



Better for everyone

Bishop Auckland & Shildon
Area Action Partnership

Annual Report

2020/21



Councillor Brian Stephens

Introduction

The past twelve months have challenged us all in many ways. The Covid pandemic has changed how the council and Area Action Partnerships (AAPs) have had to work as many communities and local residents have struggled because of the restrictions that we have all had to follow.

If there are positives we can take from this terrible situation it is that 'community' is alive and well in County Durham. Thousands of people have stepped forward and have taken action to ensure the most isolated and vulnerable have been looked after. The people of County Durham need to be applauded for their efforts.

Many of those organisations that have been helping out have been supported by the AAPs who have provided funding to numerous groups enabling them to do their vital work. Some of this funding has come directly through the AAPs whilst other resources have been allocated from the County Councillors Neighbourhood Budgets. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the AAP teams for their help and support in ensuring that our Neighbourhood Budgets have been making a real difference in local communities.

The next year will be no less challenging but I am delighted to say that the AAPs are being given extra resources to help communities recover from the pandemic. There is also new funding to support the County Council's Towns and Villages Programme and the AAPs will be playing a key role in ensuring this funding helps to improve communities across County Durham.

Finally I would like to thank all those involved with AAPs including the members of the public who regularly support their work. I am very proud to have been involved with the AAPs over the past twelve years and know that they will keep making a difference in County Durham.

Councillor Brian Stephens, Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods and Local Partnerships



Better for everyone



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Bishop Auckland and Shildon Area Action Partnership 2020/21 Key Information

FUNDING



£279,534

AAP Funding allocated to local Projects.

40,664

beneficiaries supported through the main AAP funding

£191,057

Amount of match / external funding generated

90

projects supported through AAP and Councillor funding

Processed

£361,583.80

of Councillor Neighbourhood Budget

39,761

(quarterly views)
engagements with the community through social media



COMMUNICATION



Bishop Auckland and Shildon Area Action Partnership

Established in 2009 Bishop Auckland and Shildon AAP (BASH) brings together local people and partners to take action on local issues. The geographic areas covered include the wards of Bishop Auckland, Coundon, Shildon, West Auckland and Woodhouse Close.

Over the last year the key focus has been on 'Covid Emergency and Recovery' and nearly £280,000 has been allocated to local organisations to help them take action on local issues.

The AAP has also been involved in consulting local people on issues such as:

Durham County Council 2021/22 budget and 2021/22 to 2024/25 medium term financial plan consultation and budget update

- Durham County Council Leisure Centre Transformation
- North East Transport Plan consultation
- Durham Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner - New Custody Provision
- County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service - Integrated Risk Management Plan 2020- 2023
- Bishop Auckland Stronger Towns - Heritage Action Zone.
- Voluntary & Community Sector Covid-19 impact survey

Welcome from the Chair Councillor Shirley Quinn

As Chair of the AAP for the last two years, it's an honour to say thank you to the team, Andrew, Sheilah, Emma and Claire for doing such a good job coordinating projects, arranging meetings, managing budgets, facilitating task groups and working with partners. We also have a great board, with a wealth of experience who work together to achieve the best possible results for our communities. Thank you all.



This year we received additional Covid Emergency funding and supported some fantastic initiatives. We funded 43 projects, allocating £280,034 with £191,057 match funding. Add to this Neighbourhood Budget and £97,110 secured from the Scotto Trust and it's been a very busy year. Every single project supported has enhanced so many lives in one way or another.

I've represented BASH at a County level and learnt so much from sharing experiences with other Chairs. County Durham has thousands of willing volunteers supporting some amazing people and through AAPs, services and communities have been supported to grow and become sustainable, even during this difficult year.

I wish to pass my best wishes to next year's Chair and Board, as I am sure there will be lots of work to do. Stay safe everyone.

Our People

Anyone who lives, works, studies or volunteers in the area can get involved with the Area Action Partnership. Currently over 1000 people are part of our wider Forum who receive regular updates and who are invited to get involved in the work of the AAP.

