

North Local Area Committee

Tuesday 26 September 2023 at 6.00 pm

**Forge Valley School, Wood Lane,
Sheffield, S6 5HG**

The Press and Public are Welcome to Attend



Local Area
Committees

Membership Engage · Empower · Enable

Councillor Alan Hooper
Councillor Vickie Priestley
Councillor Penny Baker
Councillor Lewis Chinchin
Councillor Craig Gamble Pugh
Councillor Julie Grocutt
Councillor Mike Levery
Councillor Robert Reiss
Councillor Janet Ridler
Councillor Ann Whitaker
Councillor Richard Williams
Councillor Alan Woodcock

PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE MEETING

Local Area Committees engage, enable, and empower communities across the city with increasing control over decision making, marking a major shift in power to communities. The Committees provide a geographical framework that, over time, will be used to prioritise and direct the local delivery of an increasing number of Council services and oversee the production of a co-produced annual Area Committee Plan which will reflect resident priorities.

A copy of the agenda and reports is available on the Council's website at www.sheffield.gov.uk. You may not be allowed to see some reports because they contain confidential information. These items are usually marked * on the agenda.

Members of the public have the right to ask questions or submit petitions to Area Committee meetings and recording is allowed under the direction of the Chair.

Please see the [website](#) or contact Democratic Services committee@sheffield.gov.uk for further information regarding public questions and petitions and details of the Council's [protocol on audio/visual recording and photography](#) at council meetings.

Local Area Committee meetings are normally open to the public but sometimes the Committee may have to discuss an item in private. If this happens, you will be asked to leave. Any private items are normally left until last.

Local Area Committee executive decisions are effective six working days after the meeting has taken place, unless called-in for scrutiny by the relevant Scrutiny Committee or referred to the City Council meeting, in which case the matter is normally resolved within the monthly cycle of meetings.

In order for us to be able to effectively facilitate attendance at the meeting, we would encourage all attendees to notify us of your attendance in advance by registering [here](#) or emailing committee@sheffield.gov.uk

If you require any further information please contact Philippa Burdett email philippa.burdett@sheffield.gov.uk.

**NORTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE AGENDA
26 SEPTEMBER 2023**

Order of Business

- 1. Welcome and Housekeeping Arrangements**
- 2. Apologies for Absence**
- 3. Exclusions of Public and Press**
To identify items where resolutions may be moved to exclude the press and public.
- 4. Declarations of Interest** (Pages 5 - 8)
Members to declare any interests they have in the business to be considered at the meeting.
- 5. Minutes of Previous Meeting** (Pages 9 - 20)
To approve the minutes of the Committee held on 27th June 2023.
- 6. Update on referrals to Policy Committees**
- 7. Public Questions and Petitions** (Pages 21 - 22)
- 8. North Community Plan** (Pages 23 - 56)
Report of David Luck, Local Area Committee Manager, North.
- 9. North LAC Budget** (Pages 57 - 66)
Report of David Luck – Local Area Committee Manager North.
- 10. Bradfield Parish Council Update**
Verbal update.
- 11. City Goals**
Laurie Brennan to provide a verbal update.
- 12. Race Equality Commission**
Ed Sexton to provide a verbal update.

NOTE: The next meeting of North Local Area Committee will be held at a date and time to be confirmed.

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ADVICE TO MEMBERS ON DECLARING INTERESTS AT MEETINGS

If you are present at a meeting of the Council, of its Policy Committees, or of any committee, sub-committee, joint committee, or joint sub-committee of the authority, and you have a **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest** (DPI) relating to any business that will be considered at the meeting, you must not:

- participate in any discussion of the business at the meeting, or if you become aware of your Disclosable Pecuniary Interest during the meeting, participate further in any discussion of the business, or
- participate in any vote or further vote taken on the matter at the meeting.

These prohibitions apply to any form of participation, including speaking as a member of the public.

You **must**:

- leave the room (in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct)
- make a verbal declaration of the existence and nature of any DPI at any meeting at which you are present at which an item of business which affects or relates to the subject matter of that interest is under consideration, at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent.
- declare it to the meeting and notify the Council's Monitoring Officer within 28 days, if the DPI is not already registered.

If you have any of the following pecuniary interests, they are your **disclosable pecuniary interests** under the new national rules. You have a pecuniary interest if you, or your spouse or civil partner, have a pecuniary interest.

- Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain, which you, or your spouse or civil partner undertakes.
- Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from your council or authority) made or provided within the relevant period* in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

*The relevant period is the 12 months ending on the day when you tell the Monitoring Officer about your disclosable pecuniary interests.

- Any contract which is made between you, or your spouse or your civil partner (or a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest) and your council or authority –
 - under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and
 - which has not been fully discharged.

- Any beneficial interest in land which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, have and which is within the area of your council or authority.
- Any licence (alone or jointly with others) which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, holds to occupy land in the area of your council or authority for a month or longer.
- Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) –
 - the landlord is your council or authority; and
 - the tenant is a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest.
- Any beneficial interest which you, or your spouse or your civil partner has in securities of a body where -
 - (a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of your council or authority; and
 - (b) either -
 - the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or
 - if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

If you attend a meeting at which any item of business is to be considered and you are aware that you have a **personal interest** in the matter which does not amount to a DPI, you must make verbal declaration of the existence and nature of that interest at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent. You should leave the room if your continued presence is incompatible with the 7 Principles of Public Life (selflessness; integrity; objectivity; accountability; openness; honesty; and leadership).

You have a personal interest where –

- a decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial standing (including interests in land and easements over land) of you or a member of your family or a person or an organisation with whom you have a close association to a greater extent than it would affect the majority of the Council Tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward or electoral area for which you have been elected or otherwise of the Authority's administrative area, or
- it relates to or is likely to affect any of the interests that are defined as DPIs but are in respect of a member of your family (other than a partner) or a person with whom you have a close association.

Guidance on declarations of interest, incorporating regulations published by the Government in relation to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, has been circulated to you previously.

You should identify any potential interest you may have relating to business to be considered at the meeting. This will help you and anyone that you ask for advice to fully consider all the circumstances before deciding what action you should take.

In certain circumstances the Council may grant a **dispensation** to permit a Member to take part in the business of the Authority even if the member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest relating to that business.

To obtain a dispensation, you must write to the Monitoring Officer at least 48 hours before the meeting in question, explaining why a dispensation is sought and desirable, and specifying the period of time for which it is sought. The Monitoring Officer may consult with the Independent Person or the Council's Standards Committee in relation to a request for dispensation.

Further advice can be obtained from David Hollis, General Counsel by emailing david.hollis@sheffield.gov.uk.

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North Local Area Committee

Meeting held 27 June 2023

PRESENT: Councillors Alan Hooper (Chair), Lewis Chinchin, Craig Gamble Pugh, Julie Grocutt, Mike Levery, Janet Ridler, Ann Whitaker, Richard Williams and Alan Woodcock

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 1.1 Apologies for absence were received by Councillors Penny Baker, Vickie Priestly and Robert Reiss.

2. EXCLUSIONS OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

- 2.1 No items were identified where resolutions may be moved to exclude the public and press.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 3.1 Councillor Julie Grocutt declared a personal interest in item 8 of the agenda 'Stocksbridge Towns Fund update' by virtue of her being a member of the Stocksbridge Towns Fund Board.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- 4.1 The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 23 February 2023, and 17 May 2023, were approved as a correct record.
- 4.2 The Deputy Leader of the Council (Councillor Fran Belbin) explained that she was the Chair of the Governance Committee. The Governance Committee, as part of their work this year, were looking at improving democratic engagement. Therefore, Councillor Belbin were attending Local Area Committees to speak with members of the public on how public engagement could be improved.

