



Better for everyone

Teesdale
Area Action Partnership

Annual Report

2023/24

Introduction



Councillor Elizabeth Scott

Portfolio Holder Statement

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Councillor Elizabeth Scott,

Cabinet portfolio holder for Economy and Partnerships.

Teesdale Area Action Partnership 2023/24 Key Information



FUNDING

£129,004

of AAP Area Budget Funding allocated to local projects

£94,102

of County Councillor Neighbourhood Budget, including small grants, was allocated to 49 local projects

£50,000

of Towns and Villages Funding allocated to projects

£667,120.40

Total investment including match funding for all Area Budget, Towns and Villages, and the Healthy Relationships fund.



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

14,554

Engagements with the community through social media

1,032

Forum Members regularly receiving information

17

Countywide Consultations supported



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

42

Organisations have benefitted from funding

22

Holiday Activity with Healthy Food initiatives supported

Teesdale Area Action Partnership

Established in 2009 Teesdale Action Partnership (TAP) brings together local people and partners to act on local issues. TAP covers the south western corner of County Durham incorporating the electoral divisions of Barnard Castle East, Barnard Castle West and Evenwood.

If you want to know if your town or village sits within the Area Action Partnership area, please contact the AAP Team: Email – tap@durham.gov.uk

Welcome from the Chair

Rachel Tweddle

It has been a huge privilege to have been the Chair of Teesdale Area Action Partnership (TAP) for the past year.

I have really enjoyed hearing stories from my colleagues across the Dale about how the TAP funding and network has supported their work and enabled them to increase capacity in their respective organisations and communities. I was particularly delighted to be invited to Hamsterley Village Hall earlier this year to meet Trustees and view the new kitchen, which was installed using TAP funds. This kind of project is a testament to the great relationship between the TAP Officers and Community Leaders, who together ensure that funds and resources are provided for projects that make a tangible impact in small rural communities.

TAP during this year has supported 42 organisations which is both an indication of the need for support within the area and reflects the huge contribution and services that local charities and community groups provide to Teesdale.

AAP's will be undergo changes to the format of how they work, allocate funds and engage with our communities as they transition into Community Networks from May 2025. I'm confident and hopeful the great work that our AAP has delivered for the past 15 years will continue to contribute to making Teesdale a great place to live and work as we move forward.

I would like to give my personal thanks for the support of other Board members during the year, in particular outgoing members Insp Ed Turner, Jeff Garfoot and Tim Viggars. I would also like to pass on my thanks to the hard-working TAP staff team: Adam, Annalisa, and Emma.



Our People

Anyone who lives, works, studies or volunteers in the area can get involved with the Area Action Partnership.

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:

Cllr Robert Potts

Cllr James Rowlandson

Cllr Richard Bell

Cllr James Cosslett

Cllr Ted Henderson

Cllr George Richardson

Wendy Greenfield - Town and Parish Council Representative

Rachel Tweddle

Elaine Laurie

Robin Brooks

Roger Peat

Christine Watters

Lynne Oxby

Susan Bainbridge

Linda Bird (Voluntary and Community Sector)

Jeff Garfoot / Alison Clarke (Durham County Council)

Peter Locke (Housing)

Tim Viggars (Business Representative)

Insp Ed Turner (Durham Constabulary)

Craig Jewkes (County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service)

