

East Durham Area Action Partnership **Annual Report**



Altogether
better
Durham

East Durham
Area Action Partnership

2019/20

East Durham Area Action Partnership 2019/20 Key Information

FUNDING



£144,900

of AAP Funding allocated to 26 local projects.

£109,943.57

Amount of match / external funding generated.

Potentially

6,556

beneficiaries are being supported through the main AAP funding.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT



156

community projects supported through AAP and Councillor funding.

£279,650

Financial Wellbeing Champions supported clients to access payments and services to the tune of £279,650.



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

There were

854,089

engagements with the community through social media with the average post getting just under 2000 views.



COMMUNICATION

Processed

£292,025.90

of Councillor Neighbourhood Budget and amount of external match generated

£280,504.09

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**COUNCILLOR
FUNDING**

East Durham Area Action Partnership

Established in 2009 East Durham AAP (EDAAP) brings together local people and partners to take action on local issues. Areas covered within the AAP boundary include the towns of Peterlee & Seaham and the outlying villages.

The AAP serves a population of over 90,000 people and is the only AAP that contains the whole coastline of County Durham from Crimdon to Seaham.

The areas once proud mining heritage is remembered in many memorials and pieces of art in every community and that mining heritage is demonstrated in the strong community spirit especially in the pit villages.

Welcome from the Chair Malcolm Fallow



It is particularly pleasing to reflect on the performance of our AAP during 2019-20. Once again it was a productive year with 156 projects being supported by AAP and councillor funding.

Of course, the year marked the 10th Anniversary of the formulation of the County Council and therefore the Area Action Partnerships. This provided us with the opportunity to look back on the overall impact of the decade, which tells us that we have approved projects totalling £14.1 million with an intervention rate for match funding of £1.31 for every pound invested, a major contribution to the local economy.

In terms of investment activity there have been many highlights from the year ranging from the support given to Durham Deafened Support for their fantastic "We are Listening" project to the funding of the Dementia Friendly support work through the Alzheimer's Society. However, for me, the activity that best reflected the overall ethos of East Durham AAP and our commitment to supporting the most vulnerable people in our communities was the programme of Holiday Activities that meant thousands of disadvantaged children were supported across the area during challenging times.

May I finally take this opportunity of thanking everyone involved in the AAP especially those no longer on the Board such as Pat Thoms, Phil Innis, Rachel Stockdale, Sarah Robson and John Reed.



Area Action Partnerships have had another busy year working with local communities and partners in County Durham and they continue to make a real difference to people's lives. Over 1000 local projects have been supported and each year the AAPs help myself and the other County Councillors allocate our Neighbourhood Budgets which are used to address community issues and support the valuable work of voluntary and community groups in the County. For most of the year it was business as usual for the AAPs but we cannot escape the fact that the very end of the year was dominated by Coronavirus. The AAPs responded magnificently and were involved in the establishment of the community hubs which have offered advice and support to many concerned residents. Additional funding that the council made available to support local communities during this crisis is being

allocated through the AAPs and many local groups have already benefitted. I would like to thank all those involved with AAPs; the staff, Board Members, most importantly, the members of the public who regularly support the work of the AAPs through their input on the AAP Forums and Task Groups.

Councillor Brian Stephens, Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods and Local Partnerships

Our People

Anyone who lives, works, studies or volunteers in the area can get involved with the Area Action Partnership. We currently have 900 people who are part of our wider Forum who receive regular updates and who are invited to get involved in the work of the AAP.

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 board members were:

ClIr Angela Surtees
ClIr Audrey Laing
ClIr Alan Napier
ClIr Lynn Pounder
ClIr Leanne Kennedy
ClIr Susan McDonnell
ClIr Isabella Roberts (Parish Council Rep)
Edna Connor (Public Representative)
Bill Smithson (Public Representative)
Julie Griffith (Public Representative)
Linda King (Public Representative)
David Blackwell (Public Representative)
Rona Hardy (Public Representative)
John Lane (Public Representative)
Vacant (Business)
Chris Williams (Fire and Rescue Service)
Inspector Emma Kay/Scott Jameson (Police)
Tina Balbach (NHS – DDES CCG)
Susan Robinson (Durham County Council)
Ian Porter (Housing)
Malcolm Fallow (Voluntary and Community Sector – ED Trust)
(Chair)
Terry Murray (Co-optee)
Jim Shand (Co-optee)

A special mention to Parish ClIr Marian Oliver who died before Christmas and was the Board's representative for the Easington Association of Town & Parish Councils. She has been replaced by Parish ClIr Isabella Roberts.

Welcome to the other newcomers Chris Williams, Susan Robinson, Scott Jameson. But not forgetting the contribution of those remaining board members some of whom have served on the Board since its inception in 2009. So thanks to all that have given their time and expertise on a voluntary basis over the course of the last 10 years which have seen so much great work for which we should all be justifiably proud.

2019/20 Funding Allocation

Area Budget

£25,000 Holiday Activities with Food funded 15 community organisations to deliver a range of activities during the school holidays including sports, arts and crafts, and excursions, so vulnerable children were provided with opportunity and food during the holidays once the provision of free school meals were no longer available.

