



## COMMUNITIES AND PLACE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AGENDA

Monday, 7 March 2016 at 1.30 pm in the Bridges Room - Civic Centre

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From the Chief Executive, Jane Robinson

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Item	Business
1.	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>
2.	<b>Minutes</b> (Pages 3 - 14)  The minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2016 are attached for approval
3.	<b>Review of Opportunities to Promote Rural Gateshead - Interim Report</b> (Pages 15 - 22)  Report of the Assistant Chief Executive and Strategic Director, Communities and Environment
4.	<b>Impact of the Early Work on Place Shaping for Health and Wellbeing</b> (Pages 23 - 28)  Report of the Strategic Director, Communities and Environment
5.	<b>The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 - Annual Progress Report</b> (Pages 29 - 36)  Report of the Strategic Director, Communities and Environment

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Date: Friday, 26 February 2016

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**GATESHEAD METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**COMMUNITIES AND PLACE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY**  
**COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Monday, 25 January 2016**

**PRESENT:** Councillor P Dillon (Chair)

Councillors: T Graham, L Caffrey, B Coates, P Craig,  
S Dickie, M Hood, H Hughes, K McCartney, J McClurey,  
C McHugh, J Simpson and A Wheeler

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Councillors M Graham

**23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D Davidson, K Dodds, J Graham and F Hindle.

**24 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 December 2015 were agreed as a correct record.

**25 REVIEW OF OPPORTUNITIES TO PROMOTE RURAL GATESHEAD - EVIDENCE GATHERING**

The Committee undertook its fourth evidence gathering session for the Review of Opportunities to Promote Rural Gateshead, which focussed on the views of academia and local businesses as to the issues which may impact on the future economic growth potential of rural Gateshead.

A Rural Business Panel took place as part of the evidence gathering and was made up by:-

Danny Turner – the owner of Daniels Farm near Crawcrook, who is currently in the process of doubling his egg producing business. In November 2015 Danny opened a new farm shop and Café on the site and has plans for a much wider family offer by extending the facilities currently on offer.

Rae Farmer – the founder of Bounce Back, a social enterprise based in the Chopwell and Rowlands Gill Ward. This specialises in learning opportunities to promote well-being and overcome domestic violence, including abuse faced by minority groups. Rae, whose works from home, is also the Director/Founder and owner of Next Steps - learning for life.

(A copy of the questions and responses from the Business Panel are appended to the minutes).

Dr Carmen Hubbard from the Centre for the Rural Economy at Newcastle University also attended the meeting and provided a presentation that highlighted the key issues which may impact on economic growth nationally, regionally and locally.

The presentation highlighted the Rural Growth Review key findings that included:

- Rural economies compare favourably, on several indicators with urban economies
- There are many interdependencies and flows between them
- However there are:
  - Differences, including specific barriers for growth:
    - Poor connectivity and communications (fast broadband, mobile coverage and transport)
    - Suitably qualified rural labour force
    - The importance of SMEs businesses
  - Some advantages:
    - Space for businesses to develop and expand
    - Abundant natural resources on which key rural industries (eg food and drink, tourism and renewable energy) depend

The Committee welcomed the actions for increasing rural productivity within the 10-Point Plan 2015 that include:

- Rural areas fully connected to the wider economy
  - Extensive, fast and reliable broadband services
  - High quality, widely available mobile communications
  - Modern transport connections
- A highly skilled rural workforce
  - Access to high quality education and training
  - Expanded apprenticeships in rural areas
- Strong conditions for rural business growth
  - Enterprise zones in rural areas
  - Better regulation and improved planning for rural businesses
- Easier to live and work in rural areas
  - More housing
  - Increased availability of affordable childcare
- Greater local control
  - Devolution of power

The presentation recognised that maintaining ‘institutional capacity’ is crucial to delivering economic growth in rural areas and also highlighted the potential funding opportunities for businesses that could be explored through Local Enterprise Partnerships and LEADER Local Action Groups.

The Committee emphasised the need to create successful and resilient local communities to make better use of cultural and heritage assets and the Committee were advised that this could be achieved through greater partnership working as well as building on existing opportunities to attract more funding.

The Committee recommended that work to establish strong support networks for the local economy and that maximising funding opportunities be explored.