Co – opted

Bob Danby - UTASS

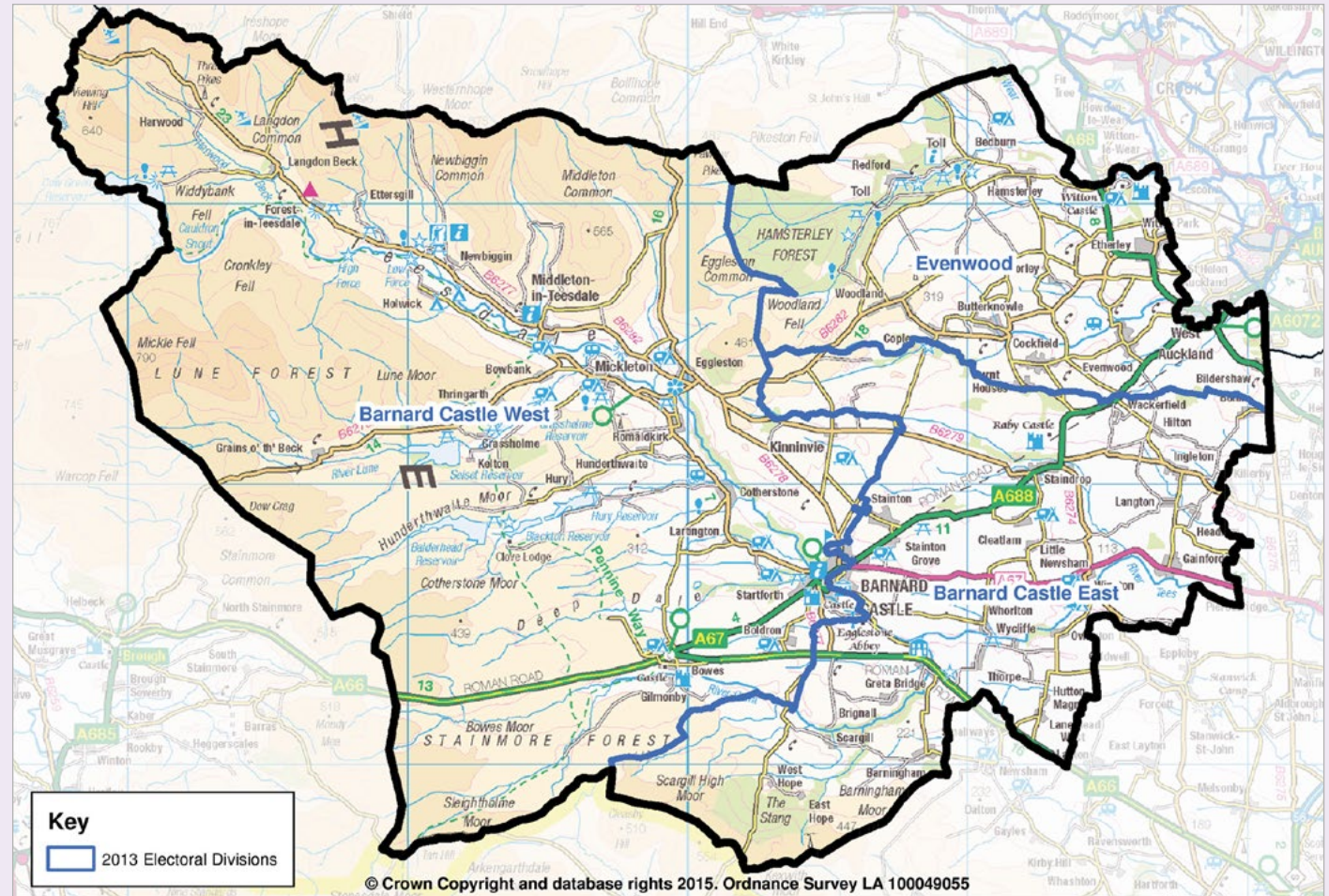
Where we cover

Situated to the south west of the county, the Teesdale AAP stretches from Greta Bridge in the south east, to Harwood in the north west. The AAP is bordered by North Yorkshire to the south, Cumbria to the west and by the other AAPs of Bishop Auckland and Shildon and Weardale.

The Teesdale AAP is 'rural' in nature with a population of just over 25,300. Covering an area of over 83,600 hectares (322.8 sq. miles). The Upper Tees valley within the Teesdale AAP lies within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The main settlement is Barnard Castle, situated on the banks of the river Tees, which grew up around the ancient castle. Other settlements are Middleton-in-Teesdale, Staindrop, Gainford, Cockfield and Evenwood. The rest of the population is spread thinly across many very small communities, including former mining villages in the east of the area and large numbers of agricultural holdings in the rural south/west areas.