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

- 5.1 The Committee received the following questions, from a members of the public, prior to the meeting: -

(a) Dennis Patton

1. Why are SCC painting white lines on potholes in Chapeltown? Fix the holes and ruts please.

2. Blackburn Valley Trail. When will it be finished? 13 years has passed and still not completed. Smithy Wood Business Park is the main problem.

Duke of Norfolk is making a lot from us. Make him pay.

The Chair (Councillor Alan Hooper) explained that a written response will be provided after the meeting.

Councillor Craig Gamble Pugh thanked the questioner for submitting his questions. He explained that this was so a common topic that he was asked about by members of the public. He stated that the standard of work that Amey was doing and the responses they were giving was a disgrace. He added that he would take this up with the Waste & Streetscene Policy Committee.

(b) Bill Darton

As my local councillor for Grenoside can I ask that you make representation regarding the road that leads from Grenoside up to the crematorium.

The speed limit past the crematorium is 60 miles an hour and for a narrow road it adds danger to anyone who has to walk to the crematorium as there is no pavement from outside the cow and calf up to the crematorium.

There are traffic calming initiatives on Norfolk hill and Stephen Lane in the village, is it possible if a pavement cannot be provided that traffic calming initiatives be introduced and a speed limit reduction to 30 mph?

I have put an online enquiry regarding this twice in the last couple of years after witnessing a couple of near misses and indeed there was an accident last Saturday which required the air ambulance.

Beleie other action could be undertaken – writing back to see what else can be put in place such as road signage.

The Chair mentioned that Amey had provided the following response to Mr Darton's question.

'We have had similar request in the past, and unfortunate we would not be able to reduce the speed limit here.

As I am sure you will appreciate the Council receives numerous requests for road safety measures from local residents and ideally we would like to be able to respond to most of them. However, the limitations on our resources mean that we have to assess and prioritise locations for measures according to certain criteria.

The most important one of these relates to the prevention of accidents, particularly those recorded as serious or fatal. Although we cannot know where the next accident may occur, it is more likely to happen at a location having a history of previous

accidents than one with few or none. In this way we can focus our attention effectively on locations where measures are most urgently needed.

Unfortunately, there are many other areas in the City with higher accident records that must be treated as a priority with the limited funding that is available

The police understandably target the vast majority of their enforcement efforts on major roads as those are the roads where most accidents, and the most severe accidents, occur. Community concerns about speeding issues and requests for short-term enforcement at a particular location (for instance outside a school) should be reported to South Yorkshire Police's Local Policing Teams (formally the Safer Neighbourhoods teams) by ringing their non-emergency 101 number or online at <https://www.reportingcrime.uk/SYPincidentreport/>

You can contact your local policing team via www.southyorkshire.police.uk/contact-us/your-neighbourhood-policing-team/

You will need to contact the South Yorkshire Safety Camera Partnership to request a safety(speed) camera, as they assess locations of community concern for mobile camera enforcement.

They can be contacted by post at: South Yorkshire Safety Cameras, PO Box 767, Maltby, Rotherham, S66 6BD. The South Yorkshire Safety Camera partnership is contactable by telephone on (01709) 832 456 from Monday - Friday between the hours of 10am and 12pm. The Partnership can be contacted by email at admin@safetycamera.org They also have a website with information on at www.safetycamera.org

Thank you for contacting us with your concerns and I am sorry we cannot be more helpful at this current time.'

The Chair added that he was unhappy with the response provided and that he would follow this up to see if there were any other measures that could be put in place.

Councillor Mike Levery explained that there were no pavements when the crematorium was built although it does need pavements now as members of the public who do walk to the crematorium and were having to use the road which is extremely busy and therefore unsafe.

Councillor Richard Williams also raised his frustration on this as he mentioned that it was a clear accident hotspot. He stated that the Council needed to put pressure on Amey to look at putting

measures in place in this area and encouraged members of the public to report any accidents or near misses.

(c) Lee Revill

I have received an email from a representative for Miriam Cates following my query about the roundabouts in Chapeltown. She has been informed by Streets Ahead that they will be addressed in August this year. I received an email from the LAC that said they weren't scheduled for this year. Could you confirm if they are referring to the remedial work on the juncture of Station Rd Chapeltown and the roundabout or are they now saying both the roundabouts themselves will be addressed?

Other Roads that I'm aware of by travelling along them regularly that are also in a state of disrepair and would like to know when they will be repaired.

Lound Side from the top of the hill and down through to Market Place Chapeltown where the first roundabout is.

Blackburn Drive leading to the Burncross Rd end.

Hole House Lane leading to junction of Manchester Rd.

Is it Sheffield City Council (SCC) that is responsible for carrying out the repair work on the roads, or is it the contractor Amey who did the resurfacing a few years ago. If the latter, don't SCC have any powers to enforce that the work is carried out in a timely fashion as we are talking 12 months or more that they have been in such a state?

The Chair mentioned that Amey had provided the following response to Mr Revill's questions.

'Thank you for your enquiry which we received on 15 June 2023, regarding the condition of the roads in Chapeltown.

Please note that the correspondence sent to Miriam Cates MP on 17 May 2023, refers to the outstanding repairs to roads in Chapeltown, including the two roundabouts, which we expect to be completed by the end of August 2023.

We can confirm that the roundabouts and Lound Side are not going to be resurfaced during 2023, however, we will be resurfacing a section of Station Road, at the junction with the roundabout this year.

In addition, we can confirm that resurfacing of Blackburn Drive, at the junction with Burncross Road, will be completed during June 2023.

With regards to other roads in Chapeltown, we can advise that all roads in Sheffield are subject to regular condition surveys, which are undertaken every two years, and in addition regular routine safety inspections also take place.

During the condition surveys, issues identified are added to our bespoke software system which creates a condition score.

Under the Streets Ahead contract the condition scores mean that

when the average condition of a given road or section of road falls below these pre-set condition scores, any failures must be addressed, however, as the data is only run once a year and the condition survey interval is every two years, there is often a delay before roads or sections of roads are eligible for works to be undertaken.

This is often why interim repairs are carried out to ensure that the road remains in a safe condition for all road users.

With regard to the condition of the carriageway on Hole House Lane, please be advised that a defect to a Yorkshire Water asset is believed to be the cause of this deterioration.

We are liaising with Yorkshire water to resolve this issue by resurfacing the road, however, this work will not be completed until payment is received from Yorkshire Water.

Amey are responsible for carrying out repair works to the network. We are a self-monitoring contract and work against tight deadlines to ensure actionable defects are remedied within the set time frame.

Due to an increase in workload, together with the inclement weather we experienced in March this year, unfortunately, all our highway works have been significantly delayed.

We hope this information helps clarify our position, however, if you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact Customer Services at streetsahead@sheffield.gov.uk, via the website www.sheffield.gov.uk/streetsahead or by telephone on (0114) 273 4567

The Chair mentioned that he was not happy with the response provided by Amey.

Councillor Mike Levery mentioned that Amey was looking at re-modelling those roundabouts for a longer-term solution. The winter conditions and frost damage had caused the roads to rise in areas. He explained that the 25-year contract with Amey was a Private Finance Initiative which were half funded by the Government and half funded by the private sector.

