

Durham Area Action Partnership Minutes of the Board Meeting
Tuesday 21 May 2024
(Virtual Meeting - held via Microsoft Teams)

Board Members

Attendance: Cllr Liz Brown, Cllr Lesley Mavin, Cllr Lucy Hovvells, Maureen Boettcher, Gary Tidbury, Rebecca Ashby, Jen Straughan-Hawley, Sam Humble, Lee Alexander, Paul Howard, Gary Tough, Dasha Murphy, Georgia Donohue, Katie Binks, Sarah Burns, Dave Clarke, Victoria Ashfield, Dan Lonsdale, Cllr Richard Ormerod

AAP Officer

Attendance: Craig Morgan – AAP Co-ordinator
Wendy Lavelle – Community Development Project Officer
Lyndsey Hunter – Community Development Project Officer
Marie Ainscough – AAP Support Officer

Presenters: Sarah Welsh - Strategic Manager (Customer Relations),
Durham County Council
Owen Cleugh - Safer Places Manager, Durham County Council

Apologies Board: Paul Lysaght, Cllr Eric Mavin, Chris Tindale

Forum Members: 10 forum members attended the meeting.

1 [Welcome from the Chair, Introductions and Apologies](#)

Cllr Lesley Mavin (Chair) welcomed everyone to the online Durham AAP Board Meeting, this was Lesley's first board meeting as her role of Chair. A warm welcome was offered to new board members present and they introduced themselves:

- Dasha Murphy, Community Liaison Manager who had replaced Hannah Shepherd as the Durham University representative.
- Katie Binks who had replaced Sheela Bell as the VCS representative.

Apologies for absence, [as above].

2 [Presentation: Customer Access Points Consultation](#)

Sarah Welsh - Strategic Manager (Customer Relations), Durham County Council delivered a presentation on the Customer Access Points - a review of our face-to-face services.

Customer Access Points (CAPs) support residents who need help accessing our services if they are having difficulty completing their transactions online or

over the phone. We currently have eight CAPs across the county located in Barnard Castle, Stanley, Seaham, Spennymoor, Durham City, Crook, Chester-Le-Street and Consett. Demand for face-to-face services in our CAPs had been decreasing over several years with 90% of resident contact now received by phone, email or online.

To have your say go to the consultation website for more information and to complete the survey online <https://www.durham.gov.uk/consultation>; or visit one of the libraries or CAPs to complete a paper survey.

The closing date for comments is 5.00 pm on Sunday 28 July 2024.

Following Sarah's presentation, the meeting was opened for discussion –

- A concern was raised around transport issues.
- Have parish councillors been informed of the consultation and are they responding?
Yes it has and there has been a good response.
- Will the responses be analysed?
- Was there any consideration the service be taken to the people like mobile libraries or local centres?
Yes this is an option being explored.
- Is this to give more time to more centres that don't have this facility already?
Yes it is the intention to do days elsewhere. This will be determined following the consultation.
- For those with a disability/visual impairment, can they get help filling in forms at these centres or do they need to go to Age Concern for this?
Customer Services wouldn't fill out forms anyway but they would direct people to the likes of the Welfare Rights Team or CAB who could help with this type of request.
- Are radar keys available from one of these centres?
Yes, radar keys are available through the CAPs.

Sarah was thanked for her presentation, and she left the meeting.

3 [Presentation: Tackling issues of anti-social behaviour in Durham City' Consultation](#)

Owen Cleugh delivered a presentation on Tacking issues of anti-social behaviour in Durham City.

Further information on the consultation can be found here - [Tackling issues of anti-social behaviours \(ASB\) in Durham City - Durham County Council](#)

The closing date for comments is 5.00 pm on Sunday 23 June 2024.

Following Owen's presentation, the meeting was opened for discussion –

- DAY had been doing pilot work in the city centre around anti-social behaviour for young people funded by the Trailblazer project. What age do these orders link to? Is there an age restriction? Where will the pilot work come into this consultation?
The age issue needs to be checked and enforceability looked at. Information on the trailblazer and any other activities would be appreciated.
- In relation to begging for money for coffee, which cafes might be participating so people know where to direct them?
Access to support and facilities are being looked at as part of this work. Organisations such as Sanctuary 21 are involved and a support charity is being set up through Street Friends. Key partners are meeting every two weeks to look at how vulnerable people can be supported.
- Are young people involved in this consultation?
- Are we looking at comparative studies about what they've done in other cities or even other countries?
- The new North-East Combined Authority Mayor, is this something that is being shared collaboratively to see if shared resources or money is available or ideas or suggestions?
- Are you aware of the increase in begging in Durham Bus Station?
A lot of effort has been put in to address issues in the bus station. The police feel that issues are being kept on top of through the Trailblazer. Police will speak to Ariva about the issue of people not paying on the buses.
- Do we know where the people who are begging are from; are these people known to us within the area or are they from outside the region?

