health Networks and established a Health Networks Steering Group to support Health Network development through monitoring of the Health Networks development plan. The partnership agreed that through the Health Networks Fund, each Health Network will be able to access £30,000 of funding for the 2012/13 financial year.
17. The partnership has considered the Public Health Outcomes Framework which has as its two high-level outcomes: increased healthy life expectancy and reduced differences in life expectancy and healthy life expectancy between communities (through greater improvements in more disadvantaged communities). However nationally further development of the indicator set is taking place and it is anticipated that it will be autumn 2012 before a full set of baseline data is in place to support local service planning.
18. The partnership has considered a cardiovascular disease (CVD) risk assessment, which is implemented through NHS Health Checks which is a five year rolling programme. To date most Health Checks have been carried out in GP practices, with some practices focusing on screening all patients in the target group (40-74 years old, without a cardiovascular disease related diagnosis (as these patients will already be receiving treatment for their health conditions)) and others focusing on targeting patients within the target group at higher risk of developing CVD e.g. smokers. People identified as high risk are offered medication and/or lifestyle advice/access to exercise programmes, often through the Changing the Physical Activity Landscape (CPAL) programme. A programme of Community Health Checks is being piloted aimed at those less likely to attend a GP and younger adults. Whilst this mandated screening programme makes a moderate impact upon CVD mortality rates the Partnership recognised the greater impact which population wide heart health programmes can have on CVD.

19. For more information please contact Julia Bates, Partnership Officer on 0191 370 8749 or email julia.bates@durham.gov.uk

Altogether safer

20. The Safe Durham Partnership (SDP) Plan 2011-14 has been refreshed following the completion of the annual SDP Strategic Assessment in November 2011. Following public and stakeholder consultation it was decided that the SDP priorities and 'key areas for improvement' would remain unchanged:
 - a. Anti-Social Behaviour;
 - b. Alcohol Harm Reduction;
 - c. Organised Crime;
 - d. High Impact Households; and
 - e. High Impact Localities.
21. The Government's National Alcohol Strategy has been launched in May 2012. The strategy includes commitments to: introduce a minimum unit price for alcohol; consult on a ban on the sale of multi-buy alcohol discounting; introduce stronger powers for local areas to control the density of licensed premises including making the impact on health a consideration for this and pilot sobriety schemes to challenge alcohol-related offending. An Alcohol Strategy Development Day is taking place on 18th May to review the current plan and action plan for the next three years taking into consideration the National Alcohol Strategy and other local policy drivers.
22. The Government has launched its cross departmental plan to tackle Hate Crime. The three core principles are: preventing hate crime; increasing reporting; and improving operational responses. The Safe Durham Partnership will ensure linkages between its own Hate Crime Action Plan and the National Strategy; a marketing campaign is being rolled out over the summer to raise awareness of Hate Crime across County Durham.
23. The Sexual Violence Implementation Group is launching its first marketing campaign between April and June 2012 focusing on Sexual Exploitation, later campaigns will focus on vulnerability through alcohol use and sexually and domestic violent relationships.
24. The Counter Terrorism thematic group has adopted the Government's new CONTEST strategy. The thematic group will have responsibility for the PREVENT and PROTECT strands, while the Local Resilience Forum will take responsibility for the PREPARE strand.
25. A new pilot scheme to provide basic home security is underway in the South of the County. It adopts the principles of Total Home Safety with police and council officers referring victims of crime to the Handyperson Service that will carry out work to make people's homes more secure. The scheme will also help Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) volunteers access basic equipment such as timer plugs and help fit to the homes of vulnerable people.
26. The joint police and council drive to modernise NHW is proving successful. A number of local and national training events have taken place for volunteers

along with delivering initiatives such as implementing 'Cold Calling Awareness Zones'. More than 2000 new homes joined NHW in March 2012 bringing the total number of homes covered by a scheme to 58,000.