The Teesdale Area Action Partnership area takes in the following local communities and villages:

Barnard Castle, Barningham, Bedburn, Bolam, Boldron, Bowes, Brignall, Burnt Houses, Butterknowle, Cleatlam, Cockfield, Copley, Cotherstone, Etherley, Evenwood, Eggleston, Forest in Teesdale, Gainford, Gilmonby, Greta Bridge, Hamsterley, Harwood, Headlam, Hilton, Holwick, Hunderthwaite, Hutton Magna, Ingleton, Kinnivie, Lands, Langton, Langdon Beck, Lartington, Little Newsham, Lunedale, Marwood, Mickleton, Middleton-in-Teesdale, Morley, Newbiggin, Ovington, Rokeby, Romalldkirk, Staindrop, Stainton Grove, Stainton Village, Startforth, Toft Hill, Wackerfield, Westwick, Whorlton, Winston, Woodland.



2023/24 Funding Allocation

<p>Area Budget</p>	<p>£10,000, Raby Castle Cricket Club – Pavilion Improvements - Over 200 players junior and senior will benefit from a major refurbishment to the Pavilion including extending the changing rooms, a new kitchen, storage space and power supply.</p>	<p>£1,261 – UTASS - Easter 2023 Holiday Activities</p>
<p>The Area Budget is used to support projects that address local AAP priorities. During 2023/24 all AAPs focused on 'Community Recovery' as a priority. The following projects were funded:</p>	<p>£7,000, Gainford and Langton Parish Council – Play Area Improvements – The existing play areas will be refurbished and re-opened to provide play space for children up to age 11. The project will benefit over 60 children and visitors to the village.</p>	<p>May Half Term 2023</p>
<p>£9,102, Teesdale Day Clubs and Partners – Befrienders Project – This pilot project will provide one-to-one 'befriending' support to isolated, chronically lonely and/or frail/disabled or older people who are unable to access services outside their own home. The project will employ a part-time project coordinator who will recruit and train volunteers to provide the service.</p>	<p>£12,000, UTASS – New Minibus – A new 16-seater accessible minibus will replace an out-of-date vehicle. The bus provides transport in rural and remote areas for trips, shopping, youth club and social events. The project will benefit over 200 people annually.</p>	<p>£747.83 - St Cuthbert's Church - St Cuthbert's Church May Half Term Holiday Activities with Healthy Food</p>
<p>£6,000, The Witham – Turrets Youth Theatre - Support for Turrets Youth Theatre will enable up to 40 young people to take part in drama-based activities including regular performances. Helping them gain confidence and improve communication skills.</p>	<p>£5,500, Durham County Council – Veterans Support – All former service personnel can benefit from creative and social activities delivered by The Hub. This will include afternoon teas with activities and family days.</p>	<p>£670 – YMCA - YMCA in May</p>
<p>£8,380, Ingleton Parish Council – Ingleton Play Area - Replacement of swings and the installation of fencing to the play area will improve the environment and safety of the children using the play area. Over 100 children in the village and visitors will benefit from these works.</p>	<p>£5,000, Bowes Museum – New Heating system – Replacement boilers will enable the organisation to open to the public and for the employees to work effectively. Portable heaters can be replaced reducing the organisations running costs and carbon emissions.</p>	<p>Summer Holidays 2023</p>
<p>£12,000, Evenwood Cricket Club – Practice Nets - The purchase and installation of cricket practice nets will benefit the training of both youth and adult players. 63 players will benefit.</p>	<p>£5,000, Woodland Community Group – Woodland Community Group Project 24 – Funds will support the running of the youth club including running costs and new equipment, and will run 6 family trips and provide breakfast bags to 25 families during the school holidays.</p>	<p>£3,500 – UTASS - Summer @ UTASS</p>
