

East Durham Area Action Partnership Board Meeting
6pm on Wednesday 8th February 2023 at The Glebe Centre, Murton

PRESENT:

Partner Organisations

Graham Easterlow (GE) (Chair)
Chris Williams (CW)
Insp Joanne Eales (JE)
Sgt Alex Gibson (AG)
Ian Porter (IP)
Joanne Angus (JA)

Elected Members

Cllr Angela Surtees (AS)
Cllr Julie Griffiths (JG)
Cllr Ivan Cochrane (IC)
Cllr Jake Miller (Cllr JM)

Public Representatives

Rona Hardy (RH)
Danny Dickinson (DD)
Andy Cammiss (AC)
Gill Rodgers (GR)

Co-opted Members

Amanda Moon (AM)
Edna Connor (EC)

Officer Attendance:

John Murphy (JMurphy) – AAP Coordinator
Laura Towers (LT) – AAP Support Officer
Ian Moran (IM) – Community Development/Project Officer

Public Attendance:

2 members of the public were in attendance

Apologies:

Cllr Terry Duffy, Cllr Isabel Roberts, Insp Phil Carter, Susan Robinson, Alison Paterson, David Blackwell

1. Introductions & Apologies

JM ran through housekeeping and health and safety.

GE welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were made.

Apologies were noted, as above.

2. Previous Minutes & Matters Arising

The minutes of the previous Board Meeting on 14th December 2022 were accepted by the Board as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Cllr JM updated that the Northern Powergrid meeting had taken place to outline the emergency plan for any power outages. Cllr JM to share slides. A meeting was arranged re emergency planning for the area. The country is divided into letters and any outages would be on a rotational basis, so parishes could check whether they are all linked together.

3. Police & Fire Reports

GE handed over to Inspector Joanne Eales and Sergeant Alex Gibson to provide the police reports and Chris Williams to provide an update on the Community Safety Suite at Peterlee Fire Station and the fire report.

Insp Joanne Eales – Seaham & Easington

There was an increase in car crime in Murton in January. There were significant crime patterns. Key individuals have been arrested and spoken to, with some people still to be identified. This has now decreased.

£10,000 has been secured for youth engagement workers in the Methodist Church in Easington Colliery along with funding from local Cllrs.

There have been some complaints re speeding vehicles on Gregson Terrace in South Hetton. Of the 93 drivers who triggered the speed camera, one fell within court, 10 with a fine and 82 on the speed awareness course. Children from the primary school are devising speed awareness signage. The hope is to get a 20mph speed limit outside of the school.

GR asked re a time frame for the speed van. JE provided an approximation of 40 vehicles an hour as a guide. JE to provide further info.

Sgt Alex Gibson - Peterlee

AG thanked the community for their help in relation to an incident in Fifth Street, Horden. Five people have been locked up and are awaiting trial. This has caused disruption to an organised crime group.

It has been a busy period. A drugs warrant was carried out in Blackhall. Shopwatch is back up and running in Peterlee town centre. Charity shops are also now involved. There have been some arsons in Shotton. An operation in underway.

The team has undertaken some visits to schools to do talks. Six youths have been escalated to the ASB Team.

The team are looking at a reset on rural crime. This is in its infancy at the moment.

Looking to see whether vehicle crime and theft of bikes can be included as part of Safer Streets Round 4 funding which is focused on burglary and ASB.

Some good results will be publicised in the next few weeks.

Chris Williams – CDD Fire and Rescue Service

CW delivered a presentation updating on the Community Safety Suite at Peterlee Fire Station. The project funding started in 2018. The focus was to enhance safer communities and tackle ASB. The project total was £22,500. £7,500 of funding was received from the AAP and there was further match funding.

The calendar is currently quite full and usage is picking up after Covid. The suite is being used by mental health and employment groups, the Fire Cadets and for skills training as well as a Warm Space. There is a meeting room and breakout area.

JE asked re the room capacity. CW advised that it has a capacity of 12 people, but can accommodate 8 people comfortably.