Our Board is the decision-making body of the AAP. It is made up of local people, elected councillors and representatives for partner organisations. 2020/21 Board:

Cllr Joy Allen

Cllr David Fleming (Town and Parish Rep)

Cllr Charlie Kay

Cllr John Lethbridge

Cllr Shirley Quinn – Chair

Cllr Christine Wilson

Cllr Sam Zair

Tracey Bellas (Public Representative)

Tony Bird (Public Representative) – Vice Chair

Daniel Childs (Public Representative) – Resigned August 2021

David Campbell (Public Representative) – Appointed December 2020

Fred Langley (Public Representative)

Philippa May (Public Representative)

Peter Quinn (Public Representative)

Tommy Taylor (Public Representative) – Co-opted

Lee Brown (Fire and Rescue Service)

Bee Davidson (Business)

Rachel Edmunds (Housing) – Vice Chair

David McCreedy (Voluntary Sector)

Rob Milner (Health)

Andy Palmer (Durham County Council)

Inspector Andrew Reeves / Peter Lonsdale (Police)

We'd like to thank former Board members Adam Hall (Fire and Rescue Service) and Daniel Childs (Public Representative) who stepped down from the Board this year.

2020/21 Funding Allocation

<p>Area Budget – Covid Emergency Funding</p>	<p>£1,800 Running Costs, Shildon Railway Cricket Club – Support with running costs.</p>	<p>£12,305 Covid Recovery Family Support, St Wilfrid's RCVA Primary School - IT provision for pupils and families for remote learning and support during the Covid crisis.</p>
<p>£4,016 Food Bank Support, Woodhouse Close Church - Food Bank support to families in crisis or facing financial hardship and individuals having to self-isolate.</p>	<p>£1,000 Home Ping Pong Packs, Bishop Auckland Tennis Club – Provision of ping pong packs to support families with activities during lockdown.</p>	<p>£9,870 Covid Recovery Family Support, Woodhouse Community Primary School - IT provision for pupils and families for remote learning and support during the Covid crisis.</p>
<p>£4,999 Crisis Support, Shildon Alive – Crisis and Food Bank support to those families facing financial hardship and individuals having to self-isolate.</p>	<p>£2,000 Work and Training Grant, livin – Supporting tenants with a programme incorporating discretionary funding aimed at increasing employability.</p>	<p>£22,000 AYCC Detached Youth Work Project, Auckland Youth and Community Centre Ltd - Delivery of detached youth work sessions by a skilled team of part-time youth workers across the BASH area.</p>
<p>£12,870 Crisis Food Support, Health Express – Provision of food support to those in most need during lockdown.</p>	<p>£14,950 Foodbank Debt Advice, Durham Christian Partnership - Provision of debt advice.</p>	<p>£7,480 Bee Youth Project, Daisy Arts - Engaging young people, young carers, parents, and adult carers in a range of activities.</p>
<p>£2,445 Supporting men during COVID 19, ManHealth – Peer support targeted at men struggling with mental ill health.</p>	<p>Area Budget</p> <p>£19,210 Employability, Upskilling & Discretionary Project, Bishop Auckland College - Offers individuals grants to overcome barriers to employment.</p>	<p>£12,934 Active Families, Family Action - Bringing families together to improve their health and wellbeing by increasing their physical activity through fun, educational activities. Food provision is included.</p>
<p>£1,907 Shildon Corps, Shildon Salvation Army - Support with running costs.</p>	<p>£5,000 Trades 4 Care - 12-day programme of confidence building, life skills, and preparation for work, including a five-day placement working on a professional trades project in a care or community venue, mentored by experienced tradespeople.</p>	<p>£6,968.70 Go Well – Take Home Pack Challenges, Sedgefield School Sport Partnership CIC – Providing take home activity packs of equipment for physically inactive school pupils who have been negatively impacted during the Covid Pandemic.</p>
<p>£4,337 Four Clocks Centre Project, Bishop Auckland Community Partnership – Support with running costs.</p>	<p>£12,360 Healthy Communities, The Cornforth Partnership - program of support to individuals and families who have been affected financially by impacts of COVID-19 including employability and training and health and wellbeing support.</p>	<p>£5,280 Women's Mental Health Support Group, Jubilee Fields Community Centre – Mental health and wellbeing sessions.</p>
<p>£2,500 Getting creative at home, Auckland Youth and Community Centre – Educational and activity packs for children and young people to support families during lockdown.</p>	<p>£13,867 Self Isolation Support and Social Action, Groundwork NE and Cumbria - Providing a range of measures to keep communities across the Bishop Auckland and Shildon area afloat while we navigate the recovery process from the Covid 19 pandemic.</p>	<p>Holiday Activities and Healthy Food</p>
<p>£9,450 Bereavement and Palliative Care Support, Butterwick Hospice – Bereavement and palliative care Counselling support.</p>	<p>£11,610 GFS Eldon/GFS Bishop Auckland, Girls Friendly Society – Girl friendly sessions are offered to provide a programme of new opportunities and experiences aimed at building confidence, self-esteem, and resilience.</p>	<p>Summer Holidays 2020</p>
<p>£2,000 Auckland Castle Summer School, Jack Drum Arts – A summer school programme with creative activities including activity packs, Zoom workshops and socially distanced performances.</p>	<p>£9,900 Crisis Intervention Programme, Shildon Alive – Supporting families and individuals in crisis with a range of services, support, advice, and guidance.</p>	<p>£2,500 Summer Enrichment Programme - Groundwork NE & Cumbria</p>
<p>£2,820 Covid Support, Shildon AFC - Support with running costs.</p>	<p>£15,155 Day-care Covid Response, Butterwick Hospice –Provision of Covid secure day-care services and support for palliative care patients.</p>	<p>£2,499 Fruity Fun - Shildon Alive</p>
<p>£5,000 Covid Care Packages, Pimms and Needles – Themed activity packs distributed to the elderly and those socially isolated.</p>	<p>£9,819 Covid Recovery Family Support, St Helen Auckland Primary School – IT provision for pupils and families for remote learning and support during the Covid crisis.</p>	<p>£1,890 Holiday Activities including meals and home learning - Shildon Early Years</p>
<p>£10,000 Beyond the Present, Daisy Arts – A programme to support young people using theatre, creative writing, art and music that included puppet theatre and doorstep gifts, a theatrical summer school, and a radio play.</p>		<p>October Half Term 2020</p>
<p>£10,000 A Child's View, Changing Relations – A domestic awareness participatory programme to support young people including training awareness for schools and youth workers.</p>		<p>£984 Bake and Make - ATOMS Education CIC</p>
		<p>£999 King James Holiday Hunger Inclusive Project with AJ Sports and Bishop Juniors - King James School</p>
		<p>£999 October Enrichment Programme - Groundwork NE & Cumbria</p>