<p>£6,000, Cockfield Christmas Decorations Group – Power Source Installation - Cockfield Christmas Lights display will be enhanced with the installation of new junction boxes to the village green which will enable additional trees to be lit up.</p>	<p>£5,022, Durham Guide Association – East Shotton Camp – Volunteers will carry out limewashing and contractors will undertake minor repairs. The camp is open to local groups of guides, brownies, and rainbows.</p>	<p>£3,249 – YMCA - Summer at YMCA</p>
<p>£12,000, YMCA Cockfield Community Café – Organisational Support - Cockfield Community Café provide access to welfare services such as food parcels, support, advice, and guidance. The funding will help to sustain the service which will benefits over 350 individuals annually.</p>	<p>Holiday Activities with Healthy Food</p>	<p>£1,587.56 - The Hub - TCR Summer Holiday Fun</p>
<p>£6,000, Hamsterley Village Hall – Kitchen Improvements - Hamsterley Village Hall users and the community will benefit from refurbishment to the halls main kitchen and kitchenette serving the small hall.</p>	<p>The scheme aims to support local community groups and organisations, based in the Teesdale AAP area, to deliver enriching holiday activities with healthy food. To date the following projects have been supported:</p>	<p>£880 - The Bowes Museum - Magical Mondays</p>
<p>£20,000, Bishop Auckland College - Upskilling, Employability & Discretionary Fund - The project builds on previous successful funding, providing opportunities for unemployed clients, along with an upskilling element for employed clients, aged 16 plus, residing in the TAP area, to receive effective information, advice, and guidance as well as access funds to attend specific 'non-mainstream funded' training.</p>	<p>Easter Holidays 2023</p>	<p>October Half Term 2023</p>
	<p>£940 - St Cuthbert's Church - St Cuthbert's Church Easter Holiday 2023 Fun and Food Programme</p>	<p>£595 - St Cuthbert's Church - St Cuthbert's Etherley Fun and Food programme for October 2023 Half Term School Holiday</p>
	<p>£1,024 – YMCA - Easter Fun Day</p>	<p>£712.50 – Groundwork - October Festival</p>
	<p>£1,000 - The Hub - Spring into Life - Easter Holiday activities at TCR Hub</p>	<p>£745 – YMCA - Puppet making and community social</p>
		<p>£750 – UTASS - October Holidays @ UTASS</p>
		<p>£660 - Woodland Community Group - Woodland Youth Groups Residential Treat</p>
		<p>Christmas Holidays 2023</p>
		<p>£1,072 - St Cuthbert's Church - Christmas Holiday Extravaganza Party</p>
		<p>£501.32 - Woodland Community Group - Woodlands dark sky's adventure</p>
		<p>£2,396.80 - The Hub - TCR Christmas Holiday Fun</p>
		<p>£1,502 – UTASS - Xmas at UTASS</p>
		<p>February Half Term 2024</p>
		<p>£574 – YMCA- February Fun at YMCA</p>
		<p>£550 - St Cuthbert's Church- St Cuthbert's Church Half Term School Holiday February 2024</p>
		<p>£581 – UTASS - UTASS fun in Feb</p>
		<p>Towns and Villages</p>
		<p>The funding aims to support local regeneration through a range of targeted local investments that will further support the overall Council Towns and Village Investment Plan. TAP was awarded £220,000 to invest in local initiatives until March 2024. During 2023/24 we allocated £50,000. The following projects have been supported:</p>
		<p>£30,000, Raby Castle Cricket Club-Pavillion Refurbishment Project – Pavilion improvements including an extension to provide new changing areas and facilities.</p>
		<p>£20,000, Gainford and Langton Parish Council-Play Area – Refurbishment of village play area.</p>