RH asked whether there are any plans for youth activities. CW advised there is a Fire-setters intervention programme. Schools and clubs also visit. It can be used on both an ad hoc or regular basis.

JMurphy asked who to contact re booking a room. Please contact CW.

Discussion around fires and car fires and reasons for these. CW advised that the majority are deliberate and nationally the number deliberate fires has gone up. Research is being carried out on this. Police and Fire Teams link in regularly to look for any patterns.

CW advised that the East Coast leads the service in terms of prevention and ASB. The Community Risk Management Plan presentation will be undertaken at a future meeting and this could be tied in with geographical location information.

A question was raised about how things would operate in the event of any strikes. CW advised that there would be enough people to provide a resilience service in Co Durham & Darlington.

Further discussion took place on early education and intervening from a young age. JM advised that the school attendance rate is now slightly lower post-Covid, so it would be good to reach those children and families.

ACTION: A forum to be convened to look at community safety, either separately or as part of an update to support on this.

4. Neighbourhood Issues

None noted.

5. Priority Working Group Updates

Maintaining the Social Fabric our Communities (MSFOOC) – Cllr Angela Surtees

The following project applications had been circulated to the Board following the MSFOOC Priority Group Meeting on 17th January 2023:

East Durham Community Resilience Partnership – Household Financial Practitioner

Funding request - £74,000

Funding requested to provide household financial support as part of the East Durham Community Resilience Partnership over a series of financial sessions. This would tie in with county work and three debt centres.

GE, RH, EC and JA declared an interest and left the meeting

Action: The application was approved by the Board.

CALM – PATHH – Positive Attitude to Holistic Health

Funding request: £17,600

Over a 12-month period, CALM in East Durham proposes to run 10 x 6 programmes supporting emotional and mental resilience-building through a mixture of informative discussion and practical activities. The programmes will also provide a positive approach to healthy eating.

AS noted that CALM has worked with two members of the MSFOOC group collaboratively on this application to pick out pieces of work for additionality and it will be subject to monitoring.

Cllr JM asked whether this will be at one venue only. It was confirmed there will be five venues which are to be agreed so that the project is focused around the wider community.

CALM needs to attract new people in order to expand and grow. The potential to fill places could help to decide venues.

ACTION: The application was approved by the Board.

ED Project 50

Funding request: £14,000 (OPSIF)

East Durham College will use a proactive approach to engage inactive participants over the age of 50. Through their approach, they will aim to re-engineer client perspectives of physical activity and promote understanding that an active lifestyle is fun, social and improve mental wellbeing and confidence, as well as improving physical health. The funding will also look to provide outreach and transport to Peterlee.

Discussion took place around the pathway after the programme and referral on to wider more health-related activities. Community centres also run activities for this age group, so they have things they can pick up and link in with. Information on different villages could be provided to the participants.

AS noted that the social prescribing link workers have identified gaps in this provision. The college is also looking at outreach and they have transport. People could join the gym after this.

DD noted that there are opportunities to signpost people into mainstream activities also and the data and reporting could be used a learning experience for information-sharing. Quarterly monitoring will be provided on the project.

ACTION: The Board approved the project with the caveats noted.

Police Mechanics Project

Funding requested: £8,500

The project is open to the whole of East Durham and transport can be provided. This is a two-year project. The project has been running previously and it has led to better youth engagement with the police and also helped to provide opportunities eg work experience and apprenticeships. The project

is currently being developed to include motorbikes. Youths are identified by officers' knowledge, partner agency referrals and word of mouth. It helps to educate youths on the issues around off-road bikes. There will be 12 courses with approximately 6-8 students on each. There have been some positive results and it leads to a basic mechanics qualification.

JE and AG declared an interest and left the meeting.

It was noted that education is key and this project is just for East Durham. It will also look at the environmental impact. It was also highlighted that further recurring funding may be good.

ACTION: The Board approved this project.

