



STANLEY AREA ACTION PARTNERSHIP (AAP)
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Held on Tuesday 3rd September 2024 at 5.00pm

Councillors:

Cllr Carole Hampson
Cllr Joan Nicholson
Cllr Joyce Charlton
Cllr Jeanette Stephenson

Partner Organisations:

N Insp. Dave Stewart (Durham Constabulary)
Suzanne Jobson (Karbon Homes) (Chair)
Dan Hodgson (Fire Service),

Public Representatives:

John Ullathorne (Vice Chair)
Linda Tyman
Frankie Ward
Carl Gippert

Officer Attendance:

Daniel O'Brien (AAP Coordinator)
Andrea Boyd (Community Development Project Officer)
Lesley Lines (AAP Support Officer)
Scott McNally (Assistant Assessment & Awards Manager)

Apologies:

Cllr Angela Hanson, Cllr Gordon Binney, Darren McMahon, Vicky Walton, Cllr Carl Marshall, Martyn Stenton (Durham County Council), and Barbara Edmundson (Integrated Care Board, NHS)

Public Attendance:

Four members of the Forum/Public attended the meeting.

1. Introductions and Apologies:

Suzanne welcomed everyone to Stanley AAP's hybrid Board Meeting at Morrison Busty. Apologies are noted above.

2. Advice Services Consultation Presentation:

Daniel introduced Scott McNally, Assistant Assessment & Awards Manager, (Durham County Council), who gave an update on the current service and the background to the Advice Services consultation.

Background:

- We know the difference receiving advice and guidance in the right place and at the right time can have on a person, on families and on the wider community.
- This is particularly important when information, advice and guidance relates to managing money, debt advice and access to benefits.
- For many, receiving support can reduce fears and financial worries and positively impact health and wellbeing. It can also help people to access benefits they did not know they were entitled to or make a case for extra financial support.
- We are committed to helping all residents in County Durham access this support and we currently do this through our own Welfare Rights Team and through specific funding to Citizens Advice County Durham, to provide free, confidential and impartial advice and support with the aim of maximising benefit entitlement.
- Over the last 10 years we have seen a change in the types of advice that residents of County Durham are asking for.
- Because of that we want to make sure that the advice services we fund continue to meet the needs of residents.
- We want to continue to provide the most effective services, make it easy to know where to look for them, and get the best support in the way that suits user needs.
- By better understanding these needs, we can contract with the right organisations, offer the right services and measure the difference it makes to individuals, households and communities.

We are asking people to tell us about:

- Their experiences of looking for and using advice, good or bad.
- The reasons they have not used advice services when they needed support.
- How we could enhance the existing offer.
- How they would like to get advice in the future such as appointments, telephone calls, online help or other ways.
- The types of advice they would like to see offered in the future.
- Go to our consultation website for more information and to complete the survey online www.durham.gov.uk/consultation
- Visit one of our libraries or CAPs to complete a paper survey.
- Take a paper survey.
- The deadline for feedback is 5.00pm Friday 20 September 2024.
- The feedback received will help to inform the services we fund from 2025/26.
- It will be used alongside information we have gathered from the advice services we provide / fund and information from other partners, to deliver effective advice and support services in the future.

Questions:

Q. Disabled people using parking bays are being fined for overstaying their time limit. When they try to phone the telephone number they can't get through. Who would you then go to?

A. Citizens Advice may help.

Q. It was highlighted that Karbon Homes have this service.

Q. Will foodbanks be given this information?

A. Yes, we work with partners who have this information.

Q. Have you worked with deaf people?

A. We have worked to target all demographics.

Q. Are we proposing at some point to increase this service to cover the increase in refugees seeking support?

A. Refugees provision could be a gap. A better understanding is needed.

Q. Do the Settlement Team not support refugees?

Q. Why is the closing time 5.00pm on the consultation? It should be Midnight!

A. That is a something that needs looking into.

The consultation can be found at: <https://www.durham.gov.uk/consultation>

The Chair thanked Scott for the presentation.

3. Declaration of Interest:

AAP Board Members were asked to declare any interest in relation to the agenda. There were no declarations of interest.

4. Agreement of the Minutes – 9th July 2024 and matters arising not covered on this agenda:

The Minutes of Tuesday 9th July 2024 were agreed to be a true record. There were no matters arising from the July minutes.