27. For more information please contact Caroline Duckworth, Strategic Manager for Safer Communities, on 0191 3708734 or email caroline.duckworth@durham.gov.uk

Altogether greener

28. A range of activity is being undertaken by the sub groups of the Environment Partnership. To embed sustainable design with services, the Built Group is continuing to deliver Building for Life training sessions for those involved in planning. The group is also developing the Built Environment Public Engagement Plan.
29. The Climate Change Group is continuing to work in partnership with British Gas in relation to the Durham Insulation Scheme, which offers free or substantially discounted insulation: to date, more than 5,000 houses throughout County Durham have benefited from this scheme. The Group is also continuing discussions with utility companies in relation to mirroring a best practice community energy project within Durham. An update will be provided in the next report.
30. The Climate Change Strategy is in the final stages of development and members of the Climate Change Group are reviewing prior to the start of external consultation. The Group has not only been successful in their bid to participate in the European project, RENERGY, looking at policy development in relation to successful ground delivery across Europe but has also been invited to re-submit a proposal for another European project in relation to micro-renewable energy.
31. Durham Wildlife Trust has embarked on a one year project (EcoServ) to determine the effect on wildlife and its habitats on both the health and well-being and the local economy. Jubilee Woods, in partnership with Woodland Trust, is in celebration of the Queen's diamond jubilee and involves creating 350 acres of native woodland. 73 acres will be created between Quarrington Hill and Cassop and smaller woodlands created at locations including Wheatley Hill, Ferryhill, Bear Park and Frankland. Planting has started at two sites and the remaining planting will be carried out by winter 2012.
32. Other natural environment partnership projects continue: including Coastal Grasslands: its purpose being to conserve and restore magnesium limestone grasslands around Easington and Blackhall. Escarpment Spurs: its purpose being to conserve and restore magnesium limestone grasslands on escarpment around Kelloe Heritage Skills Training: encouraging traditional crafts, e.g. use of lime mortar and dry stone walling and Durham Heritage Coast: work has commenced on Seaham Hall public toilet and kiosk which will provide modern facilities and information for visitors.
33. A range of activity is being undertaken by the Pride sub-group. The continuation of the award winning riverbanks project; The second year of the bulb planting challenge has been a success; 150,000 crocus bulbs were

distributed to 352 schools and community groups; The Golden Ticket initiative was extended to Bishop Auckland Town Centre. With sponsorship from McDonalds, more than 40 golden tickets were issued throughout December. Continued support is being given to various groups in relation to Northumbria in Bloom and Green Flag submissions. Educational sessions within schools continue, e.g. anti-litter workshops, in conjunction the Police and Neighbourhood Wardens, were delivered to 244 pupils. The 'Green Dog Walkers' scheme continues and has been extended to the East of the county. Other dog fouling initiatives are taking place including poster campaigns

34. The Waste Group has decided to focus all its efforts into a small number of agreed priority initiatives. It is currently concentrating on the Trade Waste Partnership Project; an initiative to plan, develop and run a small traders disposal site. WRAP has offered to fund the feasibility study. This will complement the feasibility study carried out by Durham County Council in 2007; this report drew some interesting conclusions which the Group hopes to build upon. The Group met in February to further discuss this proposal and the need for future studies.
35. For more information please contact Mary Readman, Customer Relations, Policy and Performance Manager, on 0191 3834692 or email mary.readman@durham.gov.uk

Investors in Communities Awards

36. The Investors in Communities Award is a Durham County Council scheme developed to endorse good practice in consultation and community engagement. The Awards scheme is designed to embed the corporate approach to consultation and engagement which is both consistent and coordinated across the Council and partner agencies.
37. An awards ceremony took place on Tuesday 17 April which saw Gordon Elliott present the 24 winners with their certificates showing that they had achieved either Bronze, Silver, Gold or Gold Plus standard. The Silver and Gold award winners have taken the learning and used it to develop some high quality consultation activities designed to assist local people not just to learn about the council's future plans and proposal but also influence those plans.
38. In many cases teams can demonstrate the positive outcomes from engaging directly with our local communities, reinforcing the council's commitment to continue to work directly with local people. A number of the staff have gone a step further to use the skills and knowledge they have gained throughout the whole process to help support other teams just starting along this road by sharing good practice, acting as mentors and helping with the assessment of teams applying for these awards.
39. Bronze: Adults Wellbeing & Health Commissioning Services team; Democratic Services Team; Estates and Tenancy Team; NHS Patient and Public Engagement team; One Point – Chester-le-Street hub; Outdoor sport and leisure and Safer Communities Team. Silver Awards: County Durham Partnership Team; Great Aycliffe and Middridge AAP and Teesdale AAP. Gold Awards: Bishop Auckland & Shildon AAP; Derwent Valley AAP; East Durham Rural Corridor AAP; Energy Efficiency Team; Mid Durham AAP;

