



Better for everyone

Chester-le-Street & District Area Action Partnership

Annual Report

2023/24

Introduction



Councillor Elizabeth Scott

Portfolio Holder for Economy and Partnerships

As the Cabinet portfolio holder for Economy and Partnerships I am proud to say that the Area Action Partnerships fall within my remit.

AAPs have been supporting work in local communities for 15 years now. Funding has helped to sustain and develop numerous local organisations right across County Durham. Nearly £30m has been allocated through Area Budget grants since AAPs were created back in 2009 supporting nearly 3000 different applications.

The 14 AAPs cover the whole of the county, each with effective boards of 21 people which are made partners, public, councillors and agencies. The Boards work on their specific priorities that reflect the needs of the county's varied localities. Over the last year they have again allocated nearly £2M which has supported over 190 local projects.

Fellow County Councillors and I are very grateful for the support we get from the AAPs in allocating our Neighbourhood Budget. This is funding every councillor gets to support good causes and projects in the areas we represent. Since 2009 over £37m has been allocated through nearly 8000 different applications. You can imagine the difference funding via the AAPs and Councillors has made to our towns, villages and city. This year councillors have supported well over 600 projects with over £2.4M of funding.

At a time when communities and families are having to deal with ongoing financial pressures AAPs have been able to help those organisations who are helping others. The strength of the voluntary and community sector in County Durham never fails to amaze me.

I do want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who gives up their time and volunteers with local organisations. Be that with sports clubs, management committees at community centres, environmental schemes or those people who

volunteer on AAP Boards. County Durham would be a poorer place without you. However volunteering has to be supported and it's a key area that AAPs help with in terms of supporting groups with volunteer management, training and support.

There is no doubt that community organisations are struggling through the ongoing cost of living crisis so if you have ever thought about volunteering now could be the time. Local organisations give so much to their communities and they do need our help.

Since 2009 AAPs have been a feature of our communities but change is ahead. Last year the council concluded a review of its community engagement activities which included the AAPs. The outcomes of this review are now being implemented and this is going to lead to enhancements in 2025 with AAPs being replaced by new 'Local Networks'. The Local Networks will continue to bring local people, councillors and organisations together building on the legacy of the AAPs with the aim of broadening the reach within communities and developing Local Network Plans setting out the longer-term aspirations for our many towns and villages. Over the coming months we will keep people updated as we develop Local Network structures.

Prior to the launch of Local Networks in 2025, AAPs will continue to deliver over the next year which will only be possible with the hard work of all involved. So a big thank you from me to fellow councillors, AAP Board members, partner organisations, members of the public and the AAP staff. I look forward to continuing to work with you all over the next 12 months.

Councillor Elizabeth Scott,
Cabinet portfolio holder for Economy and Partnerships.

Chester-le-Street & District Area Action Partnership 2023/24 Key Information



FUNDING

£106,663

of Area Budget funding allocated to eight local projects

£53,428

of Area Budget match funding generated (£0.50 for every £1 allocated)

£306,015

of Councillor Neighbourhood Budget funding allocated to thirty-nine local projects

£17,727

of Councillor Neighbourhood Budget Small Grants allocated to twenty-eight projects



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Reach of

100,200

on social media, 4,200 unique likes and engagements and 2,700 followers

The AAP has been involved in consulting local people on issues such as Policing, Housing and Homelessness plans, Durham County Council Budget consultations and the Fire Service's Community Risk Management Plan.

43 E-Bulletins produced

16 Task Group Meetings undertaken

42 Holiday Activities with Healthy Food Initiatives supported

Chester-le-Street & District Area Action Partnership

Established in 2009 the AAP brings together local people and partners to 'take action' on local issues.

The AAP is situated in the North of County Durham and incorporates the electoral divisions of: Chester-le-Street East, Chester-le-Street North, Chester-le-Street South, Chester-le-Street West/Central, Lumley, Sacriston, Pelton, North Lodge

Over the past operational year, the AAP's priorities moved from COVID Recovery back to priority-based project development through Task Groups. The AAP has worked to distribute funding to local organisations to help them to tackle issues within the AAP area.