5. Neighbourhood Issues and Locality Policing Issues:

Insp. Dave Stewart gave the Policing update. He highlighted that crime was down 4% from the previous month with incidents also down 2% from the previous month. Anti-social behaviour was up 6% on the previous month with a spike in Tanfield.

Burnhope area was scaling down with no threat to the wider area.

A child of 12 years old had been arrested for an off-road bike incident. This was escalated to Social Services when it was discovered that the child was left on his own while his mother was on holiday.

A robbery at Corals Bookmakers had a positive result with arrests made.

Riots – Police monitored the area with no issues. Insp. Stewart highlighted that officers from Stanley were involved in supporting the front line in other areas.

It was highlighted that after a site visit it was agreed that 4 foot fencing would be erected at McDonalds. The bushes would also be cut down to 4 foot.

It was also highlighted that after the incidents of kids climbing onto the roof at the Burnside Resource Centre putting themselves in danger of falling through the roof, a quote has been sought to have CCTV camera installed by the local councillors.

6. AAP Coordinator Update:

Daniel updated on a range of initiatives that the AAP had been working on.

The Big Arts Project

Four projects will share this funding of £10k with £2,500 each. Offer letters will go out next week so that the projects can start in line with World Mental Health Day.

- Open Arts Studio at The Venue – DCC
- Creative Reflections - Just for Women
- Art Projects – Stanley Youth Area Consortium
- Art Project - Think Positive

Fun & Food

Daniel highlighted nine projects had been delivering over the six weeks school holidays. He added that he would be receiving monitoring reports in the near future and would report the success back to the Board and Stanley Town Council as they had topped up the funding.

Local Networks Update & Boundary Consultation

Daniel advised this consultation had been extended until Friday 20th September. He highlighted his and other AAP coordinators involvement in the behind the scene workings to make sure the new Local Networks were fit for purpose.

Area Budget Live Projects Qtr.1 Monitoring Report

Daniel highlighted this had been sent out to Board Members via Email for their information.

7. Partner Work Update / Stanley specific items of interest:

Karbon Homes – Suzanne advised she would email out the Place update.
Skills Hub - Work Academy – Job Fairs - A delivery plan would be available.

8. Neighbourhood Budget Summaries:

Tantobie Cricket Club – Storage Building Completion

The Neighbourhood Budget funding from the County Councillors is to support the original build of the storage facility for the cricket club. It was identified that extra work needed to be carried out on the foundations due to the amount of shale infill that was discovered whilst digging. The extra funding will contribute to the building materials and labour required to strengthen the foundations to allow the build to continue.

Project Cost: £9,000.00

Councillor Joyce Charlton Contribution: £4,500.00

Councillor Gordon Binney Contribution: £4,500.00

Small Grants:

Durham Constabulary – Stanley Town Centre PACT Meetings

Project Brief: The funding is to be used to contribute towards room hire for the meetings.

Total Cost: £160.00

Councillor Joyce Charlton Contribution £80.00

Councillor Angela Hanson Contribution: £80.00

Craghead Community Association – Keeping the Road Safe

Project Brief: The funding was used to support Traffic Management Costs for Craghead's Miners' Banner Parade during Durham Miners' Gala 2024.

Total Cost: £1,092.00

Councillor Angela Hanson Contribution £225.00

Councillor Carl Marshall Contribution: £225.00

Councillor Sam McMahon Contribution £225.00

Councillor Carole Hampson Contribution: £225.00

Tantobie Association for Sport & Community – Ladies Race Day

Project Brief: The funding was used to provide food and refreshments at the Ladies Race Day.

Total Cost: £200.00

Councillor Joyce Charlton Contribution £200.00

Harrogate & District Foundation Trust – Educated at Home Group

Project Brief: The funding is to be used for refreshments, arts, crafts, equipment, and day trips for the Educated at Home Group.

Total Cost: £900.00

Councillor Joan Nicholson Contribution £450.00

Councillor Christine Bell Contribution: £450.00

9. Pre-Notified Any Other Business:

No pre-notified any other business had been received.

John Ullathorne highlighted the success of Tanfield School's VEX Robotics Team who represented the UK at the World VEX Robotics competition in Dallas, Texas.

Joan highlighted that the North East Horticultural Show is being held this weekend at Beamish Museum.

10. Next Meeting:

Tuesday 1st October 2024 – Morrison Busty Depot fully Hybrid.

For further details about these minutes please contact Stanley AAP office,
Tel: 03000 265323 or Email: Stanleyaap@durham.gov.uk