Spennymoor AAP; Stanley AAP; Tenant Involvement Team; Weardale AAP and East Durham AAP. Gold Plus Awards: Chester-le-Street AAP; Customer Services – Service Development team; 4 Together AAP and 3 Towns Partnership AAP.

Town and Parish Council update

40. As part of the ongoing Community Governance Reviews consultations that are being undertaken in Crook and Durham City to look at the formation of Parish Councils in these areas, presentations have been given to the relevant AAP Boards.

Participatory Budgeting

41. Developments have taken place with the three AAPs that were involved in the Participatory Budgeting exercise last year. Participatory Budgeting is a mechanism that allows residents in the area to vote and make decisions on the allocation of public money. Following an initial appraisal to ensure that any projects applying are eligible, all applicants will be invited to give a presentation at a public event in their area with the attendees deciding on who should be awarded the money available.
42. The 'It's Up 2 U!' exercise has been developed by the Three Towns Partnership in conjunction with Greater Willington Town Council, Crook Community Partnership and Tow Law Town Council. The public voting events will be held in May (Willington) and June (Crook and Tow Law).
43. £24,000 is available across the AAP area for local groups to apply for. Applications must cover at least one of the following priorities: - Healthy Lifestyles and Wellbeing, Crime and Community Safety, Job prospects and Employment and/or Activities for Children and Young People. Applications are being invited now for all of the Three Towns Area. Any not for profit group, volunteer led groups (i.e. with largely volunteer based input) and Faith based groups who deliver activities and services which are not purely for religious benefit are invited to apply for a grant. All applicants must work within the Three Towns Partnership area of Crook, Willington, Tow Law and the surrounding villages.
44. An additional Participatory Budgeting scheme has also now been agreed for the East Durham Rural Corridor AAP and is currently being advertised. A group training session for applicants has taken place and individual support is being offered also. The deadline for application was 18 May for projects between £300 and £3000 in line with the priorities of the AAP. The community voting event will be held on 21st July at the active life centre@coxhoe (formerly Coxhoe Leisure Centre) and will also be the Summer Forum where successes of the last year will be celebrated. The Sports Apprentices who were funded last year and have been placed at the active life centre will be carrying out sports related activities with children, young people and families, as well as promoting how they enrolled on the scheme and how other young people can. There'll also be a litter pick, Tidy Ted will be in attendance and families will be able to pot a marigold (official flower of the Olympics) to take home. The active life centre will also provide some activities which will help promote the centre and hopefully increase membership.

45. The Expression of Interest stage for Stanley AAP's It's Up 2 U 2012 Participatory Budget Project closed on Friday 2nd March. 60 expressions of interest had been received and although the joint It's Up 2 U 2012 fund is £120,000, funding requested totalled £550,000. The Public Vote Event for It's Up 2 U 2012 is scheduled to take place on Saturday 26th May from 10am until 2pm in the Louisa Centre, Stanley.