The Chair explained that these issues need to be taken forward and that the members of public needed to be kept updated.

Councillor Julie Grocutt mentioned how she, as a resident in Stocksbridge, had walked, cycled and driven over these roads and agreed that they were in a terrible condition. She mentioned that she and Councillor Ridler had invited the Waste and Streetscene Policy Committee to look at the road surfaces mentioned. She added that the condition surveys, carried out by Amey, were unacceptable and deemed some parts of the road ok which meant they did not to get repaired.

Councillor Lewis Chinchen agreed with Councillors comments and frustration on this matter. He explained that Amey would not

schedule in the work to repair these roads until they received payment from Yorkshire Water. He explained that he had contacted Yorkshire Water and the reason for the delay in making a payment to Amey was due to them looking into their liability split and making sure that was cleared from an auditory point of view.

Lee Revill stated how he could not believe how someone had not been injured already, with the current conditions of these roads. He explained that he had received a response also from Amey, and that they said that work would begin sometime in 2024 although gave no specific dates.

The Chair explained that the North LAC would respond to Amey, explaining their dissatisfaction with their current response and ask for further details. He also stated that this question would be fed into the Waste and Streetscene Policy Committee.

5.2 The Committee received the following questions from members of the public, in attendance at the meeting: -

(d) Public Questioner

A member of public referred to the contract with Amey and asked whether they were in breach of that contract by not carrying out these repairs within a substantial amount of time.

The Chair explained that the LAC (Local Area Committee) would look into the contract with Amey.

(e) Adam Hurst

Explained that following a previous council meeting, a promise was made to re-surface part of Mortomley Close. He added that he had chased this up again with Officers but had yet to receive a response therefore he asked if LAC could inform members of the public of when this work was due to begin.

Councillor Richard Williams explained that he knew that the work was imminent although was unable to provide Mr Hurst with an exact date at this time. He mentioned that he would follow up on this query and respond to Mr Hurst.

(f) Dorothy Whitaker

Explained that local community, Town Council, Ward Councillors and Officers had been working hard to get the funding to refurbish Fox Glen Park in Deepcar. She mentioned that they had received twenty thousand pounds from Stocksbridge Town Council and that some work in the park had been carried out which everyone was very pleased about. She asked if the LAC could give an update on when the climbing frame was due to be installed.

Councillor Janet Ridler mentioned how the 'Friends of Fox Glen Park' group had done great work to get the funding for this park and its new equipment. She explained how the park had undergone some flooding which led to the climbing frame not being installed on the promised date. Although, she had been given confirmation that the work would recommence on Monday 3 July 2023. Any work on the park in the future, which would lead to any of the park needing to be closed, would be done with plenty of notice given to stakeholders and members of the community in that area.

Dorothy Whitaker stated how ward councillors Councillor Janet Ridler, Councillor Julie Grocutt and Councillor Lewis Chinchin along with David Luck had given the Friends of Fox Glen Park huge amounts of support and that they were grateful for it.

6. NORTH LAC BUDGET 2023-24

6.1 David Luck, North Local Area Committee Manager, gave a report to the Committee. He mentioned that the LAC had recently funded 8 coronation events.

6.2 It was reported that ward pots were open for local groups to apply for and the breakdown of the amounts available for each ward were as follows: -

- East Ecclesfield: £6766
- Stannington: £5583
- Stocksbridge & Upper Don: £6297
- West Ecclesfield: £6492

6.3 In addition to in-person consultation, It was stated that a LAC Survey had recently launched, asking members of the public what one big difference they would like to see in the North area. The results of that will be reviewed and fed back into the next meeting of the North Local Area Committee in September.

6.4 David Luck explained that he, as North Local Area Committee Manager, had delegated authority to spend up to £5000 in-between formal meetings of the LAC so that projects could be carried out. The following expenditure to note since the previous meeting of the LAC were as follows: -

- 2022/23 budget – Stannington Crossing Ahead Sign - £569
- 2023/24 budget – Haggstones Road 'Slow' marking - £697
- 2023/24 budget – Wharnccliffe Side site visit - £183
- 2023/24 budget – Loxley tapping rail repairs - £700

6.5 David Luck highlighted the budget proposals for 2023/24.

6.6 **RESOLVED:** That the North Local Area Committee:-

(1) notes the expenditure against the £100,000 budget to address local priorities in the North LAC in 2022/23, as detailed in the report;

(2) agrees the use of the 2023/24 £100,000 LAC budget as described in the report;

(3) approves the establishment of two new grant funds of £25,000 each from 2023/24 funds, one to address work with those in greatest need and one to encourage innovative ways of working, as described in the report; and

(4) authorises the Community Services Manager, in consultation with the Local Area Committee Chair, to finalise the eligibility criteria and make decisions, following engagement with the relevant Ward Members, on the award of grants of up to £5,000 from the two funds,

6.7 **Reasons For Decision**

The North LAC is asked to note the use of funding as per the previous decision of September 30th 2021 and agree further expenditure to address the identified local priorities. The approach to the 23/24 budget and new funds proposed provides a strategic and flexible approach to meeting the needs of the North in line with the North community plan

6.8 **Alternative Considered And Rejected**

This report is in line with the previous decision of September 30th 2021 regarding expenditure below £5000 and the North Community Plan agreed on March 9th 2022. Members have the option to consider the budget as four ward budgets of £25,000 but have indicated they do not believe this is a strategic and flexible approach to the budget. Funds will be tracked during the year to ensure a fair approach to meeting need across the whole LAC area with the funds remaining, which give scope for further initiatives, particularly when the community plan is refreshed in September 2023. An alternative option was not to allocate the level of funding to the two new funds proposed. However, these funds give opportunity for partners to help address key LAC priorities and if suitable bids are not received fund will be able to be reallocated.

7. **STOCKSBRIDGE TOWNS FUND UPDATE**

7.1 Amanda Holmes, Communications Officer, gave a presentation to the Committee.

7.2 It was explained that Stocksbridge Town Fund were a £24.1m investment delivering 10 projects across Stocksbridge. The three key priorities of the

fund were: -

1. Regenerating and better connecting the Town Centre
2. Developing skills and education for the future
3. Focusing on improving health and wellbeing

7.3 Amanda Holmes explained that although Stocksbridge were identified as a town in 2019, funding was only received in December 2022.

7.4 As part of regenerating the Town Centre, the following 4 projects were identified: -

1. Library and Community Hub Building - a new landmark building in the Centre of the town offering a range of commercial and community uses (included Adult Education Hub).
2. Placemaking and shop front grant scheme - creating opportunities for businesses to improve their properties and investing in paving and landscaping.
3. Better connections and signposting the Town Centre - improving car parks and signposting and creating better connections to different parts of the Town.
4. Community Transport - a new local hopper bus service for the community, connecting residential areas with Town Centre facilities.

Amanda Holmes highlighted the next steps of these Town Centre projects.

7.5 As part of the Health and Wellbeing priority, the following 5 projects were identified: -

1. New Skatepark and improvements to Oxley Park in Stocksbridge – phase 2 of the Oxley Park investment.
2. Walking and cycling trails: an investment in upgrading walking and cycling trails in the town and improving access to the countryside.
3. Rivers Project: improvements to the Little Don including weir improvements and flood alleviation work.
4. Sports Hub: a package of improvements to sporting facilities in the town, including a new multi sports pavilion, all weather pitch and improvements to Rugby and Football club facilities.
5. Hydrotherapy pool: a new facility at the Stocksbridge Community Leisure Centre to deliver a new hydrotherapy pool.