£1,301 combined with £7,000 members Neighbourhood budget to Durham Constabulary funded the purchase of four Ebikes, two based at Peterlee Police Station and two at Seaham Police Station for use on patrol.

£11,016 to the Alzheimer's Society to fund a six-month extension to the Dementia Friendly Communities Worker to work with Dementia Friendly Communities to develop and promote the East Durham DFC Information Hub as a point of contact for current resources, information & support.

£5,000 to Durham Constabulary for the Safer Homes Scheme to provide basic home security items to individuals who are the most vulnerable in our communities. Safer Homes is a joint initiative with the Fire Service and Durham County Council offering assistance, advice and equipment to vulnerable members of our communities.

£22,982 to East Durham Trust for Advice and Support in Communities, a partnership scheme led by EDT with Advice in County Durham working with all community venues in East Durham to create local advice portals to ensure effective help is given to people most in need

£12,000 to Durham County Council to establish, grow, and support the sustainability and resilience of creative arts groups across the East Durham area, aimed at supporting older people to live happier and healthier independent lives.

£22,699 to East Durham Trust for an extension to their building to create an 'Arts Cafe' facility to extend the services to disadvantaged and vulnerable people across the East Durham AAP area. The extension is linked to the 'Peoples' Takeaway' facility that currently provides meals to families in crisis. Activities in the building will be programmed in such a way that it would be an environment for addressing issues around food poverty, social isolation and disengagement with Arts and Culture.

Social Isolation Fund

£25,000 to Durham Deafened Support to extend the 'We are Listening' project for another year and to increase the area in which the project works. The project works to prevent isolation within deafened community and support deaf people and their families in dealing with the issues that arise and to provide training for those who will come into contact with deaf people as to issues such as signing, lip reading, etc.

Welfare Reform

£10,000 Welfare Reform funding was combined with Area Budget to support the East Durham Trust Advice and Support in Communities project.

Youth Fund

£9,902 was awarded to four community organisations to deliver a range of activities for young people aged 11-19 years old. The funding supported activities such as summer holiday camps, ICT activities, and youth groups.

The following County Councillors are attached to the East Durham AAP; Lynn Pounder, Rob Crute, Leanne Kennedy, Kevin Shaw, Edward Bell, Jennifer Bell, Angela Surtees, David Boyes, June Clark, Ian McLean, Alan Napier, Joyce Maitland, Karen Hawley, Audrey Laing, Harry Bennett, Sue McDonnell, Karon Liddell, Gerry Bleasdale, Sue Morrison, Eunice Huntington, Ivan Cochrane, Peter Brookes, Lucy Hovvels, Jude Grant, John Higgins.

For further information or if you are interested in applying for about a County Councillor's Neighbourhood Budget please contact your local AAP office (details are on the last page).

For further Information on what projects individual Councillors have supported contact your local AAP.



Young people take part in Dawdon YCC activities



Arts Café



Police Ebikes

The Difference We Have Made



Shotton Community Hub

Shotton Community Hub was completed in February 2020 and opened its doors to members of the community just before the Covid-19 pandemic struck and the country went into lockdown. The Community HUB stayed open after implementing the governments health and safety advice. The HUB was able to support food deliveries, befriending service, hot meal deliveries and so much more.



Holiday Activities with Food

The Holiday Activity Fund 2019 continued to provide access to Holiday Activities with healthy Food to children, young people and families from across East Durham. Over 9500 meals and snacks were distributed during the Summer Holiday Period. Projects too place across the whole of East Durham working in partnership with the Voluntary and Community Sector and Durham County Councils Children and Young Peoples Services.



Police EBikes

The policing teams in Seaham and Peterlee received funding to purchase electronic bikes to help patrol the varied terrain of East Durham including: woodland, open areas, cycle and bridleway, villages, housing estates, parks, sports grounds and road networks. Officers average 20/25 miles per ride and they are a valuable asset. Area budget was combined with Neighbourhood budget to fund the purchase of four Ebikes, two based at Peterlee Police Station and two at Seaham Police Station for use on patrol.

The Difference We Have Made



Easington Colliery Band Room

The pay office is the only remaining building from the colliery in Easington and as such is locally significant. In the ownership of the Easington Brass Band for a number of years the building is being renovated thanks to funding from Cllr Angela Surtees and Cllr David Boyes in conjunction with European funding from Durham Coast and Lowlands LEADER. The renovated building will be a home for the band and a facility for the whole community.



Dementia Friendly Communities Co-ordinator

With funding from the Area Budget East Durham villages and communities are being recognised as Dementia Friendly Communities. Once recognised, each community is sustainable with a steering group and community lead/s who link to a regional support network and resources led by Alzheimer's Society. The Dementia Friendly Choir, Dementia Art Group and Peer to Peer 'Let's Meet UP' group are just some examples of initiatives where people living with dementia are working in partnership with Dementia Friendly Communities to have a voice and remain active in their communities as they choose.



Durham Deafened Support

Funding from the Older Persons Social Inclusion Fund is supporting deafened people within East Durham to integrate into everyday life. It uses a two-pronged approach of supporting Deafened people to raise their confidence levels, as well as training front line staff of various agencies to give them greater awareness of the needs of Deafened people who use their services. New groups are being developed in: lip reading; yoga; craft; sub titled film club; British sign language; and chi ball.

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