Area Action Partnerships Update

46. During the summer of 2011, information was distributed to people in the **Spennymoor AAP** area in relation to volunteering in order to form a group with the long term goal of developing a sustainable trips and activities committee. 50 individuals initially showed an interest. The training for this element of the project has now commenced, with an overwhelming response from parents and community members. The following programmes have been delivered and 44 people have accessed one of the courses: First Aid; Food Safety; Health & Safety and Child Protection.
47. The Parent Volunteer Training is being delivered by Spennymoor Extended Services and CAVOS. Sixteen parents are attending on a regular basis and early feedback is extremely positive. As a result of the training five parents have now joined the Spennymoor Activities Planning Group and are playing an active role in planning holiday provision for children and young people. The group decided that the Easter trips would be to Mini Moos Adventure Land and The Centre of Life at a cost of £5 per person. The group will all play a part in the organisation and evaluation of the Easter Trips. The next two sessions of the training will concentrate on establishing a Trips and Activities Committee.
48. The Youth Council is in the early stages of development. A steering group has now been established with membership from the AAP, Spennymoor Town Council, One Point and young people. The group have set some draft ideas for terms of reference and outlined some non-negotiable rules that need be incorporated into the structure (such as the area the youth council will serve).
49. The steering group decided the youth council will be themed around County Durham's Strategic themes i.e. Altogether Better for Children and Young People, Altogether Healthier, Altogether Greener, Altogether Safer and Altogether Wealthier. The themes will be localised and incorporate elements from the Town Council's Parish Plan and AAP local statistics/priorities. All of this will be led by young people and therefore designed according to their needs. Full terms of reference will not be agreed until the Youth Board is established, as it is fundamental that the youth people are 'in the driving seat' throughout the whole journey of this project.
50. Following recruitment the first meeting of interested young people was held in April to establish selection criteria e.g. interview, application, letter, multimedia, other approaches etc. It is envisaged the board will consist of 25 young people. The Board will be established in May and three training days organised to establish terms of reference/funding criteria etc with budget allocations commencing in June. Although the youth council is in the very early stages it already feels like a really exciting project that will give young people an active voice in the Spennymoor AAP area.

51. **Mid Durham AAP** and Derwentside Homes through their older people's task group are hoping to link up with both Derwent Valley and Stanley AAPs to support a Comic Relief bid which will look at financial advice, especially around the area of fuel poverty. The initial bid for this project has been short listed down to the last eight projects nationally and will be decided upon in June. This will build upon the recent Silver Dreams Lottery fund bid developed through the same task group with Derwentside Homes (a decision on this is expected in May) acting as lead agent which aims to provide a telephone befriending service which will provide advice on health and finance as well as links to volunteer support for such areas as decorating, gardening and shopping support. If both projects are supported through their respective funding streams this would see a combined service investment of approx £750,000.
52. The AAP will also be exploring the key priority of employment and job prospects over the next few months and will be utilising the recent Scrutiny review on youth employment as a key driver for its work. This priority theme is high on the agenda for virtually all the AAPs and the AAP will be making sure that this theme is addressed collectively.
53. At the March meeting the Board supported the development of the Haggrid project (Horticulture and Agriculture alternative education project) in Ushaw Moor. The project will link closely with Durham Community and Business College and the Ushaw Moor Action Groups recently developed community garden. The project will also hope to link in with the local community and develop flowerbeds and planting schemes around the village.
54. The **Weardale Action Partnership (WAP)** has backed Weardale Visitor Network (WVN) in its production of a map to guide visitors round all that Weardale has to offer. 16,000 copies of the map will be distributed by WVN, through local and national distribution channels. It is also available online from the Discover Weardale website <http://www.discoverweardale.com>. The high-quality map features key local attractions, as well as information on where to stay, shop and eat. It includes key information on local facilities, and is full of great things to see and do.
55. Tourism has been identified as a priority by both the local community through the Area Action Partnership and also by Regeneration and Economic Development at Durham County Council. The Weardale Action Partnership is delighted to be able to support WVN in its efforts to develop a compelling visitor experience that boosts all parts of the local economy and hope this is just the start of working together to boost the Tourism Economy in Weardale. Tourism was worth £47.6m in the Wear Valley district in 2010, making it one of the largest industries and employers in the area. The map will encourage Weardale as a destination, so inspiring visitors to stay over and increase their spend with local businesses.
56. Since the turn of the year **Durham AAP** has agreed its priorities for 2012/13. This includes the addition of Villages Development as an addition to the previous priorities. To ensure that the number one priority is embedded across the work of the AAP, Climate Change is contained within all four priority working groups.