East Durham Credit Union Officer

AS, JA & JS declared an interest and left the meeting

JMurphy asked the Board whether they approved the remaining £7,800 being ring-fenced for this application. East Durham Rural AAP are also interested in getting involved with this project. The project would be looking to raise the profile of the Credit Union and avoid people going to illegal money-lenders.

GE noted that EDT had seen an increase in the number of calls coming in for Ludworth, so it would be good to do a shared project.

ACTION: The Board agreed to the remaining £7,800 AB being ring-fenced for this project with a full application to follow which will be scrutinised.

Towns & Villages – Graham Easterlow

The application was circulated to the Board prior to the meeting.

Haswell Plough to Shotton Link Footway

Funding requested: £20,000 (AAP Towns & Villages)

The application is for construction of a link which is 931m in length on Durham Lane that will link communities in Haswell Plough to Shotton.

There is match funding from Highways and a local Cllr.

ACTION: The Board approved this application.

Children, Young People & Families – Rona Hardy

The application was circulated to the Board following the CYPF Meeting on 19th January 2023.

Healthy Relationships

Funding requested: £19,955.92

This is a joint proposal from Groundwork and Changing Relations to support children and young people to better understand healthy relationships by delivering a series of arts-based workshops developed and created by Changing Relations for the East Durham area.

It was noted that materials need to be validated by the Domestic Abuse Team at DCC.

ACTION: The application was agreed once the content has been referred to DCC/Statutory Body for validation.

7. Neighbourhood Budget (NB) and NB Small Grant Applications for notification or endorsement of a declared interest & Area Budget (AB) Position

The NB spreadsheet was circulated to the Board. JMurphy highlighted through all NB conflicts of interest and the Board approved all of these applications, as detailed below.

AC declared a conflict of interest for the Garden Project.

Project Name: Armed Forces Day 2023

Councillors: Batey & McKenna

Project Cost: £4,000

NB Amount: £2,000

Description: Seaham Town Council are applying for funding for the 2023 Armed Forces Day event. After the Armed Forces Day event the equipment will be left in place so a youth event can take place the following day

Conflicts of interest declared by Cllr Batey and Cllr McKenna. Cllr Batey's daughter-in-law works for the Town Council. Cllr McKenna is involved in the planning of the event as a volunteer. The Board approved this project.

Project Name: Thornley School Buddie Projects

Councillors: Varty

Project Cost: £300

NB Amount: £150

Description: Purchase of equipment to help with a Year 6 peer mentor programme.

Conflict of interest declared by Cllr Varty. Cllr Varty is a school governor. The Board approved this project.

Project Name: Thornley School ICT

Councillors: Varty

Project Cost: £3,000

NB Amount: £900

Description: Help to purchase some ICT equipment for Thornley Primary School.

Conflict of interest declared by Cllr Varty. Cllr Varty is a school governor. The Board approved this project.

Project Name: Play Equipment

Councillors: Boyes & Surtees

Project Cost: £10,000

NB Amount: £10,000

Description: Easington Colliery Parish Council are applying for funding for new equipment and surfacing for two parks.

Conflicts of interest declared by Cllr Boyes and Cllr Surtees. Cllr Boyes is a parish councillor and Cllr Surtees' husband works for the parish council. The Board approved this project.

Project Name: Youth Project

Councillors: Boyes & Surtees

Project Cost: £18,893

NB Amount: £8,893

Description: Easington Colliery Regeneration Partnership are applying for funding for a year-long youth work project in Easington. Match funding is from the PCC and there is also an additional £15k that is applied for. The project will be shaped to fit the available project but will include detached and centre-based provision.

Conflicts of interest declared by Cllr Boyes and Cllr Surtees. Cllr Boyes is chair of the group and Cllr Surtees is treasurer. The Board approved this project.

Project Name: First Murton Scouts

Councillors: Adcock-Forster

Project Cost: £5,100

NB Amount: £4,500

Description: The Group would like help with: 1) A year's rent for our welfare park hut . 2) Capita This is a fee paid to the National Scouting Association for each child to cover the cost of personal insurance for all the various activities, any training required for any of the volunteers such as safeguarding, GDPS, any DBS checks, any specific training as the volunteers develop through the structure of the association.