RESOLVED - That the views of the Committee on the evidence presented be noted.

## 26 CASE STUDY - ACCESS TO PUBLIC SWIMMING AND SWIMMING CLUBS

The Committee considered a report that outlined the wider issues of public access to swimming including its value in public health terms and funding.

The Committee were informed of national and local participation levels of swimming, and it was highlighted that whilst swimming continues to be a popular sport, participation is declining rapidly, and there is a shift towards other activities such as exercise classes and clubs.

The Committee received presentations from:

### Birtley Amateur Swimming Club

- Established in 1974 as a Teaching and Specialist Lifesaving Club
- 152 Active Swimmers (near capacity) and 25 instructors/officials
- Waiting lists (45 – under 6years) and 49 applications from those aged over 6years
- Duke of Edinburgh Award Accredited

### Gateshead and Whickham Amateur Swimming Club

- Gateshead's only competitive club – also deliver learn to swim and masters swimming
- Utilise all five pools in Gateshead
- 255 members (15 male, 8 female, 85 boys and 147 girls)
- 98% live and work in Gateshead

The Committee queried if the reduction in numbers of lane swimmers but an increase in use of the pool for other activities was a concern. The Committee were informed that whilst this is a concern, the issue is around sustainability and as the pools are still being utilised in some way, this is acceptable.

The Committee queried the impact of the increase in charges the Amateur Clubs face to use the pools. The Committee were informed that the level of fee paid by club members is dependent on the level at which they swim and that the clubs will try and manage any potential impact the increase in charges may have on users the best they can.

The Committee queried if there were any recorded reasons as to why swimming has declined. Unfortunately there is no data for the decline locally and within national data it shows there are multiple factors and not just one particular factor that would prevent someone from swimming.

The Committee queried what is being done to engage with public health as it was highlighted that within some parts of the country, a subsidy for swimming is provided by the CCG. The Committee were advised that areas of best practice are being

looked at and it is recognised that there are opportunities to work more closely with Public Health.

It was highlighted that the Council delivers a learn to swim programme which follows the Amateur Swimming Association's Learn to Swim Framework but it is recognised that there is scope to increase the uptake of the Learn to Swim programme. An aquatic plan is being developed and will be in place in 2016. The Committee were also informed that the Council will look at more collaborative working with the swimming clubs for delivery of this programme.

The Committee were informed that the salary for a local authority instructor would be reviewed in order to help to deliver the aquatic plan.

It was also advised that the Council are being proactive and looking at other local authority pools which may be closing and offering our services to their current users.

RESOLVED - That the information be noted and that collaborative working be explored to deliver the learn to swim programme and public health benefits

## **27 OLYMPIC LEGACY - CASE STUDY UPDATE**

The Committee considered a report that provided an update on the case study which was considered by the Committee regarding the impact of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Gateshead.

The Committee were informed that although North East and National averages figures indicate slight increases in participation since 2005/06, it has become evident that since 2012 participation levels are declining.

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) has released its government strategy for sport in December 2015. It was noted that here will be a focus on people who do not tend to take part in sport, including women and girls, disabled people, those in lower socio economic groups and older people.

The strategy also recognises the important leadership role that Local Authorities have to bring schools, voluntary sports clubs, National Government Bodies, health and the private sector together to forge partnerships, unblock barriers to participation and improve the local delivery system.

The Committee were informed that in direct response to the Strategy, Sport England will produce their new Sport Strategy in March 2016 that will provide direction of how the DCMS strategy will be implemented on the ground, including any funding streams available.

The Committee queried if it was possible to measure if those participating in 1x30 minute sessions had progressed to undertaking more sessions per week however it is not thought it would be possible to capture this information within the Active People Survey.

When the case study was initially considered representatives from Tyne United Rowing Club and Gateshead Victoria Boxing Club attended the meeting of the OSC to discuss how they had benefitted from the Olympic Legacy. The Committee were informed that both clubs continue to achieve results and are looking to expand their current provision.

RESOLVED - The Committee recommended that the work to increase physical activity levels and potential funding opportunities be continued to be explored.

## 28 REVIEW OF SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL - UPDATE REPORT

The Committee considered a report that provided an update on the Review of Sustainable Travel.