7.6 It was explained the Town Fund Board were comprised of the following people: -

- Co-Chair - Miriam Cates MP, Penistone and Stocksbridge
- Co-Chair • Yuri Matischen – Community Representative
- Kate Martin, Sheffield City Council – Executive Director
- John Crawshaw, Crawshaws Butchers (Local Business)
- Cllr Julie Grocutt, Sheffield City Council and Stocksbridge Town Council (Local Councillor)
- Graham Silverwood, The Venue Trust and Stocksbridge Community Leisure Centre (Community Representative)
- Dave Cates, Redemption Media (Local Business)
- Ian Sanderson, SLR Outlets (Local Business)
- Colin Blackburn, Sheffield City Region (Mayoral Combined Authority)
- Neil Curtis – Community Representative
- Shared role, Town Centre reps : Katheryn Giles Bowman and Gail Larking

7.7 Amanda Holmes explained that she were unable to provide an exact end date for these projects mentioned, although she would be happy to feed that information back into the LAC once known.

7.8 Councillor Lewis Chinchen mentioned that he was pleased with how forward looking the Town Centre projects were and how he hoped this would make the area more attractive and increase footfall.

7.9 A member of the public stated how difficult it was to access the Town Centre for people who walked and cycled. She mentioned there was information relating to improving public transport but not much information relating to improving walking and cycling access.

Amanda Holmes explained that there were a trails project which is currently overbudget and was due to undergo a review. Amanda Holmes stated that she was happy to take the member of public's details and update her of any more information when known.

8. STOCKSBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL UPDATE

8.1 Mark Whittaker, Chair and Mayor of the Stocksbridge Town Council, gave an update on the Stocksbridge Town Council.

8.2 It was explained that Stocksbridge Town Council Town Council's Leader were also a Mayor therefore had many ceremonial duties as well as Charing Council meetings. They administered funds raised through sources such as the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and these funds were to be spent to improve the wellbeing and happiness of the people of Stocksbridge. They gave grants to local charities and ran the participatory

budget scheme where the local people of Stocksbridge voted for their priorities for those funds to be used for. The Town Council had 8 Town Councillor positions in which only 7 positions were currently filled. The Town Council met twice a month and each Town Councillor then stood on committees of local groups and charities as a Town Council representative. Town Councillors were volunteers and not in a paid capacity. The Council were supported by 2 clerks who were also the clerks for Bradfield Parish Council. Mr Whittaker encouraged anyone in attendance who would like any further information, to speak to him after the meeting.

- 8.3 The Chair mentioned how he was proud that the North had the Town Council and stated they added a lot of value to the communities. He added that there was a meeting planned for Parish/Town Council and the LAC to discuss how they can work together going forward.
- 8.4 Councillor Julie Grocutt referred the point on Stocksbridge Town Council still having 1 position available for a Town Councillor. Therefore, asked if anyone were interested in the position to get in touch the Town Council.

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NORTH
LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE
MEETING – 27 JUNE 2023
WRITTEN ANSWERS PROVIDED TO
PUBLIC QUESTIONS



1.	<p>Public question from Dennis Patton</p> <p>Questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why are SCC painting white lines on potholes in Chapeltown? Fix the holes and ruts please. 2. Blackburn Valley Trail. When will it be finished? 13 years has passed and still not completed. Smithy Wood Business Park is the main problem. Duke of Norfolk is making a lot from us. Make him pay.
	<p>Responses:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chapeltown pot holes <p>The state of the roads in Chapeltown, particularly the roundabouts was raised by another speaker at the LAC meeting. The roundabouts have been patched but Councillors continue to raise the issue of the need for them to be resurfaced and I know this is being raised with Amey at a senior level.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Blackburn Valley Trail <p>Officers from the Council working alongside Sustrans are aware of the issues you have raised regarding the Blackburn Valley Trail around Smithy Wood Business Park..</p> <p>The responsibility for the path lies with the developer who owns the land in question. They have put a crushed surface in place but we are aware this is only a temporary solution. The developer is required to complete the path once the whole site is developed but this does not appear to be something that will be completed in the near future.</p> <p>I am sorry there is no immediate quick fix for this issue but please be assured that this matter will continue to be part of ongoing plans and conversations between the Council, Sustrans and the developer</p>

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Author/Lead Officer of Report:
Dave Luck, North LAC Community Services
Manager

Tel: 07795637875

Report of: Community Services Manager
Report to: North Local Area Committee
Date of Decision: 26 September 2023
Subject: Approval of the North LAC Community Plan 2023-24

Is this a Key Decision? If Yes, reason Key Decision:-	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
- Expenditure and/or savings over £500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>	
- Affects 2 or more Wards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Which Executive Member Portfolio does this relate to? Community Engagement and Governance		
Which Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee does this relate to? Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) been undertaken in respect of this decision?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
If YES, what EIA reference number has it been given? 2149		
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If YES, give details as to whether the exemption applies to the full report / part of the report and/or appendices and complete below:- <i>"The (report/appendix) is not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph (insert relevant paragraph number) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)."</i>		

Purpose of Report:

The Terms of Reference for Local Area Committees (LACs) provide that each LAC must agree a Community Plan setting priorities for the area of the committee, monitor delivery of that plan and keep it under review, and that the decisions it makes in relation to funding must fit with the priorities set out in the Community Plan and following engagement with the community.

Through public consultation, the North LAC has developed a new draft Community Plan for 2023/24 that seeks to identify the key issues within the area and develop a series of priorities that will inform the direction of the LAC, and direct the spending of delegated budgets, where the LAC has authority to do so.

This Report recommends the approval of the draft North Community Plan, attached as an Appendix to this report.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the North Local Area Committee:

Approves the North Community Plan as a statement of the priorities of the area, subject to any amendments being agreed by Members at the meeting on 26th September 2023.

Authorises the Community Services Manager to produce a final version of the Community Plan document, incorporating any amendments approved by the LAC at its meeting of 26th September 2023, and to publish it on the webpages of the North Local Area Committee; and

Notes that future LAC decisions relating to funding must fit with the priorities set out in the Community Plan and following engagement with the community.

Background Papers:

(Insert details of any background papers used in the compilation of the report.)

Appendix – North Draft Community Plan 2023/24

Lead Officer to complete:-		
1	I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed, where required.	Finance: Adrian Hart
		Legal: Petra Der Man
		Equalities: Bev Law
<i>Legal, financial/commercial and equalities implications must be included within the report and the name of the officer consulted must be included above.</i>		
2	Head of Service who approved submission:	Carl Mullooly
3	LAC Chair consulted:	Cllr Alan Hooper
4	I confirm that all necessary approval has been obtained in respect of the implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist and that the report has been approved for submission to the Decision Maker by the Head of Service indicated at 2. In addition, any additional forms have been completed and signed off as required at 1.	
	Lead Officer Name: Dave Luck	Job Title: North LAC Community Services Manager
Date: September 26 th 2023		

1. PROPOSAL

- 1.1 The Terms of Reference for Local Area Committees (LACs) provide that each LAC must agree a Community Plan setting priorities for the area of the committee, monitor delivery of that plan and keep it under review, and that the decisions it makes in relation to funding must fit with the priorities set out in the Community Plan and following engagement with the community.

Through a recent public consultation carried out in summer 2023 the North LAC has developed a draft Community Plan that seeks to identify the key issues within the area and develop a series of priorities that will inform the direction of the LAC, and direct the spending of delegated budgets, where the LAC has authority to do so.

