

**Notes of the Weardale Area Action
Partnership Board Meeting**

**22nd September 2016 at Durham Dales
Centre, Stanhope**



PRESENT

Board Members

Public Representatives: Clement O'Donovan (CO'D)
Christine Powell (CP)
Joan Warriner (JW)
Paul Stockdale (PS)
Frances O'Riley (FO'R)

Partner Representatives: David Taylor-Gooby - Clinical Commissioning Group (DT-G)
Inspector Kevin Tuck – Police (KT)
Ian Coull – South Durham Enterprise Agency (IC)

Elected Members: Cllr Anita Savory (AS) **(CHAIR)**
Cllr Olive Wilson - Witton-le-Wear (OW)
Cllr Dennis Craig – Stanhope (DC)
Cllr Jane Henderson – Wolsingham (JH)
Trish Chapman – Hunstanworth (TC)

Officers: Angelina Maddison (AM)
Christine Davison (CD)
Fiona Barber (FB)

Apologies

Public Representatives: Brian Thompson (BT)
Mike Newton (MN)

Elected Members: Cllr Helen Barrass - Muggleswick (HB)
Cllr John Shuttleworth (JS)

Partner Representatives: Adam Hall / Paul Cummings – County Durham and
Darlington Fire and Rescue Service (AH / PC)
Kath Wright - Dale & Valley Homes (KW)
Stuart Timmiss – Durham County Council (ST)
Yvonne Probert – Durham Community Action (YP)

The meeting was also attended by 7 observers and 2 presenters

1. Introductions, Apologies and Declarations of Interest

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were made around the table and members of the public were also given the opportunity to introduce themselves. Apologies were given as received.

The Chair, Cllr Savory, declared an interest in the Wolsingham School Neighbourhood Budget Application (Item 5) due to her position as Governor at the school. No further conflicts of interest were declared. Board members were asked to declare any conflicts should they arise during the course of the meeting.

2. Agreement of Notes from meeting held on 28th July and Matters Arising

The notes of this meeting, as printed and circulated, were **AGREED** and confirmed as a true record by those present.

3. Local Neighbourhood Issues

PACT

Motorbikes

Insp Tuck advised that one of the key PACT priorities this year relates to the use of motorbikes during the summer months with incidences of speeding and dangerous driving (or perception of these) increasing. Since May there have been 7 serious or fatal accidents in the Weardale and Teesdale area with the majority of these involving older drivers (50+).

PCSOs have been targeting biker hotspots with the aim of educating and encouraging riders to change their behaviours. 48 bike signs have been sited across Teesdale and Weardale and the Motorbike Section from Police HQ have also been working in the Dales to target and educate bikers. During the August Bank Holiday weekend a speed enforcement initiative stopped 4 (out of 350 bikers) for speeding.

Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) Cameras

The ANPR cameras are part of an intelligence gathering system to help identify stolen vehicles. Weardale has never had any ANPR coverage. Cllr Savory has agreed to pay for 3 ANPR cameras. There will be guarded publicity when these are installed. Insp Tuck expressed his gratitude to Cllr Savory for the funding which will enable the Police to identify patterns of behaviour and deter criminals. Insp Tuck emphasised that these are not speed cameras and that their sole function is to catch and remove criminals from the area.

Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs)

Insp Tuck advised that 3 PCSOs are leaving to join the Police. It is hoped that experienced PCSOs will be brought into Weardale.

(The Chair opened the floor to questions from Board Members and members of the public.)

Cllr DC expressed his opinion that educating bikers was a waste of time and that prosecution was the only thing that speeding bikers would understand. He also expressed concern that should one of his farm vehicles be involved in an accident with a speeding motorbike that it would be impounded and that this would impact upon his business.

Insp Tuck advised that the PACT priority will be reviewed in time and enforcement would be raised as a consideration in this. He stressed that he shared the concern but explained that the police were unable to be everywhere at once carrying out enforcement initiatives. This is why education is so important as when the behaviour changes the problems reduce.

A member of the public asked how the new PACT meetings are going. Insp Tuck reiterated the reasons for making changes to PACT meetings (see notes from May 2016 Board Meeting).

The same member of the public advised that there is also a problem with speeding motorbikes around the Derwent Reservoir area. Insp Tuck advised that it helps to have PACT priorities be location specific and that he would go back to his team and look at the issues in the area surrounding the reservoir.