The Committee were provided with an update on each of the agreed actions:

*The Committee acknowledges the work already being undertaken by the Council and Partners.*

This action focussed on the opportunity to learn from the work of Partners and particularly the work on travel planning development as part of the Go Smarter to Work (GSW) initiative. The programme continues to focus on business engagement at key employment centres.

During 2015 the Newcastle Gateshead GSW delivery team have concentrated on accessing employees within Gateshead. Some of the larger employers include the QE Hospital, the Council and Gateshead College. It was highlighted that within Team Valley, engagement remains difficult however engagement has been successful with 7 key employers.

*The Council continues its role as a leader in the adoption of low carbon vehicle technology*

The Council fleet now includes eleven Euro VI compliant vehicle, which include refuse/recycling vehicles, minibuses and gritters. The trial of Lightfoot technology, a live in-cab driver behaviour management tool has continued throughout 2015.

*The Council continues investment in bus infrastructure, supporting operator investment in new, low-emission vehicles*

Design work of phases five and six of the Durham Road Quality Corridor have commenced and will be completed in 2016/17 (construction work is yet to be scheduled).

Go North East has continued to invest in low carbon emission vehicles. A joint bid by the Council, Newcastle City Council, Nexus and Go North East was successful in securing funding from the Department for Transport's Clean Bus Technology Fund in August 2013.

*Major Infrastructure schemes should be monitored to assess their impact on alternative routes*

The Highways England works on the A1 continue to have an impact across the

network. All major routes are monitored by the Tyne and Wear UTMC Centre which provides updates to the travelling public via social media.

*Partners should co-operate to ensure effective enforcement of parking, bus priorities etc*

The enforcement camera car is an ongoing initiative, used to enforce restrictions at schools and bus stops. In 2015 a total of 962 penalty charge notices have been generated as a result.

*The provision of real-time information should be progressed as quickly as possible, and should be made available as widely as possible*

Whilst the project is progressing, real time bus information data from operators has been slow to be released but trials are ongoing with Arriva and Stagecoach.

*Innovative ticketing arrangements should be considered to complement infrastructure investment*

The North East Smart Ticketing Initiative is progressing well with smart tickets are now generally available on most forms of public transport in the North East.

POP Pay As You Go was officially launched on 2 November 2015 and is available to use on Metro, certain bus services and the Shields Ferry.

*Further work should be undertaken to address the image of cycling with secondary school pupils*

The Bike It and FEAT 1<sup>st</sup> projects are to be extended and have been integrated in the Schools Go Smarter legacy programme.

The Committee were informed that work on each action will continue and:

- Work will continue to develop the business case for the proposed Park and Ride at Eighton Lodge
- The Council will continue to investigate new funding opportunities for sustainable travel initiatives, infrastructure, low emission vehicles etc either on its own or through partnership working

The Committee commented that it is not felt that real time information has progressed satisfactorily and re-iterated that not all people using public transport have access to a smartphone.

The Committee requested that all Councillors be kept up to date with regard to any phased opening/completion of the works to the A1.

Queries were also made to the restrictions on use of the bus lanes and whether Private Hire Vehicles (with a paying fare) should be able to use the lanes. The Committee were informed that currently within the regulations, taxi only extends to Hackney Carriage vehicles, however if this were to be enforced there would be a cost implication to change the signage across the borough.

RESOLVED – The Committee were satisfied that sufficient progress had been made against agreed actions, with the exception of real time information.



## 29 REVIEW OF ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee received a report seeking its views on the effectiveness of the review of Domestic Energy Management/Fuel Poverty and the three case studies undertaken in 2014/15, including the subsequent monitoring of actions arising from the Committee's findings.

The case studies were used to examine:

Dog Fouling – the level and impacts of dog fouling and how Waste Services and Grounds maintenance are responding to the problem and reviewing how the service can be provided differently

Metrocentre Recruitment Model – the Council's joint working with intu Metrocentre and Jobcentre plus and case studies of employers who have utilised the recruitment support

Olympic Legacy – the physical activity levels of adults in Gateshead, both pre and post London 2012, including the views of two local sports clubs and how they have benefitted from the legacy.

The report summarised the key issues and findings for each case study.

The Committee was also asked to note that a draft work programme for 2016/17 is being prepared and that this will be set by the Committee at its meeting in April.