This Report recommends the approval of the draft North Community Plan, attached as an Appendix to this report.

The Community Plan seeks to identify specific priorities and develop a series of actions, whereby the LAC can work with residents; businesses; community organisations; Council departments and other statutory organisations to effect change.

Following consultation with people in the North via a variety of avenues the proposal is to replace the previous priorities:

- Safe roads and effective transport links
- Clean and attractive environment
- Vibrant community life

With the new priorities of:

- Improving local transport through practical Highways improvements and promoting better public transport
- Improving community safety
- Improving community life

The North will continue to pursue the same three long term goals:

- The North is a connected place where people can access what they need to play an active part in their community
- The North is a safe place to live in and travel around
- The North is an attractive place with good facilities

The Community Plan is intended to be realistic in terms of what can be achieved within the timescales, having regard to financial, legal and logistical implications.

2. HOW DOES THIS DECISION CONTRIBUTE?

Local Area Committees directly support the Communities and Neighbourhoods and Our Council commitments in the 'Our Sheffield: One Year Plan' but to be effective they need to have the capability to respond quickly to emerging local issues.

3. HAS THERE BEEN ANY CONSULTATION?

- 3.1 The Community Plan has been developed through community consultation that has comprised of an online survey through the Council's Have Your Say platform; a paper-based survey for those less digitally-enabled; engagement activity with representative organisations and in-person engagement at events and popular community spaces.

Partner organisations and Council departments that have been identified as offering potential solutions to some of the issues identified have also been consulted, to establish whether suggestions can be realistically implemented.

4. RISK ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

4.1 Equality of Opportunity Implications

Decisions need to consider the requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duty contained in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.

This is the duty to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

The Equality Act 2010 identifies the following groups as a protected characteristic: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex and sexual orientation.

- 4.1.1 The overall impact of this decision is likely to be positive and not disproportionate from an equality, diversity and inclusion perspective. In developing a Community Plan, local communities have been given the opportunity for a greater say in local decision making for services which impact their daily lives.

The devolution of responsibilities will improve inclusion for local people and the work of the Sheffield Equality Partnership will support and enhance the approach from a citywide and underserved communities' perspective.

However, in order to ensure this approach takes into account people who share protected characteristics under the Public Sector Duties the Local Area Committee Community Plan will be supported by appropriate equality monitoring of budget.

An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA 916) was previously carried out in respect of the establishment of Local Area Committees.

4.2 Financial and Commercial Implications

- 4.2.1 There are no additional financial implications. This report relates to the decision to approve the Community Plan. The decision to allocate specific budgets to the Local Area Committees has already been made.

Procurement of supplies and/or services will be carried out in line with Standing Orders.

4.3 Legal Implications

- 4.3.1 The LAC must operate in accordance with its Terms of Reference, approved as a change to Council's Constitution by Full Council at its meeting on 18th March 2021. The Terms of Reference provide that each LAC must agree a Community Plan setting priorities for the area of the committee, monitor delivery of that plan and keep it under review, and that the decisions it makes in relation to funding must fit with the priorities set out in the Community Plan and following engagement with the community.

4.4 Other Implications

- 4.4.1 None

5. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 5.1 A key element in establishing LACs is the principle that each LAC will develop a Community Plan. An alternative would have been to retain the previous plan but it is important to carry out fresh consultation and update plans to ensure they are an up to date summary of local issues and priorities. The proposed plan builds upon the previous plan agreed in March 2022 and the work that has taken place since it was adopted.

6. **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 The proposal to approve the North LAC Community Plan is recommended on the basis that the Plan provides a clear framework in how the LAC will direct its resources to address key issues identified through community consultation.



Local Area Committees

Engage · Empower · Enable

North Area Community Plan 2023

- East Ecclesfield • Stannington • Stocksbridge and Upper Don • West Ecclesfield

Local Area Committees (LACs) are a way for people to get involved in making a difference to their local communities. LACs have been given budgets to be used on issues and priorities that residents and communities have told us are important to them.

LACs are a chance for people to influence decision making, share their opinion and contribute to positive changes in their community. They are an opportunity for people to say what they would like to see improved in their area.

Further details about LACs can be found here – www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/your-city-council/local-area-committees



Who are the local area committee?

The Local Area Committee is made up of the twelve elected members of the four wards in the North LAC. This includes a Chair who is elected by members of the LAC and a Vice Chair.

East Ecclesfield Councillors	Stannington Councillors
<p>Craig Gamble Pugh craig.gamblepugh@councillor.sheffield.gov.uk 07740 348273</p>	<p>Penny Baker penny.baker@councillor.sheffield.gov.uk 0114 4185011 (Home)</p>
<p>Robert Reiss Robert.reiss@councillor.sheffield.gov.uk 07500 809758</p>	<p>Vickie Priestley (Vice-chair) vickie.priestley@councillor.sheffield.gov.uk 0114 4490890 (Home)</p>
<p>Alan Woodcock alan.woodcock@councillor.sheffield.gov.uk 07766 541580</p>	<p>Richard Williams richard.williams@councillor.sheffield.gov.uk 07766 539834</p>

Who are the local area committee?

Stocksbridge and Upper Don Councillors	West Ecclesfield Councillors
<p>Lewis Chinchen lewis.chinchen@councillor.sheffield.gov.uk 07766 540328</p>	<p>Alan Hooper (Chair) alan.hooper@councillor.sheffield.gov.uk 0782 5195430</p>
<p>Julie Grocutt julie.grocutt@councillor.sheffield.gov.uk 07825195212</p>	<p>Mike Lavery mike.lavery@councillor.sheffield.gov.uk 07776 142971</p>
<p>Janet Ridler janet.ridler@councillor.sheffield.gov.uk 07468 701684</p>	<p>Ann Whitaker ann.whitaker@councillor.sheffield.gov.uk 07766 539882</p>

Staff team

Carl Mullooly – Head of Communities

Dave Luck – Community Services Manager

Teresa Bond – Community Services Officer

Isabel Male – LAC Officer

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Carl.Mullooly@sheffield.gov.uk



David.luck@sheffield.gov.uk



Teresa.bond@sheffield.gov.uk



Isabel.male@sheffield.gov.uk



What has the LAC done since 2021?

- Funded parks improvements to sites in Wadsley Park Village (*pictured*), Grenoside and Deepcar alongside Friends groups and Parish & Town Councils enabling £80k of improvements
- Supported Food Banks and part-funded a new kitchen as part of the new Food Matters hub in Stocksbridge
- Funded a new youth club in High Green
- Delivered a series of practical Highways measures including a Vehicle Activated Sign per ward to highlight speeding