Welcome from the Chair, Councillor Alison Batey, Elected Member Representative



Councillor Alison Batey

Having served as a Board Member on the AAP for 10 years it has been an absolute honour to serve as Chair in my 11th year.

As in previous years the cost of living crisis has still presented many problems and issues for residents and those who work in Chester le Street area. This is an issue that has underpinned much of what has been supported through the AAP over the past 12 months in order to offer a broad range of support and activities for people locally. Some particular examples are the free events that have been supported such as Activity Week, Christmas Lights Switch on and events programme. The Fun and Food programme has also supported a range of activities for eligible children and young people across the AAP area. These have varied in nature offering our young people some exciting opportunities, while being supported with much needed healthy food during school holidays.

The successful allocation of Towns and Villages monies has seen a diverse range of projects supported in our communities, which have addressed issues across all eight Electoral Divisions in the AAP area. Working together has been key in maximising the impacts for our area and we can only do this with the support of our Partners and local people.

We have also faced some major challenges affecting our Town Centre which have been discussed in depth through the Board and Task Group. Managing the expectations and the impacts for Residents has been difficult, with the focus being on attempting to find solutions, which will need to continue moving forward.

There are also still challenges for us around mental health and wellbeing issues in the area. Work has been ongoing with partners on how this can be addressed and trying to ensure that the right provision is in place, and delivered in the right location for our residents as well as a focus on promotion of what is available.

The AAP as a whole have been at the heart of delivering some fantastic projects in Chester le Street area and as they transition into a Local Network, I look forward to working with staff, Board Members and partners going forward to ensure that success continues.

Councillor Alison Batey

Chair 2023-24

Our People

Anyone who lives, works, studies or volunteers in the area can get involved with the Area Action Partnership. You can become a member of our wider forum and receive regular updates on the work we carry out and be invited to get involved in the work of the AAP. We also have a large following on our social media page.

Our Board is the decision-making body of the AAP. It is made up of local people, elected councillors and representatives from partner organisations.

Our Board Members for 2023/24 were:

- Cllr Alison Batey
- Cllr Phil Heaviside
- Cllr Bill Moist
- Cllr Julie Scurfield
- Cllr Tracie Smith
- Cllr Emma Waldock
- Elsie Forrester (Parish Representative)
- Howell Davies (Public Representative)
- Janet Ford-Davidson (Public Representative)
- Chris Hoy (Public Representative)
- Khaled Malki (Public Representative)
- Jake Rollings (Public Representative)
- Clare Todd (Public Representative)
- Colleen Baker (Voluntary and Community Sector)
- Graeme Carr (County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service)
- Marion Ingleby (Durham County Council)
- Suzanne Jobson (Karbon Homes)
- Joanne Malki (Business Representative)
- Inspector Lee Morris (Police)
- Colin Stephenson (NHS)