- RESOLVED:
- i) That the Committee was satisfied that potential review topics identified for 2016/17 will be considered for inclusion in the work programme
  - ii) The Committee was satisfied with the review monitoring process carried out so far
  - iii) The Committee was satisfied with the effectiveness of the case studies undertaken so far

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## **Communities and Place OSC**

### **Review of Opportunities to Promote Rural Gateshead**

#### **Business Panel Meeting**

**Monday 25 January 2016**

The Business Panel was made up by Danny Turner (DT) (owner of Daniels Farm near Crawcrook) and Rae Farmer (RF) (founder of BounceBack based at Chopwell and Rowlands Gill)

#### **Please provide a brief outline of your business**

DT – owner of a working farm between Wylam and Crawcrook – recently opened a farm shop, deli, tea room. Employs 15 people many of whom are local – plan to employ more in future and plan to develop the farm for school groups, disabled groups to come and visit see the animals, nature trails and walks – outdoor classrooms.

RF – sole trader (although has 3 directors – all whom are local) runs a wellbeing business, specialising in how to support change/conflict/crisis – works with a number of schools currently on a project called ‘sunshine in my tummy’

#### **What do you find are the barriers to developing a business in a rural area?**

DT – we have ideas/plans to make the visit to the farm more diverse and accessible so need to be able to accommodate disabled groups and need a toilet block installed. Found the bureaucracy and red tape especially during the planning process a long and drawn out process.

RF – I don't have/don't need an office as I go to my client base. Most of my work is based in other people's buildings. Being a sole trader can be isolating so a network/forum of other sole workers would be quite useful/helpful. Received good support from the enterprise team at the council at the start of my business venture and in particular the Going for Growth scheme. It is difficult trying to promote a business with limited networks. It would be useful to network and promote what I do within other organisations in the borough.

Being a member of the School for Social Entrepreneurs is very useful for networking and ideas but this is a national forum there is nothing local.

#### **What would you like done to increase visitor numbers?**

DT – Staff at the council have been really helpful providing more ‘technical assistance’. It is hoped that advertising and promotion will help to attract more visitors. The introduction of brown tourist signs would also be beneficial.

RF – it would be useful something if such as a sticker scheme (similar to dementia friendly places) could be created that would advertise ‘emotionally safe places’ that people could go to should then need to access such a facility. It would be useful if this type of scheme could be advertised within tourist information and also if an app for smartphones could be devised/linked.

*This should be passed on to the Public Health team to take this forward.*

### **What contact do you have with other businesses/networks?**

DT – I have found the enterprise team from the council very helpful but some financial assistance to move forward or some advice on how to get financial assistance would be much appreciated.

RF - the Enterprise Team were supportive at start up but now it is unclear where I go from here. The only network I am a member of is the School for Social Entrepreneurs which is a national organisation. Is this something which could be replicated locally?

### **Would you recommend Gateshead as a place to live/work to anyone else?**

DT – it is through choice that I live within the borough and yes I would promote it

RF– moved to the area to study and although I don’t have any family in the area I enjoy living here

### **Are you held back by skills issues/staff/skills groups?**

DT – for the farm shop/tea room there are lots of people that can do this type of role. The council helped us and held interviews at Ryton Rugby Club. When we do expand we hope to be able to employ more local people and would definitely use the council’s enterprise team again as their help was invaluable.

RF – help in promoting my business would be useful. I have only been able to access a small number of schools using my school governor connections.

### **If you were to expand would you take on apprentices?**

Danny – we would certainly look into this as the farm develops

Rae – yes would look at this in the future.

### **If you wanted to develop a website where would you go to? Is there a gap in the market for a web developer?**

DT – this is something I would have to ask for assistance with so would contact the Council to help with advertising/promotion.

RF – in addition to IT, we would need face to face champion locally as I have relied on the School for Social Entrepreneurs but they are a national organisation and there is a gap for something locally here.

### **What is the support network like?**

DT – I have always been able to speak to and felt comfortable speaking to the council's enterprise team.

RF – as I work on my own if I don't work I do not get paid so some sort of peer support would be beneficial.