2023/24 Funding Allocation

<p>Councillors Towns and Villages</p>	<p>£1,000, Barningham Village Hall – Play Surface Repair – Repair to the safety surfacing in the play area adjacent to the Village Hall.</p>	<p>lectern. DCC Find and Fix will also carry out some remove tree stumps as required, cutting back and remove brush, reinstating the car park kerbstones, replacing old bins, replace a wood panel and paint metal flashing on the winding gear.</p>
<p>In addition, each of the 6 elected members have been allocated a one off additional £10,000 to their Neighbourhood Budget to focus on ‘Towns and Villages’ projects. Funding needs to be committed by March 2024. The following project have been supported in 2023/2024:</p>	<p>£3,500, Ingleton Parish Council – Play Area Repair and Improvements - Replacement of swings and the installation of fencing to the play area will improve the environment and safety of the children using the play area.</p>	<p>£2,000, St Mary’s Parish Hall - Chair Refurbishment – Repair, re-upholster and painting of 60 chairs for use for a variety of events held in the hall and by the halls regular users which include playgroup, Scottish country dancing and Slimming World.</p>
<p>£10,000, Raby Castle Cricket Club – Pavilion Refurbishment - Redevelopment of the Clubs Pavilion to provide improved changing rooms, storage, and social area.</p>	<p>£10,594, Evenwood Cricket Club – Practice Nets - The purchase and installation of cricket practice nets will benefit the training of both youth and adult players. 63 players will benefit.</p>	<p>£3,000, Teesdale Gun Club (TGC) – Road Resurfacing - The TGC own and operate their facilities from a disused quarry in Upper Teesdale. The Club was established in 1970 and has 92 members aged between 14 and 81. The entrance to the facility is via a hard standing road that allows cars to drive down to the car park. This road has a gradient of 10% and is degrading fast due to adverse weather conditions and is full of potholes. The funding will be used for filling and surfacing work.</p>
<p>£10,000, Play@Cotherstone – Cotherstone Play Area - Supporting the sustainability of the play area for the long-term benefit of the local community.</p>	<p>£2,782, Cockfield Christmas Lights – Power Supplies - Cockfield Christmas Lights display will be enhanced with the installation of new junction boxes to the village green which will enable additional trees to be lit up.</p>	<p>£2,465, Hamsterley Village Hall – Kitchen Refurbishment - Hamsterley Village Hall users and the community will benefit from refurbishment to the halls main kitchen and kitchenette to serve the small hall.</p>
<p>Neighbourhood Budget</p>	<p>£3,800, YMCA Cockfield Community Café - Organisational Support - Cockfield Community Café provide access to welfare services such as food parcels, IT support, advice, and guidance. The funding will help to sustain the service which will benefits over 350 individuals annually.</p>	<p>£400, Lumiere – Community Workshops - Building on the success of Plastica Botanica in 2021 and Bottle Festoon in 2019, 30 students from New College Durham Sixth Form Centre will design a Lumiere artwork using recycled materials. The young people’s design will be reproduced through community workshops (engaging 200 people across the County including Barnard Castle), with the final artwork showcased in Prince Bishops Place.</p>
<p>Neighbourhood Budget is an allocation of £19,400 that each County Councillor receives each year to spend on community projects.</p>	<p>£3,100, Gainford Primary School – Community Staging - The school and various community groups in the village would benefit from the use of portable staging for the many community events held in the village and at the school. Portable units will be accessible for school, the village hall, cubs/ scouts/ beavers as well as for other community events such as Gainford Big Weekend, Horticultural Shows, and music events etc.</p>	<p>£1,000, Cotherstone Parish Council – Defibs – Purchase and installation of two additional defibrillators to serve the North and South end of the village.</p>
<p>The process is supported by the AAP team.</p>	<p>£4,000, Woodland Village Hall – Kitchen Refurbishment - Woodland Village Hall is used by 7 groups weekly and the committee also organises several events including the Woodland Village Show. The kitchen facilities are essential to the delivery of these services. The kitchen in the village hall is over 20 years old and needs replacing. The kitchen will be replaced benefiting 80 regular users and others for one off events.</p>	<p>£4,000, Romalldkirk PCC for St Cuthbert’s, Cotherstone – Repair of Bells - Repair of the bells and bell ringing taster sessions.</p>
<p>The projects listed have been supported by County Councillors Richard Bell, George Richardson, James Rowlandson, Ted Henderson, James Cosslett, and Roberts Potts.</p>	<p>£2,671, Durham County Council Design and Conservation – Ullathorne Mill site improvements - The project will include the following: replacement of interpretation panels, new interpretation panels to winding gear and site interpretation</p>	<p>£8,000, Raby Castle Cricket Club - Pavilion – Redevelopment of Club pavilion.</p>
<p>£1,000, South-west Durham SSAFA – Events Programme - SSAFA South-west Durham Division runs a veterans’ group that targets social isolation, loneliness and to assist with befriending. The funding will support several veterans on a short break and day breaks to important military sites of interest and museums.</p>		<p>£2,000 TCR The Hub – Winter Festival – Support for the community workshops, lantern parade and light switch on in December 2023.</p>
<p>£2,000, Woodland Primary School – Stay and Play - The purchase of equipment for pre-school age groups will enable the Primary School to expand their Stay and Play group for under 5s.</p>		
<p>£2,313, Lands Village Hall – Noticeboards - Lands Village Hall will install external and internal signage to improve the marketing of events and activities held for the benefit of the village and those in the surrounding area.</p>		
<p>£2,425, Cockfield Parish Council – Recreation Ground Improvements - Cockfield Recreation ground will be improved with the purchase and installation of new goals to support the Junior teams totalling 80+ players. A second pitch will also be brought back into use.</p>		