IC offered that in his experience an education exercise for bikers near to his home has reduced a similar problem dramatically albeit not entirely.

The Chair thanked Insp Tuck for his presentation and asked him to pass on the Board's best wishes to the three PCSOs as they progress in their careers.

4. Presentations

Council Budget Consultation 2017/18

Oliver Sherratt (OS), Interim Director of Neighbourhoods

A short presentation was given detailing Durham County Council's Mid-Term Financial Plan with a focus on the next financial year (from April 2017). All present were encouraged to participate in the consultation exercise if they had not already done so.

A copy of the presentation is held on file. (Please contact a member of the Weardale Action Partnership team if you would like a copy.)

The Budget Consultation will close on Friday 7th October 2016. To take part in the consultation visit: <http://www.durham.gov.uk/article/8387/Have-your-say-on-the-budget-proposals>

(The Chair opened the floor to questions from Board Members and members of the public.)

DT-G observed that what Durham County Council does with Social Care has a direct effect on the NHS. He suggested that there should be greater integration between Health and Social Care and an innovative approach be adopted.

OS advised that colleagues are working to achieve this. He cautioned that sometimes there are unintended consequences as a result of making savings and that this must be borne in mind.

KT observed that a common suggestion is for the council to use its reserves to mitigate the funding cuts. He drew the Boards attention to the flooding experienced in Cumbria and how the council needed its reserves to be able to deal with the impact of the flooding or other natural disasters or unforeseen events.

OS advised that there are a number of areas where it is now becoming very difficult to make more savings. He stressed that making the £180 million reduction had not been easy.

CO'D observed that cuts and savings have always been a part of local government. Creative and innovative solutions are now required to address the challenges faced.

OS stated that such a scale of reductions and for such a duration has not been experienced since the 1930s. He said that it is important to go forward positively and that this is a driving factor for the consultation process as all ideas will be looked at.

DT-G praised Durham County Council for its innovative and enterprising approaches.

A member of the public questioned why works vehicles had been brought in from the Birmingham area to re-grit roads in County Durham.

OS advised that in-house services are used where possible. If additional resources are required this then goes out to tender. Where possible local providers are used but sometimes price is a determining factor and contractors are brought in irrespective of origin.

PS asked whether the planned targeting of services meant that some parts of the County will gain or miss out and where this will be.

OS explained that the targeted approach means that areas of greatest need would benefit. He confirmed that rural issues sensitivity would be factored into any targeting. He recognised that the council is conscious of the lower populations and stressed that it is not a numbers game but a matter of need.

The Co-ordinator asked those present at the meeting to complete the questionnaire. Time was taken to allow this to happen and to talk attendees through the information being requested. She also advised that if anyone would like to see the full cabinet report, a copy can be obtained by contacting the WAP office.

The Chair thanked OS for his presentation.

Durham Police, Crime and Victim's Plan 2016-2021
Sarah Harris (SH), Policy and Delivery Officer

SH firstly conveyed apologies from Mr Ron Hogg and then talked the Board members through a presentation regarding the consultation on the Durham Police, Crime and Victim's Plan 2016-2021. SH advised that Mr Hogg was re-elected in May and took the opportunity to add 'victim' into his new title. The plan that is undergoing consultation outlines how he intends to tackle his priorities.

A copy of the plan is available on the Police, Crime and Victim's Commissioner's website <http://www.durham-pcc.gov.uk/Get-Involved/Public-Consultations.aspx>

The survey closes on Friday 30th September.

(The Chair opened the floor to questions from Board Members and members of the public.)

CO'D asked whether a new way of using technology as identified by Mr Hogg at a previous meeting had been implemented yet.

SH advised that the Keep In The Know messaging system is live and members of the public can sign up to the service at <https://www.keepintheknow.co.uk/>

Action: WAP team to re-distribute this information via the e-bulletin and Facebook

KT also advised that electronic tablets are being rolled out to response officers enabling some paperwork to be completed outside of the office. This is in the very early stages and it is not always compatible with rural areas.

The Chair thanked SH for her presentation.

5. AAP Update - Action Plan

Small Grants Fund

CD led the Board through a presentation.