2020/21 Funding Allocation

February Half Term 2021
£999 Eldon Community kids Club - Gateway North East
£968 Cook and Create - ATOMS Education CIC
£793.80 Cold weather slow cooker meals - Shildon Early Years
£920 Creativity for the Soul - Greenfield Arts
Neighbourhood Budget
Neighbourhood Budget is an annual allocation of £19,400 that each County Councillor gets each year to spend on Community Projects. The process is supported by the AAP team.
The projects listed below have been supported by Neighbourhood Budget:
£55,000 Crisis Food Project, Health Express – Cllrs Allen, Kay, Tucker, Lethbridge, Huntington, Quinn, Stephens, Yorke, Wilson and Zair
£2,232 New Windows and Fire Exit Door, Bishop Auckland Golf Club – Cllr Allen
£7,680 Mini Police, Durham Agency Against Crime – Cllrs Allen, Huntington, Kay, Lethbridge, Quinn, Tucker and Zair
£15,000 Cockton Hill Play Development, Durham County Council – Cllrs Allen, Lethbridge, Tucker and Zair
£5,675 Bishop Auckland & Coundon In Bloom, Durham County Council – Cllrs Allen and Kay
£9,000 Sculpture on Canney Hill Roundabout, Bishop Auckland Community Partnership – Cllrs Allen and Kay
£3,061 Security Camera, Durham Constabulary – Cllrs Allen, Lethbridge & Tucker
£18,888 Bishop Auckland Town Recreation Park Improvements, Durham County Council – Cllr Allen
£5,400 CRM System Purchase, South West Durham News – Cllr Allen
£1,935 Christmas Tree Victoria Lane, Coundon, Durham County Council – Cllr Kay
£2,038 Coundon Park Access Gate, Durham County Council – Cllr Kay
£9,201 Wheelchair Adapted Vehicle, Supportive SRC Ltd – Cllrs Kay, Quinn and Wilson