Conflict of interest declared by Cllr Adcock-Forster. Cllr Adcock-Forster is a member of the board for Murton Welfare. The Board approved this project.

Project Name: Garden Project

Councillors: Batey, Kennedy, McKenna & Shaw

Project Cost: £600

NB Amount: £600

Description: The East Durham Veterans Trust are applying for funding to start a gardening project with their clients.

Conflicts of interest declared by Cllr Kennedy, Cllr McKenna and Cllr Shaw.

Cllr Shaw is chair of the EDVT and Cllrs Kennedy and McKenna are trustees. The Board approved this project.

Project Name: Christchurch Place, Peterlee

Councillors: McDonnell

Project Cost: £1,050

NB Amount: £999

Description: To install birdsmouth fencing to stop ASB with mobility scooters & off road vehicles.

No conflict of interest.

Project Name: Mobile Catering Equipment

Councillors: Batey & McKenna

Project Cost: £999

NB Amount: £999

Description: Creative Youth Opportunities are applying for funding for catering equipment that will be used in sessional activity in Seaham Town Hall and in the Bowls Hut where they have mobile sessions.

No conflict of interest.

Project Name: Water Sports

Councillors: Charlton-Lainé & Purvis

Project Cost: £1,642

NB Amount: £1,642

Description: Adventure Access CiC are applying for funding to deliver water sports sessions for Deneside Residents at Seaham Marina.

No conflict of interest.

Project Name: Replace Water Products

Councillors: Adcock-Forster & Griffiths

Project Cost: £1,700

NB Amount: £1,700

Description: St Paul's Methodist Church Murton want to renew all water products in Back yard to accommodate their community and voluntary groups who use it. Products like: Soffits, facer boards, guttering , down comers and sink repair.

No conflict of interest.

Project Name: Costume Purchase

Councillors: Kennedy & Shaw

Project Cost: £1,000

NB Amount: £800

Description: In Your Face Theatre (Seaham) are applying for funding to purchase costumes for their next performance

No conflict of interest.

Project Name: Decorating Costs

Councillors: Batey & McKenna

Project Cost: £2,250

NB Amount: £2,000

Description:

Seaton Community Centre are applying for funding to decorate the community centre.

No conflict of interest.

Project Name: Groundwork Bench

Councillors: Charlton-Lainé & Purvis

Project Cost: £2,900

NB Amount: £2,500

Description: Groundwork NE are applying for funding to install a memorial bench in Dawdon Dene Park.

No conflict of interest.

Project Name: Hawthorn Play Area

Councillors: Boyes & Surtees

Project Cost: £10,000

NB Amount: £10,000

Description: Hawthorn Parish Council are applying for funding to install security fencing to a play area.

No conflict of interest.

Project Name: Kindermusik

Councillors: Kennedy & Shaw

Project Cost: £1,550

NB Amount: £1,500

Description: Seaham Music Academy are applying for funding to deliver a project for children and young people.

No conflict of interest.

Project Name: Memorial Plaque

Councillors: Higgins

Project Cost: £1,300

NB Amount: £1,300

Description: Covid memorial plaque.

No conflict of interest.

Project Name: Defib at Deneside WMC

Councillors: Charlton-Lainé & Purvis

Project Cost: £1,791.60

NB Amount: £1,791.60

Description: Seaham Town Council are applying for funding to install a defib on the Working Men's Club in Deneside. The project is in partnership with Deneside WMC who will maintain and insure the defib

No conflict of interest.

AB Position

JMurphy outlined the current the AB position.

There is still one outstanding T&V to project for £20,000 from Wheatley Hill to come forward. The remaining £3,551 of T&V funding is to be allocated to the Connecting the Coast project.

8. Any Other Business

None noted.

9. Date and time of next meeting

6pm on Wednesday 8th March 2023 at The Lisa Dixon Centre, Haswell