2023/24 Funding Allocation

£3,000, Teesdale School – Community Garden – Young people will work with the local community to create a garden area, and events will be held to encourage further community use.
£1,000, Barningham Village Hall – Play Area – Repair of safety surfacing in the play area adjacent to the Village Hall.
£3,188, Butterknowle Village Hall – Building Improvements - Purchase of new range cooker to the kitchen and CCTV cameras to the perimeter of the building to provide additional security following several thefts of lead.
£1,200, Mickleton Parish Council – New Benches - Installation of benches as previous project to install a defibrillator last year couldn't be delivered.
£1,000, Witham Hall Ltd – Dance Group - Funding to support the Best Foot Forward 60+ dance group, improving older people's health and well-being.
Neighbourhood Budget (Small Grants)
The Small Grants Fund is a fast track, light touch funding scheme which is part of the Neighbourhood Budget. Each County Councillor can spend up to £2,000 of their Neighbourhood Budget in any financial year on initiatives that will enhance the wellbeing of their local area.
£375, Carlbeck and Lunedale Village Hall – Wi-Fi - Contribution towards the halls monthly Wi-Fi costs.
£700, Butterknowle Sea Scouts– Storage - Repairs to the wooden doors of the Sea Scouts storage shed at Butterknowle School.
£300, Cotherstone Fun Weekend – Annual Carnival - Road closure and traffic management for the Cotherstone Fun Weekend Parade.
£400, Woodland Village Hall – Woodland Show - Contribution towards the cost of refreshments and entertainment for the Woodland Village Show.
£380, Cockfield Parish Council – Football Training - Online training courses for football coaches.
£900, Eggleston Parish Council – Park Repairs - Repairs to the slide will bring it back into use.
£800, Gainford Village Hall – Feasibility Study - Completion of an energy survey to identify the most appropriate works to reduce energy cost and carbon emissions.

£600, Staindrop Scarth Hall – Art Event - Supporting Scarth Hall have run an artist workshop allowing individuals to try out new techniques.
£300, Woodland Community Group – Christmas Event - Woodland Community Group Christmas event including a Tractor run, refreshments and entertainment by Middleton and Teesdale Silver Band.
£950, Influence Church - Mini Heroes Playgroup - Mini Heroes Baby and Toddler group parents and children will benefit from a range of new toys.
£800, Teesdale Operatic Society (TOS) – Juniors - Young People who are members of the Junior weekly sessions will have t-shirts and hoodies as group uniform.
£400, Teesdale Operatic Society (TOS) – Juniors Summer School – Contribution to running costs of week-long summer school.
£300, Ramshaw Primary School – School Trip - Pupils and teachers will enjoy live theatre with a trip to a local Pantomime.
£450, Cockfield Primary School – School Trip - Pupils and teachers will enjoy live theatre with a trip to a local Pantomime.
£60, Durham Cadets – Marches Equipment - Support for training equipment for their annual March event. This is a cross county project with 12 other Cllrs.
£300, Hutton Magna Parish Council – War Memorial Repairs – Repairs to village war memorial.
£825, Staindrop Academy School – Community Garden - Refurbishment of a garden area to provide quiet space and engage pupils and community in caring for the area.
£150, Middleton in Teesdale and Newbiggin Parish Council – Commemorative Tree Planting – The planting of a commemorative tree.
£540, Newbiggin Village Hall –Running Costs - Funds to assist with the rising costs of utilities.
£990, – Evenwood, Ramshaw and District History Society – War Memorial Maintenance - Cleaning and repainting of lettering to the war memorial.
£800, – Richard III Society – Celebration Event - Celebrations for 550th anniversary of Richard III association with Barnard Castle with re-enactors in the Castle taking place over the Spring Bank Holiday Weekend.