2023/24 Funding Allocation

<p>Holiday Activities with Healthy Food (HAWHF)</p> <p>Easter 2023 - Supported via the Department for Education (DfE)</p> <p>Cornerstones Centre for the Community – Make Lunch CLS, HAWHF Allocated: £514 – Match Funding: £50</p> <p>Durham Area Youth – DAYs Easter Holiday Lumley and Bournmoor, HAWHF Allocated: £2,931 – Match Funding: £544</p> <p>Grange Villa Residents Association – Grange Villa Easter Project, HAWHF Allocated: £2,800 – Match Funding: £0</p> <p>Pelton Fell Community Partnership – The Youth Café, HAWHF Allocated: £3,261 – Match Funding: £735</p> <p>Pelton Community Association – PYP Easter Programme 2023, HAWHF Allocated: £4,735 – Match Funding: £2,000</p> <p>Sacriston Youth and Community Project – Easter Eggstravaganza, HAWHF Allocated: £1,500 – Match Funding: £1,234</p> <p>May Half-Term 2023 – Supported via Durham County Council (DCC)</p> <p>Inspiring Futures North East CIC – May Holiday Fun and Food Programme, HAWHF Allocated: £762 – Match Funding: £200</p> <p>Chester-le-Street Community Association – May Holidays ‘Be a Better You’, HAWHF Allocated: £1,575 – Match Funding: £955</p> <p>Grange Villa Community Enterprise – Children’s Holiday Activities at Grange Villa, HAWHF Allocated: £885 – Match Funding: £69</p> <p>Park View Community Centre – May Half Term Holiday Camp, HAWHF Allocated: £1,545 – Match Funding: £100</p> <p>Sacriston Youth and Community Project – Half Term Holiday Club, HAWHF Allocated: £582 – Match Funding: £150</p>	<p>Pelton Fell Community Project – The Youth Café, HAWHF Allocated: £1,231– Match Funding: £484</p> <p>Selby Cottage Childcare Centre – Fire it Up – Campfire Cooking and Traditional Games, HAWHF Allocated: £920 – Match Funding: £1,932</p> <p>Cornerstones Centre for the Community – Make Lunch Chester-le-Street, HAWHF Allocated: £538 – Match Funding: £58</p> <p>Summer 2023 – Supported via the Department for Education (DfE)</p> <p>Bullion Community Resource Centre – Summer Fun at Bullion Hall, HAWHF Allocated: £2,640 – Match Funding: £0</p> <p>Community Fitness Chester-le-Street CIC – Food for Fitness, HAWHF Allocated: £3,240 – Match Funding: £370</p> <p>Cornerstones Centre for the Community – Make Lunch Chester-le-Street, HAWHF Allocated: £1,960 – Match Funding: £478</p> <p>Fencehouses Community Centre – Fun and Food 2023, HAWHF Allocated: £1,980 – Match Funding: £0</p> <p>Grange Villa Community Enterprise – Children’s Holiday Activities at Grange Villa, HAWHF Allocated: £1,253 – Match Funding: £0</p> <p>Little Treasures Autism Charity – Summer Programme for Autistic Children and Young People, HAWHF Allocated: £775 – Match Funding: £0</p> <p>OASES – Nature Explorers, HAWHF Allocated: £3,332 – Match Funding: £0</p> <p>Ouston Community Association – Funtime Fridays, HAWHF Allocated: £2,275 – Match Funding: £525</p> <p>Pelton Community Centre – Summer Forest School, HAWHF Allocated: £1,521 – Match Funding: £50</p> <p>Pelton Fell Community Partnership – The Youth Café, HAWHF Allocated: £10,650 – Match Funding: £2,695</p>
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2023/24 Funding Allocation

Pelton Community Association (Youth Project) – Sensational Summer 2023, HAWHF Allocated: £4,078 – Match Funding: £12,996
MK Youth Sports – MK Youth Sports, HAWHF Allocated: £4,656 – Match Funding: £0
October Half-Term 2023 – Supported via Durham County Council (DCC)
Bullion Community Resource Centre – Bullion Hall’s Spooky Halloween Half Term, HAWHF Allocated: £1,145 – Match Funding: £0
Park View Community Centre – October Half Term Holiday Camp, HAWHF Allocated: £2,040 – Match Funding: £200
Little Treasures – October Half Term Programme, HAWHF Allocated: £825 – Match Funding: £0
Pelton Community Centre – Fun and Food Wizard School, HAWHF Allocated: £502 – Match Funding: £30
Live Well North East – October Holiday Club, HAWHF Allocated: £2,056 – Match Funding: £1,196.80
Pelton Fell Community Partnership – The Youth Café, HAWHF Allocated: £1,835 – Match Funding: £320
Christmas 2023 – Supported via the Department for Education (DfE)
Cornerstones Centre for the Community – Make Lunch Chester-le-Street, HAWHF Allocated: £739 – Match Funding: £314
The Craft Cabin North East CIC – Christmas Crafts at the Craft Cabin, HAWHF Allocated: £1,996 – Match Funding: £0
Community Fitness Chester-le-Street CIC – Food for Fitness, HAWHF Allocated: £2,845 – Match Funding: £300
MK Youth Sports CIC – Christmas Holidays, HAWHF Allocated: £2,718 – Match Funding: £0
Pelton Fell Community Partnership – The Christmas Youth Café, HAWHF Allocated: £2,272 – Match Funding: £265