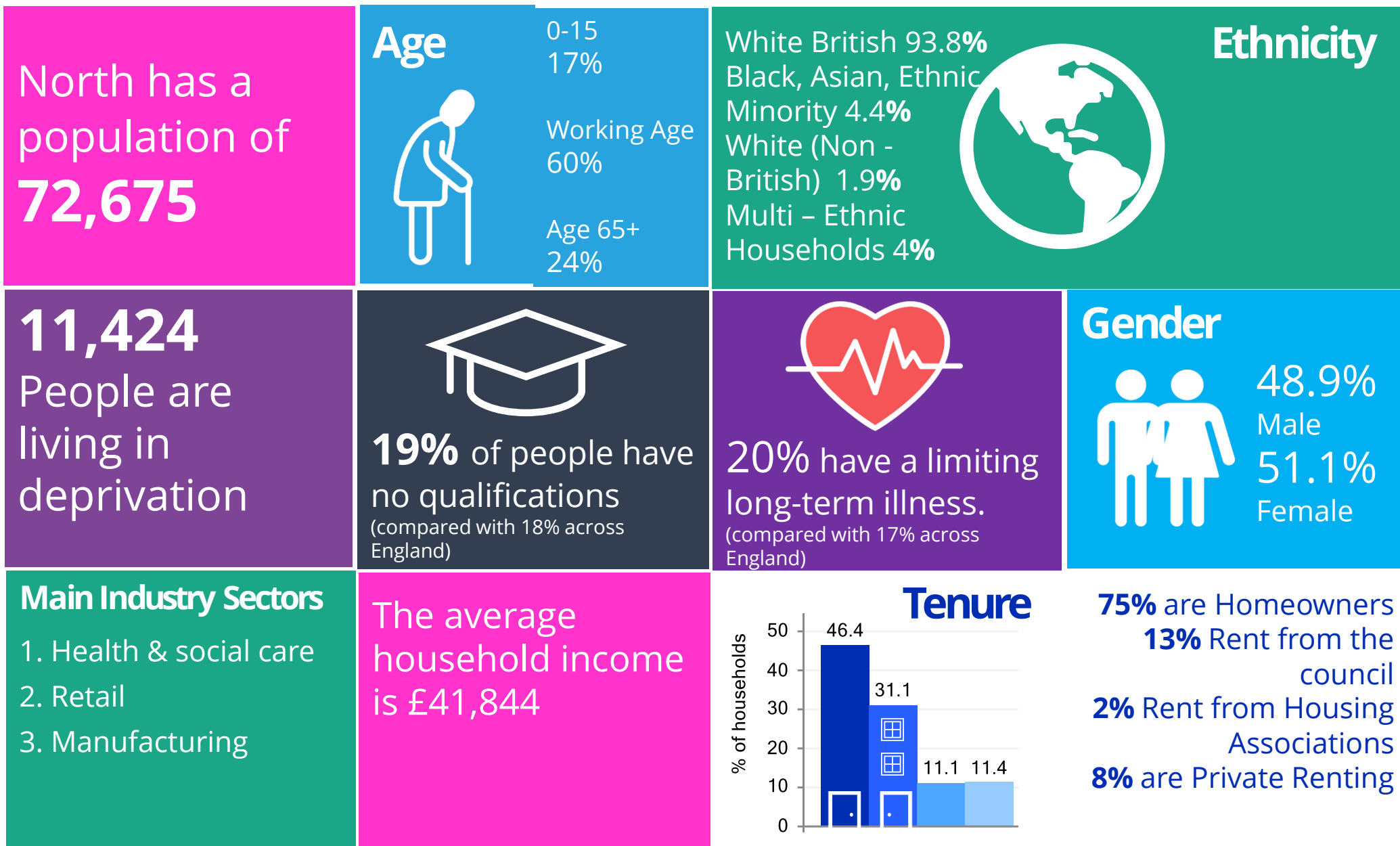


What has the LAC done since 2021?

- Identified work to address fly tipping spots (*pictured Woodhead Rd, Grenoside*)
- Funded local Police equipment
- Supported a wide range of community projects including Jubilee and Coronation events
- Supported the Stannington community during the gas flood crisis & organised a local Christmas cheer event

What we know about the North (Source:

<https://sheffield.communityinsight.org>)



Features of the North

- The North is a distinct part of Sheffield with large areas of countryside and communities with strong identities
- The North is a relatively prosperous area but contains areas of deprivation and wider social needs, particularly regarding access to transport and services
- The North has a stable population with a large proportion of older people and little ethnic diversity

Features of the North

Crime rates

- The North has a rate of 65 crimes per 1000 people compared to 98 in England and 116 in Sheffield a whole
- It's rate of burglaries (10.3 per 1000 people) is slightly above the England rate (9.9) but below the Sheffield average (18.8)

Different age groups

- 24% of North residents are aged 65+ compared to 17% across Sheffield
- 16.5% are aged 0-15 in the North compared to 18% in Sheffield
- 6.4% of those aged 18-24 in the North are unemployed compared to 4% across Sheffield
- 2.7% of those of working age in the North are unemployed compared to 4.1% across Sheffield

Features of the North

Deprivation

- 16% of people in the North are living in an area of deprivation compared to 34% across Sheffield
- The North contains two of the most 10% deprived areas nationally, both in High Green
- The North scores highly on the community needs index, which measures community & civic infrastructure (*high scores indicate level of need*)
 - The North's 'community needs' score is 106 (England 68, Sheffield 102)
 - The North's 'civic asset' score is 35 (England 23, Sheffield 19)
 - The North's 'connectedness' score is 56 (England 21, Sheffield 46)

LAC consultation

- We launched a new consultation in June 2023 asking people how they felt about the North and what would make the biggest difference to it
- This involved an on-line survey and face to face consultations across the North area
- Through that we gathered views from 244 people
- We also have the views of several consultation sessions with young people in the North and of a stakeholders meeting from those either leading areas of work or voluntary sector groups

What's the best thing about your area?

Superordinate themes	Subordinate themes
Countryside	Proximity to the countryside
	Walks
	Natural beauty
The community	Friendly neighbours and people
	Sense of community
	Community activities
Amenities	Parks
	Shops
	Community hubs (Libraries, leisure centres)

- 45% of people surveyed said the countryside was the best thing about their neighbourhood
- 22.5% of people surveyed said the community was one of the best things about their neighbourhood
- 20% of people surveyed said that the local amenities are the best things in their area

What's the worst thing about your area?

Superordinate themes	Subordinate themes
Public transport	Unreliable public transport
	Lack of routes
Roads	Bad road conditions
	Parking
Crime	ASB (Drugs and Boy Racers)
Amenities	Lack of quality shops
	Lack of activities for children and Young people
	Lack of maintenance services (Grass cutting, gritting)
New housing developments	Lack of infrastructure

- 36% of people said that public transport was the worst thing about their area
- 26% said issues with the roads was the worst thing this is made up 9% issues with traffic, 12% condition of the roads (potholes etc) and 9% parking issues
- 15% of people stated crime and ASB was the worst thing about their area.
- 11% stated the amenities in their area was the worst thing.
- 4% worst thing was housing developments and a worry about infrastructure

* Percentages may not add up to 100, people say multiple things in their answers and some answers do not fall under the superordinate themes

What one thing would make the biggest difference in your area?

39% of people surveyed said improving public transport in their area would make the biggest difference.

31% of people surveyed mentioned an improvement to amenities in their local area would make the biggest difference, this was very broad and included better park equipment, more youth groups/ activities for children, improvement to roads and more.

14% of people surveyed said that dealing with crime/ increasing police presence was the main thing that would make the biggest difference in their area.

