

Durham Area Action Partnership

Annual Report



Altogether
better
Durham

Durham
Area Action Partnership

2019/20

Durham Area Action Partnership 2019/20 Key Information

FUNDING



£142,904

of AAP Funding allocated to 30 local projects

£392,833

of match funding generated

£250,477

of councillor Neighbourhood Budget allocated to 57 projects generating **£297,429** of match funding

HEALTH



890 young people were helped to make healthy choices

COMMUNITY SUPPORT



27 community buildings supported

623 volunteers supported

12,946

individuals benefitted from AAP funded projects



80 voluntary and community groups supported

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

67,354

engagements with the community through social media



COMMUNICATION

Durham Area Action Partnership

Established in 2009 Durham Area Action Partnership (AAP) brings together local people and partners to take action on local issues. Areas covered include the city centre and the outlying villages.

Over the last year the key focus has been on 'Older People', 'Children and Young People' and 'Improving Our Villages and City'. Nearly £143,000 has been allocated to local organisations to help them take action on local issues.

As well as supporting local projects the AAP Board has also been involved in several local consultations and has responded to any issues that people may have had.

Welcome from the Chair Chris Tindale (Public Representative)



Last year Councillor Amanda Hopgood looked back on the ten years of AAP's and how they had made a difference to their localities. This has continued over the past year and in 2019/20 the Durham AAP Board approved 22 applications and allocated £142,904. Match funding amounting to £392,883 was secured as a result.

We have continued to support local County Councillors in allocating their Neighbourhood Budget and 58 projects were delivered during the year, totalling £250,477. The Board continues to be consulted on key issues including the University Development Plan, improvements to Durham Bus Station, Police and Crime Commissioners budget, and the Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service forward plan.

With the current pandemic and the need to support organisations and encourage business to recover from the impact of the lockdown and enforced closures in both the city and our outlying areas the next few months will be as challenging as any period the AAP Board has yet experienced.

There has been some staff changes during the year to the staff team who support the AAP and I would like to thank all the members, past and present for their help and assistance during the year. I would also like to thank the Board members who regularly attend meetings and the task group members who support the Board in the decisions that are made. Without all of these different elements the Board would not be as successful.



Area Action Partnerships have had another busy year working with local communities and partners in County Durham and they continue to make a real difference to people's lives. Over 1000 local projects have been supported and each year the AAPs help myself and the other County Councillors allocate our Neighbourhood Budgets which are used to address community issues and support the valuable work of voluntary and community groups in the County. For most of the year it was business as usual for the AAPs but we cannot escape the fact that the very end of the year was dominated by Coronavirus. The AAPs responded magnificently and were involved in the establishment of the community hubs which have offered advice and support to many concerned residents. Additional funding that the council made available to support local communities during this crisis is being

allocated through the AAPs and many local groups have already benefitted. I would like to thank all those involved with AAPs; the staff, Board Members, most importantly, the members of the public who regularly support the work of the AAPs through their input on the AAP Forums and Task Groups.

Councillor Brian Stephens, Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods and Local Partnerships

Our People

Anyone who lives, works, studies or volunteers in the area can get involved with the Area Action Partnership. We currently have 900 people who are part of our wider Forum who receive regular updates and who are invited to get involved in the work of the AAP.

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

Clr Amanda Hopgood (Durham County Council)

Clr Bill Kellett (Durham County Council)

Clr Eric Mavin (Durham County Council)

Clr Marion Wilson (Durham County Council)

Clr Arnie Simpson (Durham County Council)

Clr Liz Brown (Durham County Council)

Clr Paul Finley (Parish Council Rep)

Sandra Almeida (Public Representative)

Veronica Freitas (Public Representative)

Eileen Finlay (Public Representative)

Joe Knight (Public Representative)

Bill Moir (Public Representative)

Chris Tindale (Public Representative / Chair)

Ryan Briggs (Public Representative)

Adam Deathe (Business Representative / Durham BID)

Paul Cummings (Fire and Rescue Service)

Andrea Arthur (Police)

Christine Scollen (NHS)

Denise Elliott / Lee Alexander (Durham County Council)

Hannah Shepherd (Durham University)

Simon Bartlett (Housing)

Rev Joanne Thorns (Voluntary and Community Sector)

Matthew Mills (Durham Cathedral)

Kate McIntosh (Durham Student's Union)

We'd also like to thank former Board members David Peries and Karen Fearon who stepped down from the Board this year.