### **Councillor Comments**

- support the safe places/spaces theme and the development of overnight safe accommodation to be advertised.
- two very worthwhile enterprises and hope future links can be provided for so that they do not have to fully rely on the council's financial assistance which is diminishing
- if we can no longer provide physical/financial resources can we at least provide signposting e.g. contact with similar existing schemes e.g. Bill Quay Farm. Mental health advocates?
- Is there scope to tap into existing farming industry for support?
- Bill Quay Farm are now an independent organisation There could be opportunities to find out what information/model they currently use for their business

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**TITLE OF REPORT:**       **Opportunities to Promote Rural Gateshead – Interim Report**

**REPORT OF:**               **Sheila Johnston, Assistant Chief Executive and Paul Dowling, Group Director, Communities and Environment**

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## **SUMMARY**

This report sets out the initial findings of the recent review which examined the opportunities to enhance the promotion of rural Gateshead as both a tourism and business location. Whilst the recommendations seek to enhance the economic growth potential of many sectors, they recognise the importance and potential for tourism in the economy and its role in the cultural identity of rural communities.

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## **REPORT STRUCTURE**

1. This interim report sets out the initial findings of the Communities & Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) in relation to a review of better promotion of rural Gateshead as both a tourism and business location. The report sets out the main issues raised; evidence to support these and provides recommended future actions.
2. The report includes details of:
  - Aims of the Review.
  - How the review was carried out.
  - Issues emerging from the review.
  - Recommendations.

## **THE AIMS OF THE REVIEW**

3. The Council agreed that the OSC should carry out a review examining the promotion of rural Gateshead as both a tourism and business location. Recognising that, like Government, rural communities have significant economic potential and can contribute to the economic growth of both the borough as a whole but also the wider region. The review recognised the role of tourism in protecting, preserving and celebrating the cultural heritage and identity of the area, and that it can create opportunities for new businesses and job creation via more effective use of rural assets.
4. Therefore the scope of the review was agreed as:

- **Business Growth** – To review services that support economic growth in the rural areas examining the potential for new businesses based around key assets. It will also review the partnerships approach to rural economic growth and the potential for new business and visitor accommodation to help improve economic performance.
  - **Emerging Places** – To review the services that deliver enhanced visitor potential, e.g. tourism activities, (including events,) environmental sustainability, volunteering opportunities etc. It will also explore better use for of key assets for economic purposes such as the Angel of the North.
5. Whilst the review was led by Gateshead Council it incorporated input from partner organisations to ensure a holistic approach that fully reflected the service delivery.
  6. On 30 March 2015 the OSC agreed that the scope of the review would focus on the following;
    - An understanding of the investment needs to support economic growth in rural communities;
    - Explore how key assets can support the growth of tourism businesses and help sustain the wider business base;
    - A better understanding of local tourism assets - and how these can work together more effectively to enhance the tourism offer;
    - A better understanding of tourism, marketing and promotion - exploring ways to increase the number of local visitors and overnight stays;
    - A better understanding of the regional approach to tourism promotion – including opportunities to work together to attract and retain visitors;
    - A better understanding of the local infrastructure including the accommodation offer - outlining key issues and opportunities;
    - Providing a clear direction as to maximizing the visitor experience for the Angel of the North, including increasing visitor numbers and dwell time.
    - Agree an approach to the development of sustainable community hubs which maintain the economic and cultural integrity of rural communities;

The committee concluded their work would result in:

- Ensuring that clear arrangements are in place within the Council and in partner agencies for improving the promotion of the rural area as both a tourism and business location.
- Enhancing effective and efficient working and avoiding duplication.
- Providing direction as to the adherence of national policy.

## **POLICY CONTEXT**

7. The approach has clear links to National, Regional and Local Policy. For example



- the 2012 National Planning Policy Framework outlined the need to “support sustainable development in rural areas by taking a positive approach to new development”;
  - The North East LEP’s Strategic Economic Plan recognises the tourism and heritage potential of the rural North East, relating both to the creation of new businesses and job opportunities;
  - In addition, this approach also links to the objectives of the North East Combined Authority (NECA), contributing to the need to enhance economic growth across the LA7 area. The Devolution proposal submitted to Government in September 2015 includes a rural ‘Ask’.
8. Locally, Vision 2030, the Council Plan (2012-2017) and the Local Plan outline the approaches of the Council and Partners to promoting economic growth and enhancing the borough’s tourism and cultural identity. These approaches are carried forward into delivery strategies such as the Council’s Rural Economic Strategy and Creative Gateshead, the borough’s Culture Strategy. Objectives include the need to:
- Maximise the potential derived from a high quality living environment and improving broadband infrastructure to support business development and job creation;
  - Create a network of creative hubs and community hubs to drive economic growth and strong, cohesive communities addressing the unmet demand for business space;
  - Create a strong visitor economy, by using our rural assets more effectively and the use of private sector investment to create tourism jobs;
  - Build the skills and successes of our residents and the cultural sector.