Ward summary – East Ecclesfield

Key headlines – people want to see better public transport and roads, crime tackled and better local amenities

People spoke us about:

- Getting Chapeltown roundabouts resurfaced
- Issues with speed and parking restrictions
- More Police presence
- Better access to public services & travel links
- More activities for all ages with affordable things for families to do in the holidays

Ward summary - Stannington

Key headlines – people want to see better public transport, more Policing and better local amenities

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People spoke to us about:

- Having a reliable, affordable & punctual bus service, 7 days a week
- More police patrols to address concerns about drugs and burglaries
- More things on for families and better play facilities
- Better phone signal

Ward summary – Stocksbridge and Upper Don

Key headlines – people want to see better public transport, increased Policing, better amenities and appropriate housing development

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People spoke to us about:

- Reductions in bus services, particularly the Supertram link – concerns that lack of transport reduces opportunities for young people
- Concerns about ASB and speeding
- More activities and upgraded facilities
- Concerns about new housing developments on the green belt

Ward Summary – West Ecclesfield

Key headlines – people want better transport, improved roads and more Police presence

People spoke to us about:

- Visible Policing to deal with petty crime & ASB
- More reliable bus services to enable the elderly to stay active
- Pothole repair & better street cleaning

Young People

Sessions were held with young people in Stannington and Stocksbridge by council youth workers.

Young people spoke positively about the area being friendly and enjoying its open spaces.

Issues voiced included:

- Anxieties about cost of living and future opportunities
- There not being enough to do, particularly that nothing is open late and transport is limited saying 'we have to travel for everything'
- Feeling young people are stereotyped and complained about
- Wanting youth clubs to be open more
- Concerns about litter, drug use and speeding

Stakeholders

An ideas session was held for people involved in voluntary groups and running services in the North. Comments & ideas included:

- Need for vocational training & to build local connections with further education providers
- Need for mentors for young people
- Need for support for isolated young adults including local drug support
- Ideas around skills sharing & tool banks

Approach

- The North faces entrenched issues, particularly around isolation and facilities
- There is a disparity between those with the means to function independently and those without them – the North is a great place to live but can be a hard place to fall behind and an easy place for needs to be missed
- There is a sense of the North being disconnected from the centre of Sheffield and in some people's eyes of having been forgotten
- It is proposed that this plan seeks to balance clear priorities, quick wins where achievable but also a focus on longer term goals
- We will continue to work by developing creative partnerships across the area
- We will look for opportunities to engage more local people and better communicate the work that we are doing

Priorities

I propose we work to the following three priorities in 2023/24

- Improving local transport through practical Highways improvements and promoting better public transport
- Improving community safety
- Improving community life

Goals

I propose we continue to pursue the same three long term goals:

- The North is a connected place where people can access what they need to play an active part in their community
- The North is a safe place to live in and travel around
- The North is an attractive place with good facilities

Our goal is that the North is a connected place where people can access what they need to play an active part in their community

We will:

- Have a continued focus on those in greatest need
- Explore work to combat social isolation across communities and ages including working with young adults
- Support development of increased & varied youth activity
- Explore scope for new vocational opportunities for young people & adults
- Look for opportunities to address digital exclusion including support for people to get online & Broadband cold spots
- Carry out an asset mapping exercise in East Ecclesfield
- Promote the new North information guide and new 'Greatest Need' and 'Big idea' funds

Our goal is that the North is a safe place to live in and travel around

We will:

- Work to highlight transport needs across the North
- Support initiatives to develop community transport
- Deliver a series of pedestrian improvements across the North
- Launch new Community Action Groups to address anti-social behaviour alongside partners
- Look at opportunities to develop new work around parking & speeding, particularly around schools
- Promote routes to report crime & promote accurate perceptions of the risk of crime

Our goal is that the North is an attractive place with good facilities

We will:

- Support work to improve parks and open space alongside Friends of groups
- Support the development & improvement of Community buildings & spaces such as Stannington Pavilion
- Promote and develop accessible community facilities
- Support ERF initiatives to improve local High streets
- Explore further opportunities to tackle litter & fly tipping hot spots
- Continue to support local community groups and initiatives

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Author/Lead Officer of Report: Dave Luck
North LAC Community Services Manager
Tel: 07795637875

Report of: Community Services Manager
Report to: North Local Area Committee
Date of Decision: 26th September 2023
Subject: North LAC Budget 2023-24

Has appropriate consultation been undertaken?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
If YES, what EIA reference number has it been given? 2149				
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If YES, give details as to whether the exemption applies to the full report / part of the report and/or appendices and complete below:- <i>“The (report/appendix) is not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph (insert relevant paragraph number) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).”</i>				

Purpose of Report:

Each Local Area Committee has a budget to address local priorities. This report

- Sets out details of the spend in respect of the initial budget of £100,000 for 2022/23 that has been authorised by the Community Services Manager, in consultation with the LAC Chair and in accordance with the delegation granted in September 2021.
- Describes funding allocated to the LAC for 2023/24 and sets out proposals for its allocation and expenditure for 2023/24 in line with the North LAC plan.

Recommendations:

That the North Local Area Committee:

- Notes the expenditure against the £100,000 budget to address local priorities in the North LAC as detailed in the report.
- Agrees the use of the 2023/24 LAC budget of £25,000 per ward as described in the report.
- Agrees the use of the 2023/24 £37,100 LAC Cost of Living budget as described in the report namely that 50% of the North's allocation (£18,550) is awarded as a grant to Citizens Advice Sheffield to support its advice line with the remaining 50% (£18,550 used to create a new North Cost of Living fund).
- Authorises the Community Services Manager, in consultation with the Local Area Committee Chair, to finalise the eligibility criteria and make decisions, following engagement with the relevant Ward Members, on the award of the grant funds proposed of up to £5,000.

Background Papers:

Lead Officer to complete:-	
1	I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed, where required.
	Finance: Adrian Hart
	Legal: Petra Der Man
	Equalities: Bev Law
<i>Legal, financial/commercial and equalities implications must be included within the report and the name of the officer consulted must be included above.</i>	
2	Head of Service who approved submission: Carl Mullooly
3	LAC Chair consulted: Cllr Alan Hooper
4	I confirm that all necessary approval has been obtained in respect of the implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist and that the report has been approved for submission to the Decision Maker by the Head of Service indicated at 2. In addition, any additional forms have been completed and signed off as required at 1.

Lead Officer Name: Dave Luck	Job Title: North LAC Community Services Manager
Date: 26 September 2023	

1. PROPOSAL

1.1 Background

Local Area Committees (LACs) were established by Full Council in May 2021. Their Terms of Reference are set out in Part 3 of the Council's Constitution and include:

- To agree a Community Plan setting priorities for the area of the committee, monitor delivery of that plan and keep it under review; and
- To make decisions relating to funding as delegated from time to time by the Council to fit with the priorities set out in the Community Plan and following engagement with the community.

In 2021 each LAC was allocated an initial budget of £100,000 to be spent in line with their Community plan. The North Lac Community Plan was agreed in March 2022 and the unspent portion of the £100,000 budget was carried forward to 2022/23. A new community plan has been drafted to for 2023/24 and will be presented at this meeting – once the plan has been agreed this will be the basis for future LAC funding decisions.

To enable decisions to be taken quickly and to respond to emerging issues, in September 2021 the LAC granted delegated authority to the Community Services Manager to make decisions on expenditure from any budgets allocated to the Local Area Committee provided that:

- The decision is taken in consultation with the Local Area Committee Chair
- Spending is in line with any specific purposes of the allocated budget
- The decision may not approve expenditure of more than £5,000
- A report detailing the delegated spending decisions taken by the Community Services Manager is presented to the next Local Area Committee meeting.

1.2 2023/24 budget allocation

Full Council resolved at the Budget Meeting in March 2023 that *“additional spending amounting to £25,000 per ward, overseen by ward councillors and delivered through the Local Area Committees process, is provided as an additional spend for 2023/24”*. Though not the intention, the effect of this resolution was that these monies were designated Ward Pot budgets. The intention to create LAC budgets has now been put into effect by a decision of the Finance Committee on 11th September 2023 to agree a virement of the full £700,000 into the LAC budget, amounting to £100,000 per LAC. This budget will be spent on projects benefiting all the wards in the North East LAC area.