Owen was thanked for his presentation, and he left the meeting.

4 [Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 16 April 2024 and Matters Arising](#)

The Chair reviewed the previous minutes for matters arising, actions and accuracy.

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 April 2024 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

Matters Arising

The projects that were considered and approved by the Board were now going through the appraisal process and Framwellgate Moor YCC Heating project had received their offer letter.

5 AAP Funding Update

An update on the current funding position had been included in the papers.

Area Budget

- £15,490.54 revenue to allocate.
- £15,000 capital to allocate.
- £13,000 oversubscribed

Big Arts Mental Health Funding

- £2,500 allocated
- £7,500 remaining

6 Task Group Updates – Healthy and Resilient Communities

Board members had received a copy of the applications and a project record form for each project prior to the meeting.

Area Budget applications to consider.

[Georgia Donohue declared an interest in the following application]

- Durham Palatinates Netball Club

An application had been received for £7,096.49 towards a total project cost of £33,808.89.

Board members decided not to support this project due to being oversubscribed. Craig agreed to contact the applicant to identify other sources of funding.

[Jen Straughan-Hawley left the meeting]

- Durham Night Hub

An application had been received for £8,000 towards a total project cost of £113,795.00.

- How do the three partnerships work together and are the resources shared/is the funding going to one body or all?
The Parish Council is looking to engage the night time economy.
- Have the funding sources been secured?
Funding from the University was explained.

Board members were happy to support this project and it was approved.

[Cllr Richard Ormerod left the meeting]

- Durham City Youth Project – We are Framily

An application had been received for £5,145 towards a total project cost of £12,050.

Board members were happy to support this project and it was approved.

- Empowher – Beautify Durham

An application had been received for £5,000 towards a total project cost of £9,920.

Board members decided not to support this project.

- Bearpark Baby Bank

An application had been received for £3,017 towards a total project cost of £13,334.

Board members were happy to support this project and it was approved. A smaller allocation of £2,345.00 will be allocated to the baby bank project.

[Cllr Lucy Hovvels and Sarah Burns left the meeting]

- St Oswald's Institute (Capital application)

An application had been received for £10,000 towards a total project cost of £60,100.

No questions were raised in relation to this application. Board members were happy to support this project and it was approved.

Consideration of applications

As above.

Public Health Big Arts Funding applications to consider.

- Investing in Children Arts and Wellbeing Café

An application had been received for £7,500 towards a total project cost of £9,500.

Board members decided not to support this project as there was not enough funding to cover all applications.

- RT Projects – Into the Light

An application had been received for £7,487 towards a total project cost of £7,947.

Board members were happy to support this project and it was approved.

[Cllr Liz Brown left the meeting]

- Sisters with Voices – Waltz to Wellness

An application had been received for £5,040 towards a total project cost of £5,670.

Craig highlighted that the applicant had been asked questions in relation to their application but no response had been received.

Board members decided not to support this project.

Consideration of applications

As above.

7 [Budget Updates](#)

Neighbourhood Budgets updates and approvals

There were no new Neighbourhood Budget applications to bring to the meeting.

Fun and Food (Holiday Activities with Healthy Food)

We had received 3 fun and food applications for Summer 2024 so far; we were expecting one more application which would result in being oversubscribed. The closing date for the submission of completed applications is 22 May 2024. Decisions to be made by 3 June via an online meeting. Further details to follow.

[Paul Howard left the meeting]

8 [Chair and Coordinators Update](#)

Chair's Update

No update.

Coordinator's Update

Business as usual.

9 Partner Updates

Dave Clarke – Police

Everyone was encouraged to take part in the PSPO consultation; new Chief Constable is now in place and was keen for neighbourhood teams to be increased in strength by next year; front line officers had been involved in trauma first aid training.

Gary Tough – Fire

64 incidents in total; 25 false alarms during the last couple of months.

Maureen Boettcher had emailed Craig the Smaller Councils report, and this would be circulated to Board members.

Dasha Murphy - Durham University

Students in exam period which will end on 31st followed by summer events across colleges; last day of term 21 June followed congregation that will take place between 26 June – 3 July; involved in the green move out, purple bags had been delivered to student accommodation and will be delivered to private rented accommodation next week.

Katie Binks – VCS Representative

National Volunteer Week in the first week of June; big push for corporate social responsibility employers supported volunteering.

Sam Humble – Believe Housing

Weather is preventing grass cutting and weed killing but this is in hand.

This would be Hannah Shepherd's last board meeting and she thanked everyone for their support over the last 6 years.

10 Any other Business

None.

11 Date and time of next meeting

Thursday 4 July 2024; 6.00 pm at Framwellgate Moor Youth and Community Centre

Everyone was thanked for their attendance and the meeting closed.