February Half-Term 2024 – Supported via Durham County Council (DCC)
Bullion Community Resource Centre – It’s Fun February at Bullion Hall, HAWHF Allocated: £980 – Match Funding: £0
Cornerstones Centre for the Community – Make Lunch Chester-le-Street, HAWHF Allocated: £555 – Match Funding: £332
The Craft Cabin North East CIC – Half Term Crafts at the Craft Cabin, HAWHF Allocated: £1,590 – Match Funding: £595
Live Well North East – Live Well Holiday Activities, HAWHF Allocated: £2,420 – Match Funding: £597
Pelton Fell Community Partnership – The Youth Café, HAWHF Allocated: £1,795 – Match Funding: £847
Area Budget (AB)
Bullion Community Resource Centre – Youth Work Training, AB Allocation: £19,760 – Match Funding: £0
Chester-le-Street and District Business Association – Christmas Event 2023, AB Allocation: £8,000 – Match Funding: £0
Moving On Durham – Moving on Housing, AB Allocation: £5,000 – Match Funding: £27,898
Pelton Community Association – Pelton Care in Crisis, AB Allocation: £19,997 – Match Funding: £2,880
MK Youth Sports CIC – MK Youth Sports CIC, AB Allocation: £19,936 – Match Funding: £0
Bullion Community Resource Centre – No More Missing Meals, AB Allocation: £15,000 – Match Funding: £8,546
Woodshed Workshop CIC – The Co-operative Kitchen, AB Allocation: £11,287 – Match Funding: £12,663
Chester-le-Street and District Business Association – Flood Resilience, AB Allocation: £7,683 – Match Funding: £1,441

AAP Town & Villages (TV)
South Pelaw Road Safety/Environmental Enhancement, TV Allocation: £25,093 – Match Funding: £0
Fines Bank Landscape Improvements, TV Allocation: £12,200 – Match Funding: £0
Great Lumley Parish Council – Great Lumley Community Centre, TV Allocation: £31,522 – Match Funding: £509,406
DCC Highways – Pelton Ward Infrastructure Scheme, TV Allocation: £45,000 – Match Funding: £24,000
DCC Highways – Event Parking Management Project, TV Allocation: £32,348 – Match Funding: £51,740
Neighbourhood Budget Town & Villages (NBTV)
DCC Clean & Green - Seating, NBTV Allocation: £7,500 – Match Funding: £0
DCC Highways – Osborne Road Car Park, NBTV Allocation: £10,000 – Match Funding: £0
DCC Highways – Pelton Ward Infrastructure Scheme, NBTV Allocation: £30,000 – Match Funding: £24,000
DCC Leisure – Beverley Gardens Play Space Refurbishment, NBTV Allocation: £5,249 – Match Funding: £0
DCC Clean & Green – Seating & Interpretation Boards, NBTV: £5,322 – Match Funding: £0
DCC Neighbourhoods & Climate Change – Elmway & The Glens Play Space Refurbishment, NBTV Allocation: £5,322 – Match Funding: £12,643
DCC Neighbourhoods & Climate Change – Northlands Play Area Refurbishment, NBTV Allocation: £4,678 – Match Funding: £0
DCC Neighbourhoods & Climate Change – Sacriston Ward Multi Site Play Space Refurbishment, NBTV Allocation: £10,000 – Match Funding: £11,042