2019/20 Funding Allocation

Area Budget	Youth Fund	
£20,000, 'It's Up to You' community grants scheme. Supported 10 local projects with a small grant.	£2000, Durham Chinese School. Support to enable local young people take a GCSE in Chinese	£10,000, Newton Hall Community Centre Refurbishment £2,000, Newton Hall Library Community Bench and Bike Rack £3,000, Phoenix Flyers Athletics Club – The Long Jump Project
£12,000, Community Small Grants. This scheme is ran for the AAP by County Durham Community Foundation	£2198, West Rainton Girls Group, Funding to help with activities	£12,930, Planting in Framwellgate & Newton Hall Ward £2,000, St Cuthbert's Hospice Fireworks Display
£1000, Children and Young People Small Grants. Supported 5 local projects with a small grant	£3300, Laurel Avenue Rising Stars Drama Group £2786, Cheesy Waffles Project, 'Let's Do It' enterprise project	£6,000, Durham Trinity School Outdoor Play and Learn Project £300, Care Leavers Christmas Lunch
£8225, Durham City Cricket Club. Essential repairs and roof replacement	Neighbourhood Budget	£1,775, Durham City Cricket Clubhouse Roof Refurbishment £1,000, Durham Hospitals Radio Funding
£5000, Durham Moor Tennis Club. Replacement floodlights	£1,414, Annand Road, Gilesgate, Access Ramp	£700, Durham Music's Big Play
£5000, Framwellgate Moor Scouts. Contribution towards extensive building renovations	£3,300, Dropped Kerbs Annand Road, Roosevelt Road, Gilesgate	£250, Open Water Safety Campaign
£10,000, Littletown Cricket Club. Land purchase to facilitate the future development of the club	£1,600, Belmont Community Association Defibrillator	£1,000, Durham City Remembrance Day Parade
£2000, Newton Hall Library. Towards the installation of a reading bench	£2,000, Belmont United FC Equipment	£1,331, Lowes Barn Community Project Survey and Insurance
£5135, Phoenix Flyers Athletics Club. Building of a competition standard long jump pit	£9,407, Carrsdale, Carrville, Carriageway Resurfacing	£1,134, Sheraton Park Defibrillator
£5000, Witton Gilbert Play Area. Refurbishment of the play area	£1,000, Carrsway, Fellsway, New Fencing	£1,972, Waddington Street Defibrillator
£10,296, Young Carers Charter. To help schools support young carers	£12,043, Carrville High Street Footpath Resurfacing	£1,020, Durham Cavaliers Replacement Instruments
£5000, City of Durham Parish Council Neighbourhood Wardens	£3,000, Dragon Lane Bus Stop Improvements	£15,000, Littletown Cricket Club Land Purchase
£10,000, Dream CIC. Community archaeology project in Bearpark	£1,678, Bench and Planters, The 'Duffy', Gilesgate	£1,610, Sherburn & Littletown, Road Marking Scheme
Older People's Social Isolation Fund	£1,000, Make Lunch Durham, Holiday Activities	£1,000, Pittington Playgroup Equipment
£5000, Durham Bridge Club. New tables and equipment to support the 170 members	£1,597, Laurel Avenue Community Centre Maintenance Project £3,000, RT projects, The Safe Space (Mental Health Support)	£3,000, Sherburn Community Centre Flooring
£7500, Kings Church Durham. Support for the lunch club and befriending service in the Sherburn Road / Gilesgate area	£1,180, Benches, Bearpark	£4,000, Sherburn Community Centre Kitchen Appliances
£10,000, Newton Hall Community Centre. Building refurbishment	£5,147 Victor Terrace, Bearpark, Bollards	£16,000, Sherburn Primary School Trim Trail
£1810, West Rainton Dementia Friends	£1,971, Community Notice Board, Bearpark	£5,000, Jubilee Hall Business Case – Building Survey & Valuation
Welfare Reform	£1,000, Velo North Cycling event, Bearpark School	£3,000, Road Safety Improvements, West Rainton
£10,000, CAB Schools financial inclusion. Establishment of new resources and sessions for schools to help them deliver financial education to young people.	£1,000, Saturday Youth Provision, Bearpark	£1,000, Moor House Scout Centre Signage
	£15,000, Shincliffe Village Play Equipment	£5,250, West Rainton and Leamside Collieries Banner
	£3,048, Shincliffe Village Play Park Fencing	£301, Durham Area Youth, West Rainton Girls Group
	£5,746, Gilesgate Roundabout Improvements	£2,000, Shadforth Youth Sessions
	£7,000, Oswald Court, Feature Art	5,000, Durham BID Computer Equipment
	£3,960, Oswald Court 'In Bloom'	
	£2,832, St Oswald's Institute Renovation	
	£20,000, Witton Gilbert Fulforth Park Play Refurbishment	
	£3,006, Durham Moor Tennis Club Floodlighting	
	£6,000, Play Team Framwellgate Primary School	
	£6,000, Refurbishment of Framwellgate Moor Scout Hut	
	£10,474, Garden Avenue Surfacing, Framwellgate Moor	
	£7,000, Resurfacing of MUGA & Tennis Courts, Framwellgate Moor	

Neighbourhood Budget is an allocation of £19,400 that each County Councillor gets each year to spend on Community Projects. The process is supported by the AAP team.