57. In terms of Area Budget the AAP is fully committed and some of the latest awards include the continuation of the Mobile Cinema scheme which is moving ever closer to being self-sustaining and the proposed creation of the 'Durham Pointers' to help tourists with some basic signposting information. There has been a tremendous amount of Neighbourhood Budget activity on wide ranging subjects including restoration of stained glass windows in the Durham Heritage Museum, to a community notice board and restoration of paving in the Pity me area to support highways monies.
58. The development of the Business Improvement District is now scheduled for ballot later in the year and Wharton Park is progressing well with a Friends Group meeting in the Town Hall attracting over 130 people to hear the latest regarding the Heritage Lottery submission which has potentially been increased to over £2.2M, if successful.
59. The AAP submitted an application for Durham City to be considered as one of up to 12 national Portas Pilots. Announcements are to be made in May regarding those chosen.
60. Also looking into the Portas Pilot initiatives is **Chester-le-Street and District AAP**. They have been working with local partners and the Business Community to develop a submission. This opportunity includes bidding for £100,000 of investment to be used to test a number of theories put forward to Government by the retail expert Mary Portas. This work formed part of the AAPs Town and Village Centre Vitality Task Group.
61. Central to the bid was the development of shared partnership vision with local stakeholders and businesses to build on the work already undertaken through the Destination Development Plan to link the Town Centre with the nationally significant leisure destinations that Chester-le-Street has on its doorstep - Beamish Museum, The Riverside Park and the Emirates Durham International Cricket Ground. The Ashes Test Match series in 2013 has been a key driver in developing this bid, to ensure that the retail offer is maximised during this period of national attention on the Town.
62. The AAP has developed a 'Let's Join In Fund' to support community groups who wish to deliver a celebration event to mark either the Queen's Diamond Jubilee or the London Olympic or Paralympics Games. The fund of £5,000 has received 15 bids from local groups across the AAP area. Due to the amount of requests and the quality of their applications the AAP Board have agreed to increase the fund to £5,557 to accommodate all of the groups who applied. This grant scheme will lever in more than £13,510 in match funding and will ensure that the necessary funding is available to local community based groups to bring in appropriate equipment to deliver popular and safe events.
63. The **4 Together Partnership** Team has been busy managing the many changes to their Board make up over the last few months. The 4 Together Partnership was delighted to welcome a new public rep to the board, Brian Gibson (Ferryhill Resident), and a new business representative, Joanne Urquhart (Business Development Officer). There is another public representative vacancy with four interested parties to date. Work is ongoing to

schedule the interviews as soon as possible in order to get our rep on the board in time for the May meeting.

64. In order to share best practice and encourage idea generation across AAPs the 4 Together Partnership is in the process of developing an enviro visit for the Chester-le-Street AAP in order that any interested board members can come along to the 4 Together Partnership and have a tour of the area and discuss some previously funded projects through the environment priority. The tour will visit some of these previously funded projects and it is hoped that we can generate some positive ideas and share our experiences (positives and negatives) so that our partners can gain from what has ran in other areas and start to build a picture of potential projects for their own area.
65. The **Bishop Auckland and Shildon AAP** continues to work on the Big Local programme. Over the last year, there has been some activity to raise awareness about the Big Local amongst residents and local groups. This is an exciting opportunity for the community to undergo positive change which will provide a lasting legacy. It is about bringing together all the local talent, ambitions, skills and energy from individuals, groups and organisations who want to make South West Bishop Auckland an even better place to live. Through the Big Local Trust there is access to a range of partners who provide expert advice and support as well as finances to help develop the local partnership. You can find out more about partners and training opportunities through the website <http://www.localtrust.org.uk/> where you will also be able to look at what is happening in other areas and read local case studies.
66. The four programme outcomes are directly about local people putting themselves in the driving seat: Communities will be better able to identify local needs and take action in response to them; People will have increased skills and confidence, so that they continue to identify and respond to needs in the future; The community will make a difference to the needs it prioritises and People will feel that their area is an even better place to live.
67. The Big Local is not about the government or a national organisation telling local people what to do. It's not about individual groups fixing their favourite problem without talking to a wide range of different people who live and work in the community and it's not about short-term thinking – the group have 10 years or more to plan and deliver the best options for their area.
68. The Big Local is meeting shortly to officially form a partnership to look at what to spend the £20,000 allocation; from this an application form will be completed and Durham County Council will hold the money on behalf of the group. Some of the things under consideration for spend of the money are to support the training development of local people so that they can get involved and make decisions through the partnership as well as the initial development costs of the board. This grant is available to get more people involved.
69. **The Derwent Valley AAP** recently funded a 'Derwent Valley Sports Club Coaches' project delivered by Leisureworks. The aim of the project was to increase the opportunity for local sports clubs to put forward candidates to qualify as assistant coaches and coaches whilst volunteering at local clubs within the area. The delivery of this project has resulted in an increase in the