2023/24 Funding Allocation

Investing In Children - Community Garden, Nettlesworth, NBTV Allocation: £10,000 – Match Funding: £5,000
Great Lumley Parish Council - Great Lumley Multi Sport Area - Site Survey & Options Appraisal, NBTV Allocation: £6,650 – Match Funding: £0
Great Lumley Parish Council – Great Lumley Community Centre, NBTV Allocation: £13,350 – Match Funding: £509,406
DCC Highways – Waldrige Fell Parking & Traffic Circulation, NBTV Allocation: £10,000 – Match Funding: £14,555
DCC Clean & Green – Planters for Chester West/Central, NBTV Allocation: £2,500 – Match Funding: £0
Neighbourhood Budget (NB)
Burnmoor Cricket Club – Container Tuck Shop, NB Allocation: £2,000 – Match Funding: £0
DCC Neighbourhoods – Sustrans Link Footway, South Pelaw, NB Allocation: £5,430 – Match Funding: £0
MONA LISA Arts and Media – CAKE – Contemporary Arts in Kimblesworth and Exhibition, NB Allocation: £1,500 – Match Funding: £0
Durham Pride UK – Durham Pride UK, NB Allocation: £1,250 – Match Funding: £3,878
DCC Neighbourhoods – 3 Tier Planters and Maintenance, NB Allocation: £5,079 – Match Funding: £0
Fencehouses Community Centre – Office Furniture, NB Allocation: £4,000 – Match Funding: £677.
DCC CYPS Lumley Infant and Nursery School – New Uniform, NB Allocation: £2,000 – Match Funding £2,000
DCC Neighbourhoods – Kings Coronation Seat, NB Allocation: £1,495 – Match Funding £1,495

DCC Neighbourhoods – South Pelaw Road Safety/ Environmental Enhancement, NB Allocation: £5,380 – Match Funding £0
DCC Neighbourhoods – Seating – Chester West, NB Allocation: £11,300 – Match Funding £0
Cornerstones Centre for the Community – CCTV Upgrade, NB Allocation: £2,230 – Match Funding £0
North Lodge Parish Council – Refurbishment of Shrub Beds, NB Allocation: £1,600 – Match Funding £0
Durham Constabulary – Activity Week, NB Allocation: £8,800 – Match Funding £25,200
Park View School – North Lodge Library Project, NB Allocation: £17,000 – Match Funding £230
Chester-le-Street Town Football Club – Renew Boundary Fence, NB Allocation: £2,000 – Match Funding £5,120
Burnmoor Cricket Lawn Tennis Club and Institute – Summer Festival Music, NB Allocation: £2,000 – Match Funding £250
DCC Children Young People’s Services – Edmondsley Primary – Sensational Sensory Garden, NB Allocation: £9,999 – Match Funding £1,189
Sacriston Community Association – The Fulforth Centre – Community IT Suite, NB Allocation: £4,000 – Match Funding £2,193
DCC Regeneration, Economy and Growth – Installation of DAR on Broadway and Road Markings on Park Road North, Chester-le-Street, NB Allocation: £1,236 – Match Funding £0
DCC Regeneration, Economy and Growth – DAR Installation Great Lumley and Bournmoor, NB Allocation: £5,765 – Match Funding £0
DCC Neighbourhoods – Diamond Flower Bed Planting, NB Allocation: £1,751 – Match Funding £0
Pelton Community Centre – Additional Warm Packs, NB Allocation: £3,120 – Match Funding £0

DCC Neighbourhoods – Installation of 3 Seats on Front Street Chester-le-Street, NB Allocation: £5,068 – Match Funding £0
DCC Neighbourhoods – Gold Bench Riverside Park, NB Allocation: £1,567 – Match Funding £120
Edmondsley Parish Council – Fence at Edmondsley Parish Hall, NB Allocation: £1,744 – Match Funding £0
DCC Neighbourhoods – Beverley Gardens Play Space Refurbishment, NB Allocation: £7,713 – Match Funding £0
North Lodge Parish Council – Play Area Seats, NB Allocation: £1,990 – Match Funding £0
Sacriston Community Association – Sacriston Baby and Toddler Group, NB Allocation: £1,057 – Match Funding £1,400
Bullion Community Resource Centre – New Cooker, NB Allocation: £2,600 – Match Funding £64
DCC Neighbourhoods – Pelton Ward Infrastructure Scheme, NB Allocation: £88,900 – Match Funding £24,000
Great Lumley Parish Council – Great Lumley Community Centre, NB Allocation: £46,890 – Match Funding £509,406
REfUSE CIC – Office and Training Rooms Construction, NB Allocation: £5,000 – Match Funding £56,350
Investing in Children – The Elms – Sensory Garden, NB Allocation: £10,000 – Match Funding £17,500
DCC Neighbourhoods – Osborne Road Car Park, NB Allocation: £14,997 – Match Funding £0
Sacriston Youth Project – The Allotment Project, NB Allocation: £3,735 – Match Funding £0
DCC Neighbourhoods – Seating and Interpretation Board, NB Allocation: £2,178 – Match Funding £0
Ouston Community Association – CCTV, NB Allocation: £4,800 – Match Funding £0