£15,357 Coundon Park Resurfacing, Durham County Council – Cllr Kay
£3,219 Fencing at Middlestone Village, Durham County Council – Cllr Kay
£2,159 Through Soldiers' Eyes, Durham County Council – Cllrs Kay, Huntington, Lethbridge and Wilson
£2,000 Food Supplies - Covid-19, Woodhouse Close Church – Cllr Tucker.
£1,582 Activity Care Packages, Pimms and Needles CIC – Cllrs Tucker, Huntington and Quinn
£2,520 Improving Facilities at AYCC, Auckland Youth and Community Centre – Cllr Tucker
£5,000 AYCC Covid Support Sessions, Auckland Youth and Community Centre – Cllr Tucker
£16,500 New Van Purchase, Woodhouse Close Church – Cllrs Tucker and Lethbridge
£2,000 Woodhouse Close Planters, Durham County Council – Cllr Tucker
£1,800 West Mills Regeneration Project – Feasibility Study, Bishop Auckland and District Partnership – Cllr Tucker
£9,075 Brooklands Road Scheme, Bishop Auckland, Durham County Council – Cllr Lethbridge
£1,400 Wall Repairs St. Andrew's Churchyard, Durham County Council – Cllrs Lethbridge and Quinn
£2,000 Landscaping Scheme Proudfoot Drive, Woodhouse, Durham County Council – Cllr Lethbridge
£3,900 Activall Portable Board, Woodhouse Community Primary School – Cllr Lethbridge
£6,977 Shildon Civic Hall IT/Multimedia Upgrade, Shildon Town Council – Cllrs Huntington and Quinn
£1,755 Dene Valley One Stop Shop Improvements, Dene Valley Community Partnership – Cllrs Huntington and Quinn
£4,832 'Life Along the Line' Digital Storytelling and Website Development, Citizen Songwriters – Cllrs Huntington and Quinn
£4,500 Laptops, St. Andrew's Primary School – Cllr Huntington
£1,000 VE Day 75 Legacy Memorial Stone, Shildon Town Council – Cllr Quinn

£2,000 Food Bank and Christmas Toy Appeal, Shildon Salvation Army – Cllr Stephens
£10,000 Outdoor Play Equipment and Resurfacing, Thornhill Primary School – Cllr Stephens
£10,000 Outdoor Adventure Play Equipment, St. John's Primary School – Cllr Stephens
£10,000 Outdoor Classroom and Reading Area, Timothy Hackworth Primary School – Cllr Stephens
£10,202 Activities for Older People, Health Express – Cllr Stephens
£2,050 Christmas Tree at Middlewood Green Park St. Helens, South Durham Enterprise Agency – Cllrs Yorke and Wilson
£2,452 Signage at West Auckland, Durham County Council – Cllr Yorke
£25,000 Northbridge Park/Station Road - Railway Heritage Environmental Improvements, Durham County Council – Cllrs Yorke and Wilson
£4,226 Playground Markings and Garden Tidy Up, Escomb Primary School – Cllrs Yorke and Wilson
£7,500 Witton Park Village Hall Storeroom Extension, Witton Park Community Association – Cllrs Yorke and Wilson
£2,000 Gym Equipment, West Auckland Amateur Boxing Club – Cllr Yorke
£4,510 Outdoor Play Equipment, Copeland Road Primary School – Cllrs Yorke and Wilson
£12,758 Football Pitches at Witton Park, Durham County Council – Cllrs Yorke and Wilson
£4,167 Outdoor Play Equipment, St Helen Primary School – Cllr Wilson
£3,000 Home Care Support, Butterwick Hospice – Cllr Zair
£10,080 Roadworks at Milton Avenue, Bishop Auckland, Durham County Council – Cllr Sam Zair
£4,300 Wheelchair Bike, Evergreen School – Cllr Sam Zair

The Difference We Have Made

Projects supported by Bishop Auckland and Shildon AAP have been making a difference in 2020/21



Covid Emergency/Response

In April 2020 the Bishop Auckland and Shildon AAP launched its £100,000 Covid Emergency Fund. The fund was made available to eligible groups and organisations in the AAP area to:

- Support with essential running Costs
- Fund projects that support the community during the Covid crisis

A total of 17 projects were supported across a wide range of initiatives and organisations. Projects covered issues such as crisis and food bank support, debt advice, running costs for community groups, activity packs, children's activities, care packages etc.