The projects listed above have been supported by County Councillors; Katie Corrigan, Eric Mavin, Lesley Mavin, David Hall, Bill Kellett, Amanda Hopgood, Mark Wilkes, Mamie Simmons, David Freeman, Richard Ormerod, Marion Wilson, David Stoker, Liz Brown, Elizabeth Scott.

For further Information on what projects individual Councillors have supported contact your local AAP.

The Difference We Have Made

Neighbourhood Budget Small Grants

All of the County Councillors can allocate part of their annual budget as small grants. This funding is for smaller projects costing up to £999. In addition to the main Neighbourhood Budget projects 41 small grants were allocated totalling £19,000.

Examples of projects supported include;

The Councillors in the Belmont Division supported Christmas activities provided by Durham Baptist Church with a grant of £500.

The Neville's Cross Councillors gave £500 towards the Neville's Cross Summer Picnic

Alington House in Durham City received £950 from the Elvet and Gillesgate Councillors towards the refurbishment of the main hall.

In the Sherburn division the Councillors there contributed £500 that allowed Sherburn Banner Group to take part in the Durham Miners Gala.

Durham City Youth Project's Christmas Lunch was supported with a grant of £400 from the Councillors in Framwellgate Moor and Newton Hall.

The Councillor for Durham South Division contributed £999 to support the work of Shincliffe Parent and Toddler Group.

If you have a project idea that might need a small grant and you think your County Councillor could help you will need to get in touch with them directly. Contact details for all of the Councillors can be found at www.durham.gov.uk/councillors. You can also view information on previous NB Small Grants.



Framwellgate Moor Scouts

The team from Framwellgate Moor Scouts have some big ideas and are keen to completely renovate their current building. The first step will be relocating the kitchen which will allow other work to take place. They received £5000 from Durham AAPs Area Budget and the local County Councillors also contributed £6000 from their Neighbourhood Budget. The total refurbishment will come to over £80,000 and they have already secured the balance with support from other funders and existing savings.

The 1st Framwellgate Moor Scouts involves over 250 young people every week aged from 8 to 18. Over 30 volunteers support the 11 weekly sessions that run from the building which now needs extensive work to bring it up to date. The AAP/Councillor funding has helped to get the work started and it is hoped that it will all be completed by autumn 2020. When finished as well as the new kitchen the building will have a new garage, improved storage and better overall facilities.



Durham Bridge Club

Every week over 150 older people take part in activities provided by Durham Bridge Club. Based at Framwellgate Moor Youth and Community Centre the club runs several sessions a week and caters for all levels of players. The AAP is keen to support activities that encourage older people to take part in stimulating and social activities so was happy to help the club out with a grant of £5000 from the 'Older People's Social Isolation Fund'.

The funding was used to purchase new card tables and a duplicator, the machine that sorts the cards into hands. The club did not have a machine and a volunteer was having to travel to Darlington twice a week to pick up the cards.

The Difference We Have Made



Laurel Avenue Rising Stars

Young people aged 11-19 who attend Laurel Avenue Community Centre have been able to get involved in the performing arts thanks to a grant of £3300 from Durham AAP's 'Youth Fund'. 'LA Rising Stars' offers a weekly session of singing, dancing, drama and cheerleading led by qualified staff from 'Active Theatre', supported by the local youth workers.

At Christmas the project which involves 35 young people put on a performance of 'Shrek the Halls' which was attended by family members and the local community. Being involved has helped the young people develop new skills and increase their confidence and resilience. The sessions compliment the other youth work that is carried out in the area.



The planters in Durham City formed part of this years 'In Bloom' display

Schools in Bloom

Children from six schools in the area were involved in the Schools in Bloom project which saw them making planters that were placed outside of their school and in Durham City centre.

Staff from 'Outdoor and Sustainable Education Specialist' (OASES) and Durham County Council visited the six schools and led an assembly which involved all of the young people. One class from each school was then chosen to design a planter to include edible herbs and flowers. The children were taken for a tour of the County Council's nursery at Morrison Busty where they chose the plants and created their planters. Once completed one of the planters was placed on the school grounds and the other in Durham City Centre. In coming year's the planters will be used again to benefit even more young people.

The project received an Area Budget Grant of £6768 in May 2019 and has in total engaged with over 1300 young people from primary, secondary and special schools.

Durham Debt Advice

A £10,000 grant in 2018 has helped Durham Debt Advice Service offer valuable help to people visiting the foodbank



at Waddington Street URC in Durham. Over 100 advice sessions have taken place supporting people who were struggling with money issues. Staff from the service have helped to negotiate repayments with banks, landlords and other creditors and one client was also supported to deal with illegal money lender.

People can get into debt for many reasons including illness or unemployment. One person who the service helped had lost their job and ended up in debt to the bank and various credit card companies. Things got so bad that the person concerned tried to take their own life. However with the help of Durham Debt Advice, who initially visited the person concerned in hospital, benefits were secured and arrangements were made with the bank and the card companies to repay the debts in a managed way. The debt advice worker continues to support the client through home visits or calls.

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