2023/24 Funding Allocation

Chester-le-Street St Mary and St Cuthbert PCC – Café Upgrade Parish Centre, NB Allocation: £6,617 – Match Funding £3,885

EMDUK - KFA Youth Moves National Dance Festival, NB Allocation: £2,224 - Match Funding £413

Neighbourhood Budget Small Grant (NBSGA)

Community Fitness Chester-le-Street CIC – Food for Fitness, NBSG Allocation: £999 – Match Funding £500

Sacriston Youth Project – Youth Council Resources, NBSG Allocation: £322 – Match Funding £0

Ouston Community Association – Ouston Community Centre – General Use, NBSG Allocation: £999 – Match Funding £200

Bullion Community Resource Centre – Coronation Celebrations, NBSG Allocation: £300 – Match Funding £120

Bullion Community Resource Centre – Fibromyalgia Self Help Group, NBSG Allocation: £950 – Match Funding £50

Lumley and Bournmoor Resources – Durham Area Youth, NBSG Allocation: £999 – Match Funding £0

Sacriston Working Man's Club – Mary Hayton 20th Anniversary Charity Evening, NBSG Allocation: £300 – Match Funding £300

Waldrige Village Craft Class – Children and Care Home Crafts, NBSG Allocation: £600 – Match Funding £0

Little Treasure's Autism Charity – Little Treasures Room Hire, NBSG Allocation: £995 – Match Funding £0

DCC – Highways – Northlands Roundabout Christmas Tree Lights 2023, NBSG Allocation: £949 – Match Funding £0

Bullion Community Resource Centre – Men's Shed Promotion, NBSG Allocation: £999 – Match Funding £0

Great Lumley Toddler Group – Continuation of Great Lumley Toddlers, NBSG Allocation: £999 – Match Funding £3,499

Edmondsley Parish Council – Coach Trip to York, NBSG Allocation: £550 – Match Funding £0

Cestrian Flower Club – Funding for Rent and Flower Arrangers/Demonstrators, NBSG Allocation: £400 – Match Funding £3,100

Grange Villa Community Enterprise – Craft Class, NBSG Allocation: £999 – Match Funding £101

Ouston Community Association – Halloween Spooktacular Event, NBSG Allocation: £175 – Match Funding £260

Selby Cottage Childcare Centre – Halloween Spooktacular Event, NBSG Allocation: £706 – Match Funding £1,600

Grange Village Community Enterprise – Grange Villa October Fun, NBSG Allocation: £511 – Match Funding £0

Durham Constabulary – Santa in a Van, NBSG Allocation: £999 – Match Funding £0

Bournmoor Parish Council – Christmas Community Event, NBSG Allocation: £600 – Match Funding £1,400

REfUSE – Christmas Meal, NBSG Allocation: £500 – Match Funding £0

Garden Farm and West Lane Residents Association – Christmas Dinner for Elderly and Vulnerable Residents, NBSG Allocation: £300 – Match Funding £0

Garden Farm and West Lane Residents Association – Defibrillator Supplies, NBSG Allocation: £500 – Match Funding £0

Garden Farm and West Lane Residents Association – Cuppa and a Chat for Vulnerable People, NBSG Allocation: £900 – Match Funding £0

Urpeth Parish Council – Coronation Bench, NBSG Allocation: £300 – Match Funding £392

DCC Clean and Green – Beech Whip Planting, NBSG Allocation: £600 – Match Funding £0

Durham Army Cadet Force – Exercise Blister Shuffle 2023-24, NBSG Allocation: £26 – Match Funding £101

Chester-le-Street Cricket Club – Community Defibrillator Accessories, NBSG Allocation: £250 – Match Funding £50