## **HOW THE REVIEW WAS CARRIED OUT – METHODOLOGY**

9. This review is the result of four evidence gathering sessions of the OSC between September 2015 and January 2016. The sessions involved presentations to the Committee on 14 September, 2 November, 7 December and 25 January as well as a site visit on 2 November.
10. During the review the Committee heard evidence from:
- Officers from Gateshead Council – Economic Housing and Growth Service, Culture, Communities, Leisure and Volunteering
  - Newcastle Gateshead Initiative – Destination Marketing Organisation
  - The National Trust – Property Manager Gibside Estate
  - Newcastle University – Centre for Rural Economy
  - Rural Business Panel – Private Sector Businesses

A site visit took place to:

- The Gibside Estate – Chopwell and Rowlands Gill Ward

## ISSUES EMERGING FROM THE REVIEW – ANALYSIS OF EVIDENCE

11. As a result of the evidence gathering sessions and site visit the following emerging issues were identified
12. **The untapped potential of many of the boroughs rural assets and a lack of visitor accommodation.**

The review highlighted the historic significance of sites such as the National Trust's Gibside Estate, the Angel of the North and the Derwent Valley, with well in excess of one million visitors to the area every year. It outlined the need to protect the historic importance of these assets, whilst increasing their economic potential, recognising that income generation can help protect them for future generations whilst providing leisure and cultural venues. Members were made aware of funding opportunities that enhance the potential and future sustainability and growth of these and other sites.

Developments at the Gibside Estate were reported, with the Branch Enterprise Hub highlighted as a model of good practice in supporting the growth of local businesses. The nationally significant Georgian Walled Garden, Gibside Hall and other, potentially new visitor attractions, were outlined as part of the review process and was though likely to have a significant impact on future visitor numbers.

Details of visitor accommodation in the rural area were also highlighted, including the lack of a high quality rural hotels. Research highlighted the significant potential for accommodation at tiered price points such as glamping, camping and B+B's. In the first instance, opportunities to increase midweek visitor numbers and particularly midweek visitor stays will help maximise the potential of existing assets and increase the viability of local accommodation that is often oversubscribed at weekends.

13. **The need to work with the private sector to maximise the investment in the tourism businesses infrastructure.**

Private sector investment in businesses such as Bradley Gardens and Daniel's Farm outlined the significant potential for developing a high quality, privately funded tourism infrastructure in the area. An infrastructure that creates jobs and enhances the local food supply chain.

The significant potential for the growth of tourism related businesses was therefore recognised, which could be enhanced further via better utilisation and promotion of rural tourism assets. Members were made aware of funding opportunities, such as LEADER, that will support capital investment in businesses in rural areas.

The review highlighted the symbiotic relationship between maximising the economic potential of key rural assets and businesses that are often

developed alongside an improving assets base. Opportunities often go hand in hand, in an area that has significant untapped potential.

**14. The lack of suitable, affordable business space in rural areas.**

Members were informed of the Rural Growth Review which highlighted the lack of suitable business space across many parts of rural England and the development of Rural Growth Networks (RGN) in 2012 to encourage rural growth. The North East rural area, which includes Gateshead, was identified as one of five pilots seeking to increase the quality and availability of rural business space.

The committee was informed that availability of good quality rural business accommodation remains an issue in Gateshead (and across the rural NE) despite the development of enterprise hubs at Gibside and The Kibblesworth Village Millennium Centre. Members were made aware of funding opportunities to support new enterprise hub development through RGN funding and the importance of such hubs in helping businesses collaborate and overcome the isolation felt by many businesses in rural areas.