number of local people with coaching, first aid and safeguarding/child protection qualifications and 700 volunteer hours have been given back to the sports clubs who took part. The outcomes of the project are detailed below include local sports clubs benefiting from the project and a number of people being qualified in a range of related qualifications.

70. The Derwent Valley AAP funded a regular young people's film and animation club delivered by Kids for Kids UK. Using funding contributions from both Area and Neighbourhood Budgets, a series of film related workshops and activities were held during the summer and half term holidays for aspiring young filmmakers aged between the ages of 6 and 19. One of the short films developed by pupils at St Pius RC Primary School has been short listed in the VAFI 3rd International Children and Youth Animation Film Festival which will be hosted in Croatia. This is the second film to be short listed for an international award as part of the on-going Kids for Kids project.
71. The Derwent Valley AAP in partnership with local Elected Members, is providing a new way for local residents in Derwent Valley to submit project ideas and suggestions for the area. The 'Make a Wish in Derwent Valley' campaign has so far received over 100 suggestions which are now being fed in to the work of the AAP's Task and Finish Groups. A custom built Wishing Well has recently been located in some of the local schools across the area providing an opportunity for young people to contribute their ideas. The Wishing Well will be visiting community centres and other public buildings throughout the coming months and feedback will be given to those who have submitted an idea as part of the campaign.
72. **Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership (GAMP)** has dedicated £15,460 from its area budget to support Budding DJs to take to the airwaves at a Newton Aycliffe Schools to set up their own radio station. Greenfield School and Community Arts College in partnership with Woodham Community Technology College is setting up and running 'Synergy Radio' to help pupils learn more about developing and designing radio shows with daily themes and focuses. The equipment will allow tutor groups at both schools to have the opportunity to produce their own morning breakfast shows and cover a wide range of topics e.g.) sports reports from the Olympics. It's hoped that different subject areas can be taught using the equipment and this will in turn promote the use of media technology and other technological advances such as broadcasting equipment.
73. The radio equipment will also be available outside of normal school hours for those who have a general interest in broadcasting or want to take radio presenting to the next level as a career. Local youth groups and the town's primary schools with an interest in broadcasting will also be able to use the equipment. David Priestley, head teacher at Greenfield School and Community Arts College, said: "The opportunity for the young people of Greenfield Community College and from all other schools across Newton Aycliffe to have access to this state-of-the-art equipment is unique and a powerful learning tool. The equipment funded by GAMP gives young people the ability to learn about language, sound, production and media across the curriculum and within the out of school hours programmes".