£400, – Gainford Village Hall – Gainford Fest 2024 - Purchase of a gazebo and bunting.
£360, - TCR The Hub – The Food Pantry - Stocks and provisions for the Foodbank serving 55 households weekly.
£360, - Storehouse – Food bank - Stocks and provision for the Foodbank serving 30 households.
Further information on the projects that individual Councillors have supported can be found by contacting TAP.

Teesdale Area Action Partnership Team



Left to Right: Annalisa Ward, Community Development Project Officer, Emma Walton, Support Officer and Adam White, Area Co-ordinator.

Contact: tap@durham.gov.uk

The Difference We Have Made



Photo: Teesdale Mercury

Teesdale Day Clubs Befrienders

Teesdale Day Clubs and local partner organisations are developing and piloting a one-to-one befriending service called 'Time Together Teesdale', providing support to isolated, chronically lonely and/or frail/disabled or older people who are unable to access services outside their own home. Research shows that making social connections is key to good mental wellbeing. Volunteers also benefit by making new friends, networking with others, and giving something back to their local community. Time Together Teesdale has successfully employed a part-time project coordinator. The Co-ordinator is currently recruiting and training the first small group of volunteers, and more training is planned. Volunteers will be supported to provide regular face to face at home (or telephone or digital means if this is more appropriate) contact and friendship for older or chronically isolated or lonely people. The project is aiming to recruit at least 10 volunteers.



Photo: Teesdale Mercury

Hamsterley Village Hall Replacement Kitchens

Hamsterley Village Hall serves a community of 720 people. They hire out their rooms to several local community groups including WI, Bridge, Film Club, Art, Parent and Toddlers, Karate and Keep Fit. They also have functions e.g. birthday parties and weddings. They provide a programme of entertainment including 'Highlights Rural Touring Programme' and the building is used by the annual Hoppings festival. Their kitchens are used by regular groups and the committee to provide refreshments for events etc. Both kitchens in the Village Hall have been in place for thirty-five years and are worn out. The main and auxiliary kitchen were both replaced, along with flooring and decorating. The replacement of the kitchen facilities will benefit over 250 people including regular users, hirers and the wider community.



Turrets Youth Theatre Group Development

The Witham runs Turrets a youth theatre company, providing access to weekly and some holiday drama-based workshops and activities for up to 40 young people in Barnard Castle and the surrounding area. There are two groups for individuals aged between 8 and 18. Members create at least 2 full productions per year and do a termly 'showback' of each term's activities. Turrets offers an introduction to all things theatre and provides a nurturing and safe environment in which to explore the world, build communication skills, and confidence. There are also opportunities to work alongside volunteers to create props and costumes, as well as learning about stage management or developing lighting and sound technical skills. The funding will contribute significantly towards the running costs of Turrets Youth Theatre – including a freelance leader and assistant leader costs as well as contributing towards associated overheads and the costs of productions e.g., materials for costumes, props and technical support etc.

The Difference We Have Made



Photo: Teesdale Mercury

Evenwood Cricket Club New Practice Nets

Evenwood Cricket Club was reformed in 1966. Since reformation they have competed in local cricket leagues with their senior and junior sections. Over the last 8 years they have invested approximately £11,000 into their ground maintenance to improve the playing field and £6,000 into coaching equipment such as a bowling machine. A continuation of these improvement works includes the installation of a first class two-lane all weather cricket practice facility. This includes an all-weather playing surface and safety netting enclosed with a security fence. The nets will allow them to facilitate practices in inclement weather especially in the early months of the season and preseason. This project will benefit a total of over 60 existing and new players.



Durham County Council Group Development

During 22/23 the Veterans group run by TCR The Hub had recorded 483 participants for the different events which include socials, family days and afternoon teas with activities. This project will enable 10 more afternoon teas and three family activity days to be held. The veterans supported are from all the forces and services, they can also be signposted from the Hub to other services. 40+ forces families reside in Teesdale with children at school age and many others are settling here after serving at nearby bases. This project will support over 283 individuals both the veterans and their family members.

Contact Details

Teesdale Action Partnership
Durham County Council
2 Hall Street
Barnard Castle
County Durham DL12 8JB

Tel: 03000 260 818
Email: tap@durham.gov.uk
www.durham.gov.uk/teesdaleaap