Kings Coronation Neighbourhood Budget Small Grant (KCNBSG)

Chester-le Street Cricket Club - Kings Coronation 2023, KCNBSG: £900 - Match Funding £0

North Lodge Parish Council - Commemorative Pins, KCNBSG: £300 - Match Funding £0

Woodlea Primary School – Coronation Coins, KCNBSG: £150 - Match Funding £0

Lumley Primary Federation School – Kings Coronation Reference Books, KCNBSG: £300 - Match Funding £0

Pelton Fell Community Partnership – Coronation Event, KCNBSG: £300 - Match Funding £0

DCC Clean and Green – Contribution to 3 Tier Planter, KCNBSG: £150 - Match Funding £0

South Pelaw Residents Association – Coronation Garden Party, KCNBSG: £150 - Match Funding £0

Pelton Parish Council – Pelton Parish Coronation Community Event, KCNBSG: £300 - Match Funding £0

Ouston Community Association – Retro and Royal Tea Party, KCNBSG: £300 - Match Funding £0

The Fulforth Centre (Sacriston Community Association)- Sacriston Coronation Big Lunch, KCNBSG: £300 - Match Funding £0

Sacriston Youth Project - Nettlesworth Coronation Celebration Family Fun Day, KCNBSG: £300 - Match Funding £0

2023/24 Funding Allocation

Neighbourhood Budget is an allocation of £19,400 (£14,000 capital and £5,400 revenue) that each County Councillor receives year on year to support community projects. The funding process is supported by the AAP Team.

In 2021/22 Councillors were centrally allocated £10,000 each from the Town & Villages Fund, which would form part of their NB allocation. This was allocated in the first year of term, to be used any time over their term of office. This was allocated in the first year term to be used by end of March 2024. This allocation is separate to their main NB allocation and was initially dealt with by the Towns & Villages Team.

The projects listed above have been supported by County Councillors; Alison Batey, Alan Bell, Karen Fantarrow-Darby, Philip Heaviside, Simon Henig, Craig Martin, Bill Moist, Paul Pringle, Julie Scurfield, Paul Sexton, Tracie Smith, Emma Waldock, Simon Wilson and Danny Wood.

Information on which projects individual Councillors have supported can be found on the Durham County Council website.

The Difference We Have Made

Aspire to Learn (Aspire)

This project offered personalised learning and support experience for women across the AAP area. The focus was on helping women make positive life choices and provide them with the tools to get there. Since Covid-19, data has shown increased numbers of women being referred and self-referring to Aspire with issues including poor mental health, social exclusion, unemployment, poverty and an increase in disclosed domestic violence and abuse. This trend is reinforced by the referrals made to Aspire by partners in the Durham Mental Well Being Alliance.

This highlighted a need for a pilot project which would offer people extra individualised support to help them move forward and make positive life choices, encouraging women to become socially and economically included. A programme was developed, with small group numbers, to offer support and activities, offering weekly 1-2-1 support sessions and tracking personal progress towards clear goals. This also included classroom-based sessions to try out a range of activities to develop good mental health, such as gardening, art, cooking, exercise and craft. All the activities were decided in agreement with the woman in the group. This approach has ensured that the programme is personalised to them.



The Difference We Have Made

Heaven's Kitchen (Lumley Methodist Church Hall)

The AAP responded to the cost-of-living crisis by ensuring that residents have access to warm food and food supplies.

The Heaven's Kitchen project increased the kitchen capacity at the Methodist Hall, so they were able to increase their luncheon club offer. This project provides a cooked meal and the opportunity to socialise with others, whilst supporting the residents' well-being.

The project also helped to improve additional provision such as the foodbank, mini-market and community fridge, so it can reach a wider community across the AAP area.



DurhamWorks

Durham Works (Durham County Council)

This project was able to set up a Chester-le-Street AAP Specialist Training and Equipment Budget (Flex Fund). This budget has been used to supply unemployed young people in the AAP area with everything they need to start work, college or training.

The budget helped to fund specialist equipment and courses that are not generally available. It also had a Discretionary Fund element, to be used to give wider access to training.



Contact Details

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