- The funding for the Small Grants Fund was awarded on 25th July 2016.
- The Appraisal Panel met on 16th August and allocated a combined total of £3,330 to 4 projects.
- There are four projects currently in the pipeline with a total of £4,900 allocated to them.
- Remaining funding - £16,770

CD asked for volunteers from the Board to be Board Ambassadors for the following projects:

- | | |
|---|------|
| • Frosterley Village Hall – New blinds | OW |
| • Edmundbyers WI – Defibrillator | None |
| • Weardale Baby & Toddler Group – Equipment | TC |
| • WRECASS – World War 1 Booklet | AS |

Area Budget Update / Allocation

The Co-ordinator talked the Board through a presentation.

A table detailing the allocation of the Area Budget can be found in the Appendix of these notes.

The Co-ordinator advised that the Wellness Coordinator has been appointed and is now in post.

The Co-ordinator also provided information on projects that are currently in the pipeline:

- **St Johns Chapel Town Hall – Renewal of gym equipment.** The WAP team are working with the Town Hall committee to identify items of equipment which are in need of renewal in order to ensure that the gym provision is sustainable.
- **Couch to 5k.** A running group which has recently been set up in Wolsingham has become very popular. The group are working to become a constituted group in order to explore funding options for potential projects.
- **Slitt Wood repairs.** Funding has been obtained by Durham County Council to make repairs to the footpath in Slitt Wood which was damaged by a landslide. Funding from the Area Budget will provide additionality to the project.
- **2 for 1 vouchers – Killhope and Weardale Museum.** Discussions have taken place with both Killhope and Weardale Museum with regard to running this project again. This may be rolled forward to 2017/18 budget.

Area Budget Allocation Summary 2016/17

Area Budget Allocation (£100,000 + £5,636 c/f from 2015/16)	£105,636
Discretionary allocation Welfare Reform	£10,000
Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield Clinical Commissioning Group (DDES CCG)	£0
Total 2016/17 Area Budget	£115,636
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Total Amount Granted	£72,998
Budget Remaining	£42,638
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Total of projects under consideration	£20,000
Budget remaining if projects under consideration are approved	£22,638

Welfare Reform Funding

Welfare Reform Funding has previously funded Credit Union work in Weardale Schools. We await the outcomes of this project. The Co-ordinator stressed that the £10,000 can only be spent on Welfare Reform projects.

Neighbourhood Budget Update / Applications

The Co-ordinator advised that due to next year being an election year the Neighbourhood Budget must be spent / committed or be lost.

- 1) **Signing & Lining, Wolsingham School (Cllr Savory)**
Cllr Savory declared an interest as a Governor of the school. Due to the Declaration of Interest the Board were reminded that they are to take on the role of approvers. The Board **AGREED** and **APPROVED** the application.
- 2) **The Willows refurbishment (Cllr Savory)**
Details of this application will be circulated to Board Members via email.
- 3) **Police Cadets (Cllr Savory)**
This is an innovative project which is still in the early stages of development. When more information is received this will be forwarded to Board members via email.
- 4) **Crowd Control Barriers, Stanhope Agricultural Show (Cllr Shuttleworth)**
The application summary was provided to Board members for any comment or to add value. *CO'D declared an interest as being a member of the Stanhope Show Committee.* The Board **AGREED** and **APPROVED** the application.
- 5) **Rookhope Village Hall (Cllr Shuttleworth)**
Cllr Shuttleworth has declared an interest as treasurer of Rookhope Village Hall. Again, Board members were requested to assume the role of approver. The Board **AGREED** and **APPROVED** the application.

A member of the public queried whether remaining Neighbourhood Budgets could be spent on further ANPR cameras in Weardale. The Co-ordinator advised that the

number of cameras had been determined by Durham Constabulary. KT confirmed that no further cameras were required at this time.

Neighbourhood Budget Allocation Summary 2016/17

Cllr Mrs Anita Savory £20,000 + £4,000 c/f from 2015/16	Neighbourhood Budget	Match Funding	Total
Approved Projects			
ANPR Cameras x 3	£12,800	£5,400	£18,200
Total	£12,800	£5,400	£18,200
Pipeline Projects 2016/17			
Wolsingham School Signing and Lining	£2,685	£0	£2,685
The Willows refurbishment	£2,000	£0	£2,000
Total	£4,685	£0	£4,685
Total Neighbourhood Budget Remaining		£6,515	

Cllr John Shuttleworth £20,000 + £18,000 c/f from 2015/16	Neighbourhood Budget	Match Funding	Total
Approved Projects			
Total	£0	£0	£0
Pipeline Projects 2016/17			
Wolsingham Show	£5,000	£0	£5,000
Stanhope Show – crowd control barriers + gates	£8,841	£0	£8,841
Rookhope Village Hall electrical work	£3,943	£0	£3,943
Total	£17,784	£0	£17,784
Total Neighbourhood Budget Remaining		£20,216	

WAP Feedback from Weardale Shows

The Co-ordinator reported that the WAP team had attended all three shows.