Covid Recovery

It was agreed that our priority for 2020/21 would be Covid Recovery and Area Budget funding was made available for projects that addressed the following issues:

- Supporting Children, Young People and Families
- Supporting individuals and families through a programme of crisis intervention
- Health and wellbeing
- Supporting Older People
- Employment support for the unemployed
- Support for the Voluntary and Community Sector.

A total of 15 projects were supported across a wide range of initiatives and organisations. Projects covered issues such as crisis and food bank support, activities for children and young people, IT equipment for schools, care and employability and training support.

Holiday Activities with Healthy Food

HAHF funding ensures that as many children & young people as possible have access to healthy food and enriching activities during school holidays.

This fund provides opportunity for groups and organisations to apply for small grants to help them deliver projects locally.

Projects were required to provide a healthy snack, breakfast, lunch, or tea as part of the activity.

A total of 10 projects were supported during 2020/21 including Summer 2020, October half-term 2020 and February half-term 2021. Projects covered a wide range of holiday activities and delivery organisations.

The Difference We Have Made



Quotes

“The team at Bishop Auckland and Shildon AAP have been so supportive and kind in such a challenging year, they have offered funding when it was most needed and kept us up to date with government guidelines and funding opportunities. They often just called to see how we were coping in difficult, stressful conditions. Thanks for everything and wishing for a hopeful 2021”.

Paula Nelson, Community Project Coordinator – Shildon Alive

“Receiving funding from BASH AAP has made a huge difference to the Active Families project. This funding has allowed us to employ our Project Worker for another year, vastly increasing the number of families that we will be able to work with. We will also be able to recruit and train more volunteers to support the project to be sustainable in the future”.

Philippa May, Board Member and Project Manager – Active Families

“The current pandemic has hit everyone hard, including children and young people. Through the excellent work of the BASH AAP they were able to fund a number of projects which mainly aimed at supporting children and young people through one of the strangest times and it allowed us to do some incredible work”.

David McCreedy, Board Member and Delivery Manager – Auckland Youth and Community Centre

“We greatly appreciate the continued support, assistance and advice from the enthusiastic and committed BASH team. Simply put, without this faithful support, we would not be able to continue to deliver our much valued and essential work to help in the strengthening of our community at the level needed”.

Anne Ramshaw, Centre Manager at Woodhouse Close Church Community Centre

“The three Schools I work for have had extensive support from Bishop Auckland and Shildon Area Action Partnership. We have been lucky in obtaining funding for numerous projects to support families and young people in the local area. Projects include: Providing family learning sessions for parents and carers of younger children to give them knowledge of how their children develop through outdoor play; Develop a wildlife area which is enjoyed by the whole community; providing opportunities for communities to be involved in programmes on food, nutrition and cooking to enable them to make healthy choices. More recently, due to Area Budget, the Schools have been able to purchase laptops and I-pads which have been used by pupils and families during lockdown to support remote learning for children and Job Search for adults. The AAP has enabled the School to engage with the local community to tackle local priorities and action”.

Linda Nicholls, Advanced School Business Manager – Bishop Auckland Cluster of Schools.

F and P Scotto Charitable Trust

BASH AAP continues to work with and develop our partnership with the F and P Scotto Charitable Trust. This is an excellent and unique opportunity for the BASH AAP to provide additional support and funding to groups in the area. As a result of this ongoing relationship an additional £1,116,757 has been invested into the area by the Trust since 2014 and a total of 156 projects have been supported. In 2020/21 the Trust supported a further 17 projects to a value of £97,110. Primarily the funding has gone to groups in the BASH AAP area however support has also gone into other AAP areas.

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