74. GAMP, along with Durham County Council's Employability Team, have come together to offer local firms the chance to create apprenticeship opportunities within the GAMP area. The project will work with local firms to create 11 apprenticeships for young people living in the GAMP area. The apprenticeship programme will offer a wage subsidy of £2,500 and supervision costs of up to £350 to small, medium enterprises to create apprenticeship opportunities that focus on unemployed 18-24 year olds. GAMP (Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership) has dedicated £15,000 from its area budget to the project, with a further £16,350 match funding from Durham County Council's Employability Team.
75. Children and young people is once again a priority for **Teesdale Action Partnership (TAP)**. In order to hear the voices of young people TAP organised an activity day for young people in February 2012. The event was held at the Teesdale Community Resources Hub and involved over 240 young people. The event had three key aims; to inform people about TAP, to hear people's views and finally for young people to have an enjoyable experience. This was done through a variety of consultation activities and the young people had access to the fantastic resources at the Hub, including the high ropes course, canoeing, BMX track, music studio and beauty salon. All partners pulled together with thanks going to 2D, TCR Hub, DaleForce, One Point and Teesdale YMCA. Information collated at the event is now being fed into the task and finish groups and will help to inform where resources are allocated in the coming year.
76. Communication is a key factor when engaging with communities and TAP are currently reviewing their approach to communicating with all stake holders. As part of this TAP have set up a Facebook page and are encouraging people to 'Like' it so they can get regular updates on TAP activities.
77. **East Durham Area Action Partnership** launched three funds to creatively engage with the community and support the overarching priority of Maintaining the Social Fabric of our Society. The Community Learning fund will contribute to improved education and learning, family relationships and the development of support networks within the local community. Building on the success of the AAP Family Learning Fund, this project will enable small VCS groups contribute to the delivery of learning opportunities and services to the local community, provide access to learning through community learning opportunities, support parents to engage in the learning process with their children by providing family learning activities, provide non accredited learning opportunities for adults and provide the first step towards gaining support to access employment opportunities.
78. The project aims to provide community based learning opportunities for adults and those families experiencing intergenerational unemployment. This project will engage members of the community in first step learning as a move towards more structured and accredited training which will ultimately increase employment prospects.
79. Learning opportunities have been recommended for inclusion in the 2011/12 Action Plan by the Education and Children and Young People Priority Groups and this project addresses the following issues raised by the East Durham Forum:

- a. need to help parents to help their children and break the negative cycles,
 - b. engage with parents to address parenting skills,
 - c. need to increase the confidence of parents and increase their involvement in their local community,
 - d. need to provide funding for non-accredited training and learning which provides opportunities to progress in the community,
 - e. need to provide learning for the whole family, develop everyone's skills and support networks,
 - f. provide out of school activities within the whole community for the whole family.
80. East Durham AAP have launched the Community Celebration Event Fund and will provide grants of up to £1, 500 to groups organising events in the East Durham AAP Area to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and/or the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympics Games. The Queen's Diamond Jubilee and London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games provide great opportunities to inspire people to take part in sport, physical or cultural activities in their community. By making a small grant available to groups in the area, the AAP would be encouraging and assisting groups to seize this opportunity whilst enhancing local community spirit and cohesiveness.
81. Additionally, this complements the County-wide 'Join In' campaign being led by DCC's Leisure Services team, the aim of which is to encourage as many people across the County as possible to partake in activities and events in the run up to the London 2012 games. There are also synergies with national campaigns such as 'The Big Jubilee Lunch' where the aim is to get as many communities as possible to sit down and have lunch together on the Sunday of the Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend.
82. **Three Towns AAP Youth Awards 2012** are focussed on recognising inspiring Young People who have achieved great things in their community. Nominations for the award scheme dedicated to young people have far exceeded expectations. The Three Towns Youth Awards, spearheaded by the Three Towns Area Action Partnership (AAP) and 2D, has received 73 nominations, across seven categories of which 21 have been chosen to go through to an awards ceremony. The Youth Awards aims to recognise the achievements of young people in the area and since the inaugural event last year, has gone from strength to strength. A panel of judges made up of youth forum members, AAP board members and the extended services coordinator for the area, made the very difficult decisions. The event will be a celebration of Local Young People and their achievements.
83. The Small Grant fund was devised by the 3 Towns Partnership Activities for Children and Young People Task and Finish group, it was felt that a funding pot should be available that Children and Young People could apply to directly. 2D are the lead on the project but the 3 Towns Youth Forum are the panel for deciding which projects should be progressed to receive the funding, the 3 Towns Board felt that the power should be in their hands as representatives of young people in the area, empowering Young People and engaging them with local groups and issues. The aim of the project is to deliver a funding stream directly to children and young people in the 3 Towns

Partnership area to enable them to enhance activity; create challenge; develop life skills and to make a positive contribution to their local community. To date, the 2011/12 Activities for Children and Young People Small Grants fund has agreed to progress 12 applications with a view to provide funding.