- Over 100 Budget Consultation questionnaires were completed at the Wolsingham and Stanhope shows.
- 35 enquiries received at the Weardale Agricultural Show, St John's Chapel
- Referrals were taken for the Wellbeing for Life and Smoking Cessation programmes
- Good connections were made and positive comments received.

Forum priorities

The Co-ordinator explained that the AAPs are trying to identify generic overarching terms that fit across the county. It is proposed that Board members accept the 10 priorities as being:

- Children, Young People and Families
- Communication, IT and Technology
- Community Safety
- Culture, Tourism and Heritage

- Employment, Enterprise and Training
- Health and Wellbeing
- Older People
- Supporting Local Groups
- Transport, Traffic and Roads
- Your Local Environment

The Board **AGREED** to the priority headings.

6. Countywide Partners Issues

DDES CCG – Urgent Care Consultation and Results

David Taylor-Gooby

DT-G reported back on the recent Urgent Care Consultation.

Following the public consultation the CCG will now work towards enabling local GP practices to provide urgent assistance or advice Monday to Friday and for part of the time during the weekend. From 1st April 2017 patients will no longer be able to access urgent care centres when their GP practice is open during the day.

GP practices working together from common single sites to serve larger populations for these extended and enhanced GP services for some areas in DDES –will be known as ‘Hubs’. One of the preferred options to base these hubs is Stanhope.

The full consultation report can be accessed on DDES CCG’s website here:

<http://www.durhamdaleseasingtonsedgfieldccg.nhs.uk/get-involved/urgent-care-consultation-2/>

The Chair voiced concern that it is vitally important to get this information out to all residents in Weardale due to the rural nature of the area. DT-G advised that an extensive communication campaign will take place prior to implementation next year. He also advised that he would discuss with colleagues whether the Forum event would be an appropriate place to begin disseminating this information.

The Chair thanked DT-G for his feedback.

7. Date and Time of Next Meetings

The Forum Meeting will be held on Thursday 3rd November, 6:00pm – 8:00pm at Wolsingham School. The Chair reminded Board members that this is their opportunity to have their say and also to bring people along and find out more about the work of the Weardale Action Partnership.

The next Board Meeting will be held at 6:00pm on Thursday 24th November 2016 at the Durham Dales Centre. All Board members are requested to confirm their attendance as soon as possible.

The Chair thanked the WAP team for all the information provided and thanked all for their attendance and closed the meeting.

Appendix

**Projects Funded
2015/16 and 2016/17**

Support to Groups in Weardale		Support to Groups in Weardale	
Small Grants Fund	£31,155	Small Grants Fund	£25,000
	£31,155		£25,000
Support and Activities for Children and Young People		Activities for Children and Young People	
"All In" Apprenticeships - Sports Activators (Year 2 – Josh and Daniel)	£25,000	"All In Apprentices" - Sports Activators including Culture (Year 3)	£28,000
Stanhope Barrington Nursery Worker	£15,000	Ready, Sett, Go	£6,650
	£40,000	We Are Weardale (Creative Writing, illustration)	£8,348
			£42,998
Employment, Jobs and Tourism		Employment, Job Prospects and Tourism	
Weardale Rural Skills Training	£10,000	Thornley Wood	£5,000
Killhope	£10,000		£5,000
	£20,000		
Health and Wellbeing incl. Support and Care for the Elderly		Health, Wellbeing and Support for All	
Wheels to Meals	£15,000		
Outdoor Gym	£25,000		
Prince Bishops Community Bank (Welfare Reform)	£10,000		
Durham Dales, Easington & Sedgefield Clinical Commissioning Group (DDES CCG) Community Wellness Coordinator	£33,333		
	£83,333		
Total Area Budget/ Public Health / Welfare Reform	£174,488	Total Area Budget/Welfare Reform/Public Health /DDES	£72,998