**15. The need to improve business communication and collaboration and ensure access to business support.**

The review highlighted that rural businesses face the same difficulties as urban based businesses, but additionally isolation and distance from specialist business support and markets can often limit their growth potential. The success of the RGN Business Support Programme, with 135 businesses supported in Gateshead alone in the 18 months to March 2015 was highlighted, as was the need to promote peer to peer networking given that rural businesses often work in isolation. The underdeveloped nature of Gateshead's rural business base offers opportunities for self employment and the growth of new and existing businesses.

The importance (and challenges) of the Green Belt was highlighted, however the need to explore how businesses can be supported to develop, within the context of the Green Belt and wider planning policies, was acknowledged.

**16. The need to continue to work with local, regional, national and international partners to grow the number of day visitors and overnight stays.**

The review outlined the need to actively promote rural Gateshead within different market segments to maximise the number of people who visit and stay in rural Gateshead. It highlighted the need to encourage day visitors from both Gateshead and the wider region, but also to encourage a range of suitable accommodation (and a quality food offer) to meet the needs, and price band of different overnight visitors.

It also highlighted the need to work effectively with regional partners to develop the national and international offer, which builds on the collective

heritage offer of the wider region. Whilst the “Lady of Liberty” and “Turners” classic watercolours of the Derwent Valley are of historic important in their own right, this increases with link to the regional offer including the castles of Northumberland and the World Heritage sites of Hadrian’s Wall and Durham Cathedral. This collective approach (and strong narratives) provides a competing offer against other regions, encouraging overnight or longer stays. Gateshead’s unique position in having both urban and rural assets to contribute to the regional tourism offer was highlighted as significant.

Members were informed of the availability of European Funding (EAFRD) to support the growth of tourism accommodation, tourism businesses and regional tourism promotion and highlighted a need for greater relevance to be given to the rural assets of Gateshead in future Newcastle Gateshead Initiative (NGI) Visitor Guides, with the need to include details of cycling routes to increase interest in rural locations. Discussions have also taken place with NGI to develop a marketing cappaign to promote the rural area in the next financial year.

**17. Recognition of the impact of the rural area on health and wellbeing.**

The review outlined initiatives which encourage residents to visit the rural area, which help to promote an active and healthy lifestyle. Reference was made to opportunities for walking and cycling, whilst more active, targeted events such Gibside 5km park run were highlighted. Rural activities were also seen to have a positive impact on mental health, with the potential to work with businesses (and their employees) to raise awareness of such issues and to provide positive experiences and support where appropriate.

**18. Recognition of the need for enhanced partnership working to maximise the economic benefit for rural communities.**

Members heard of the extensive work that has been undertaken to ensure that people from rural areas have the opportunity to maximise the economic potential of rural living, this included being part of the North East Farming Rural Advisory Network (NEFRAN) which has seen the borough access funding from both LEADER and RGN.

In addition to current and future plans that will see superfast broadband speed be available to 99% of households by 2019, the committee was informed of the approach taken to rebrand the Derwent Valley with new brown tourism signage and tie this to tourism promotion. Whilst the public transport access to Gibside Estate is better than at many other National Trust properties, opportunities to explore better access to rural areas should be explored.

Members were made aware that the Devolution proposal that was submitted to Government in September included a rural ‘Ask’. Opportunities to work together with partners to develop this proposal should be encouraged.

The review outlined significant opportunities available to support volunteering through organisations such as the National Trust.

Whilst skills shortages were not seen in customer facing jobs in tourism, the need for skilled workers is seen as a requirement for higher level tourism jobs, there is a need to support the development of higher skilled jobs in the hospitality sector, particularly around the higher quality food offer. This was seen as a key way to attract visitors. There is also a need to support the growth of other higher levels jobs in for example manufacturing.

Improved broadband speeds offer high quality living and the opportunity for jobs in creative and cultural employment to be more easily based in rural communities. Opportunities for apprenticeships need to be explored with rural businesses.