84. Spectrum's Active Toddler Group, a project funded by the AAP, opened its doors in late March 2012 for the first time. Those who attended loved it and thought it was fantastic value for money. The sessions are designed to get young children active, using the whole sports hall for jumping, scooting, rocking, pushing and play to tire youngsters out!
85. With the purchase of 30 pairs of Roller Skates for little feet, the weekly Saturday Family Roller Skating sessions have transformed in popularity. The sessions are often fully booked and proving to be a winner with both parents and children, for fun and value for money.
86. **East Durham Rural Corridor AAP** has implemented the Sports Apprenticeship Project which aims to create 45 apprenticeship opportunities within the AAP area currently has 22 young people engaged. The apprenticeships are in sports coaching and apprentices will gain NVQ's in Leadership Activities, Community Sports Leader Award Level 2, and FA Level 1 Coaching Award. They will also gain a certificate in Employment Awareness and 2 Key Skills equating to GCSE Grade C. Esprit Football Academy (the organisation leading the project) would also like to create a new employment position for a part time Sports Development Officer. They aim to do this by utilising local facilities within the community and by providing work experience in schools within the geographical area for the apprentices to work in.
87. Sessions are being delivered across the AAP area to ensure equity. The sessions from Fishburn Youth and Community Centre are running well, and the sessions from Coxhoe Leisure Centre are also on line. Esprit Football Academy is funding additional sessions in Bowburn Community Centre following meetings with the Youth Worker in the area, due to issues with travel. The work experience element is going well, and participants are working out of Deaf Hill and Coxhoe Primary School. The Saturday morning club has started at Fishburn, Coxhoe, and Trimdon Village Primary Schools.
88. **Stanley AAP's** Small Grants Fund is now open for applications. The Small Grants Fund is a fund that has been established to provide relatively small grants for locally based not for profit groups - community and voluntary groups, organisations, associations, ward and community partnerships and social enterprises wishing to develop relevant projects. The Small Grants Fund is administered on behalf of the AAP by Derwentside Council for Voluntary Services (DCVS). The Small Grants Fund will only fund projects/activities that meet one or more of the Stanley AAP priorities which were developed by local people. These priorities are: Regeneration of Stanley and its villages; Opportunities and activities for young people; Transport and environment and Crime and community safety.
89. Local Community Groups, Community Partnerships, Voluntary Groups, Charities and Trusts, and Social Enterprises (including Community Interest Companies) can apply for grants up to £2,000. Grants will be awarded via a

relatively quick and easy process. The deadline for receipt of applications for the first round of Stanley AAP's Small Grants Fund is Monday 30th April.

90. Stanley AAP Board Members approved an Area Budget Application for Brass 2012 in Stanley Project at their Board Meeting in March 2012. The project is part of BRASS: Durham International Festival 2012 - an annual celebration of internationally acclaimed brass artists featuring outdoor arts, new commissions, challenging collaborations, outreach work and the very best of contemporary brass playing, taking place annually over the first two weeks of July. The £17,500 of Area Budget Funding granted to the Brass 2012 in Stanley Project will deliver a bespoke package of activity that will contribute to the AAP's Regeneration of Stanley and its Villages, and Opportunities and Activities for Young People priorities.

Recommendations and reasons

91. Cabinet are asked to note the content of the report.

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Appendix 1: Implications

Finance - Area and Neighbourhood budgets are utilised and delivered through the 14 AAPs.

Staffing - None

Risk - None

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty - None

Accommodation - None

Crime and Disorder - Altogether safer is the responsibility of the Safe Durham Partnership.

Human Rights - None

Consultation - The County Durham Partnership framework is a key community engagement and consultation function of the Council and its partners.

Procurement - None

Disability Issues - None

Legal Implications - None