At its meeting of June 27th 2023 the North LAC Members agreed to the following:

- To treat the four ward budgets of £25,000 as a single LAC budget of £100,000
- To establish two new funds, both of £25,000 – the Greatest Need fund to support work amongst those in demonstrable need and the Big Idea fund to support new approaches to meeting the priorities of the North LAC.

The North LAC has been advised that as the decisions made in June occurred before the virement agreed on September 11th it is necessary for the LAC to formally approve them at its September meeting.

It is proposed to develop two new grant funds of £25,000 each to be allocated in 2023/24 from the total LAC budget of £100,000.

The first grant fund is the 'North LAC Greatest Need fund'. This contributes to the LAC priority of vibrant community life and the goal in the Community Plan of the North becoming a connected place where people can access what they need to play an active part in their community – within this the fund supports the North LAC's commitment to supporting those in greatest need.

Grants of up to £5000 will be awarded for those proposing projects that address needs facing residents in the North in areas such as

- Areas of deprivation – the North has a number of pockets in poverty in areas such as High Green and Stocksbridge
- Cost of Living
- Social isolation – the area has a higher than average proportion of older people and issues with people accessing services due to the distance from the centre of town
- Healthy living
- Community safety

If approved, funds will be awarded between September and December 2023.

Should the fund have unallocated funds at this point, remaining funds will be reallocated to other projects that address priorities within the North LAC plan.

The second fund is the 'North LAC Big Idea Fund'. Grants of up to £5000 will be awarded for those proposing projects that contribute to addressing one of the three LAC priorities:

- Safe roads and effective transport links
- Clean and attractive environment
- Vibrant community life

Applicants should demonstrate new approaches to developing community projects in the North in areas such as:

- Connecting people in the North
- Raising aspirations
- Building community life

As before, if approved, funds will be awarded between September and December 2023.

Detailed eligibility will be developed for both funds with support from the Voluntary Sector Liaison Team but core criteria will include:

- Activity must take place in the North LAC area.
- The need for a clear evidence base for proposed activity
- Applicants with no track record of delivery in the North of the city will need to demonstrate a sound approach to how they develop a project in the North of the city.
- Applicants will need to demonstrate that existing funds are not already in place for the activity they are applying for.
- The fund will be open to not for profit organisations with a bank account in the organisation's name and at least two signatories who are not related.

It is proposed that the Community Services Manager, in consultation with the LAC Chair, is authorised to finalise the eligibility criteria and make decisions on expenditure relating to the grant applications received as set out above. Bids will be assessed by the LAC team and agreed. Applications will be shared with the relevant Ward Members for comment in advance of decisions being taken. Expenditure being reported to the next meeting of the LAC.

Should the fund have unallocated funds at the end of the calendar year, remaining funds will be reallocated to other projects that address priorities within the North LAC plan.

The two further items to note agreed under delegated powers since the last meeting are:

- Operations budget £2500 (consultation with Chair 29/06/2023)
- Tree guards Ecclesfield park £960 (consultation with Chair 19/08/2023)

On this basis, funds remaining for the LAC would be £44,960.

1.3 Cost of Living

In its budget setting the Council agreed a sum of £400,000, allocated by Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), to LACs for Cost of Living related work. Of this amount £37,100 was allocated to the North LAC.

The following recommendations are made:

- That 50% of the North's allocation (£18,550) is awarded as a grant to Citizens Advice Sheffield (CAS) to support its city-wide freephone advice line. The advice line is the primary means that CAS supports people with a range of advice. This is vital to the North of the city where its distance from the centre of the city makes it harder for people to access in person services. Investment in the service will increase call capacity.
- That the remaining £18,550 is used to create a new North Cost of Living fund

The fund will be open to those providing support to people in North Sheffield with cost of living related issues, such as:

- Providing food & practical items
- Providing advice
- Operating a welcome place

Detailed eligibility will be developed but core criteria will include:

- Activity must take place in the North LAC area.
- The ability to deliver activity by the end of March 2024
- Applicants with no track record of delivery in the North of the city will need to demonstrate a sound approach to how they develop a project in the North of the city.
- Applicants will need to demonstrate that existing funds are not already in place for the activity they are applying for.
- The fund will be open to not for profit organisations with a bank account in the organisation's name and at least two signatories who are not related.

It is proposed that the Community Services Manager, in consultation with the LAC Chair, is authorised to finalise the eligibility criteria and make decisions on expenditure relating to the grant applications received as set out above. Bids will be assessed by the LAC team and agreed. Applications will be shared with the relevant Ward Members for comment in advance of decisions being taken. Expenditure will be reported to the next meeting of the LAC.

2. HOW DOES THIS DECISION CONTRIBUTE?

- 2.1 Local Area Committees directly support the Communities and Neighbourhoods and Our Council commitments in the 'Our Sheffield: One Year Plan' but to be effective they need to have the capability to respond quickly to emerging local issues.

3. HAS THERE BEEN ANY CONSULTATION?

- 3.1 The Community Plan has been developed through community consultation that has comprised of an online survey through the Council's Citizenspace platform; a paper-based survey for those less digitally enabled; engagement activity with representative organisations and in-person meetings.

Partner organisations and Council departments that have been identified as offering potential solutions to some of the issues identified have also been consulted, to establish whether suggestions can be realistically implemented.

Further online and in person consultation is taking place in June and July in order to give Members information to consider any changes required to the LAC and Ward priorities at the September LAC meeting.

4. RISK ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

4.1 Equality of Opportunity Implications

- 4.1.1 Decisions need to consider the requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duty contained in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.

This is the duty to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

The Equality Act 2010 identifies the following groups as a protected characteristic: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex and sexual orientation.

The overall impact of this decision is likely to be positive and not disproportionate from an equality, diversity and inclusion perspective. In developing a Community Plan, local communities have been given the opportunity for a greater say in local decision making for services which impact their daily lives.

The devolution of responsibilities will improve inclusion for local people and the work of the Sheffield Equality Partnership will support and enhance the approach from a citywide and underserved communities' perspective.

However, in order to ensure this approach takes into account people who share protected characteristics under the Public Sector Duties the Local Area Committee Community Plan will be supported by appropriate equality monitoring of budget.

An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA 916) was previously carried out in respect of the establishment of Local Area Committees.

4.2 Financial and Commercial Implications

- 4.2.1 This report concerns expenditure of the LAC's allocated budgets of £100,000 prior to 2023/24, and £100,000 (£25,000 per ward) and £37,100 (cost of living) in 2023/24. These budgets must not be exceeded.

Procurement of supplies and/or services and the award of grant aid will be carried out in line with the Council's Contracts Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.

4.3 Legal Implications

- 4.3.1 The LAC must operate in accordance with its Terms of Reference, approved as part of the Council's updated Constitution, reflecting the committee system of governance, by Full Council at its Annual Meeting

on 18th May 2022. In accordance with the provisions of section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 the Constitution provides that a Committee may delegate to a Council Officer.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 This report is in line with the previous decision of September 30th 2021 regarding expenditure below £5000, the North Community Plan agreed on March 9th 2022 and the proposed new North Community plan for 2023/24.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The North LAC is asked to note the use of funding as per the previous decision of September 30th 2021 and agree further expenditure to address the identified local priorities.