

East Durham Rural Corridor Area Action Partnership Board Meeting 16 July 2024 Key Messages

The following are the key messages from the Board Meeting held on Tuesday 16 July 2024:

- Allan Blakemore (Chair) welcomed everyone to the Board Meeting of the East Durham Rural Corridor Area Action Partnership.
- A warm welcome was offered to Cllr Viv Anderson (Coxhoe Division) who had replaced Cllr Maura McKeon on the Board.
- Sarah Welsh, Strategic Manager (Customer Relations) - Durham County Council delivered a presentation on Durham County Council's Advice Services, which included managing money, debt management and access to benefits, as well as welfare, employment, housing, consumer rights and health and social care.

To have your say on how advice services are offered to County Durham residents in the future, either go to the consultation website for more information and to complete the survey online <https://www.durham.gov.uk/consultation>; or visit one of the libraries or Customer Access Points (CAPs) to complete a paper survey, or take a paper survey.

The deadline for feedback is 5.00 pm on Friday 20 September 2024.

- We sent out 10 fun and food application packs for the summer school holiday period. 8 were received and agreed by the fun and food panel on the 21 May 2024.
- Board members agreed to support the following Area Budget projects –
 1. Trimdon Village Hall – Centre Development Fund
 2. Livin Housing – BOOST (Build your Own Opportunities to Succeed and Thrive)
 3. Fishburn Youth & Community Centre – Kitchen Staff
 4. Cassop Community Centre – Making Cassop Community Centre Safe – Inside & Out
- On Monday 17 June 2024, the East Durham Rural Corridor AAP team: Jane, Claire and Marie moved from The Manor House in Sedgefield to new office accommodation. Our new office base is Green Lane Council Offices, Spennymoor, DL16 6JQ. We can be contacted on the same telephone numbers 03000 261128 / 261129; email addresses and our generic email also remain the same.
- The Council is currently looking for residents of County Durham to serve as non-voting co-optees on three of its five Overview and Scrutiny Committees. Co-optees have a key role in shaping council services by helping to develop

new ways of working, reviewing existing policies and challenging the performance of the authority and its key partners. Applicants are required to submit a completed application form by the 9 August and will need to go through a formal selection process. For more information, or to apply for a position as a non-voting co-optee, call either Stephen or Diane on 03000 268140 or 03000 268141 or email scrutiny@durham.gov.uk.

- Jane delivered a comprehensive presentation on the Community Engagement Review: Local Network Boundary Consultation. For further information and to have your say, please visit [Proposals for new Local Network boundary areas - Durham County Council](#)

The deadline for comments is 5.00pm on 18 August 2024.

- Neighbourhood Insp Sarah Honeyman provided an update on local policing issues.
- The following Neighbourhood Budget project was shared with the Board –

Name of Scheme: Coxhoe & Area Community Pantry
Councillor(s): Maura McKeon
Interest Declared: No
Amount: £2,000

The Board noted the project.

- Date and Time of Next Board Meeting – Thursday 19 September 2024, 5.00 pm at Bowburn Community Centre

Subsequent Board Meetings (all starting at 5.00 pm)

- Tuesday 26 November 2024 – Coxhoe Village Hall
- Wednesday 22 January 2025 – Cassop Community Centre
- Thursday 27 March 2025 (venue to be confirmed)

Please make every effort to attend and promote amongst your contacts.