## 19. **Draft Recommendations**

This report aims to summarise the key findings from the OSC's review of promoting rural Gateshead as a tourism and business location:

- (i) The Council should maximise the visitor potential of rural assets, thereby creating the best possible environment for new business development, job creation and tourism potential. This should include further research into the development of a 4 star hotel and exploring how the wider accommodation offer can be enhanced. The economic potential of key sites such as Gibside and the Angel of the North should be encouraged.
- (ii) Research has demonstrated a continued lack of high quality, affordable business space in rural communities, therefore support to develop new enterprise hubs should continue, including the opportunities for existing cultural venues to generate income to support their future sustainability.
- (iii) There is scope to ensure that Council spending in the rural area seeks to maximise benefits to local businesses, residents and visitors – to make best use of resources and impact multiple agendas.
- (iv) The Council provides a borough wide business support offer, however opportunities to enhance this should be considered. External funding should be sought where possible to provide business support and help overcome isolation and provide networking opportunities.
- (v) There is scope to to improve the the tourism offer by increasing the choice and quality of the food offer, and also to identify gaps in the provision of rural services.
- (vi) There is the need to better coordinate the promotion of events in the borough, including those of public private and voluntary sector bodies. This would help promote the borough as a day visitor location and support the growth of jobs and businesses.

- (vii) Discussions have highlighted the desire for NGI to take a more proactive role in rural destination marketing – this needs to be explored as part of the ongoing partnership agreement between NGI and Gateshead Council.
- (viii) Higher skilled people are needed if the tourism potential of rural Gateshead is to be realised. Apprenticeships opportunities should be explored.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

- 20. The views of the committee are sought on the content of the interim report
- 21. The Committee is asked to agree the draft recommendations as the basis for the Final Report.

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**Contact:** Andrew Marshall, Lindsay Murray ,

**Extension:** 3422, 2794

**TITLE OF REPORT:** Impact of the Early Work on Place Shaping for Health and Wellbeing

**REPORT OF:** Paul Dowling, Strategic Director, Communities & Environment

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## SUMMARY

To update members on the Impact of the Early Work on Place Shaping for Health and Wellbeing

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## Background

1. In November 2011 Strategy Group approved the establishment of a group to take forward work on Place Shaping for Wellbeing, to support the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board.
2. In the 2007 report of from his independent Inquiry into the future role, function and funding of local government, Sir Michael Lyons defined place shaping as “**The creative use of powers and influence to promote the wellbeing of a community and its citizens**”. It is crucial to understand that this means that place shaping extends far beyond any definition of ‘place’ that is restricted to consideration of only the physical or built environment.
3. Gateshead’s ambitions and aspirations for local communities requires a forward looking approach over a long time period to achieve many of the improvements outlined in Vision 2030. In particular, the goals for improving health and life expectancy require a transformational approach over a period of 20 years, and attempting to meet these goals by a succession of short term plans will not be successful.
4. At the time of establishing the Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board it was agreed that it would be supported by 3 strands of work:
  - **Action for health (1-5 years time frame)**
  - **Integrated Commissioning (3-5 years timeframe)**
  - **Place Shaping for Health and Wellbeing (3-20 years timeframe)**

## Agreed Scope of the Work

5. The Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board considered the scope of the work at its meeting on 24 February 2012, and agreed that it should cover the first 5 policy objectives of the Marmott Review of Health Inequalities:
  - Give every child the best start in life

- Enable all children young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives
- Create fair employment and good work for all
- Ensure healthy standard of living for all
- Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities

6. The Board also considered the following short, medium and long term goals for their Place Shaping for Health and Wellbeing work strand

#### **Short Term**

- The Local Development Framework will be a transformational document, and Gateshead's Health Impact Assessment tools will be the best in the country
- We will know our position on the 'league table' of several conditions, know what current trajectories look like and know how big a gap there is to close
- We will have some new targets for the Strategic Needs Assessment
- We will have established the basis for the broadest possible strategies for creating health and wellbeing

#### **Medium Term**

- The Strategic Needs Assessment will define wellbeing needs as the gap to be closed, and the timeframe to close it
- The Health and Wellbeing Strategy will be broadly transformational
- Staff will be motivated by challenging targets and the challenge to improve things in Gateshead faster than anywhere else
- Communities will start to want to be better, and will start to carry out many of the improvements themselves
- Many health indicators will start to improve faster than our neighbours

#### **Long Term**

- Gateshead residents will have the longest and healthiest lives in England
- All residents have a positive attitude to physical activity and incorporate it into their daily lives
- People have the opportunities to make positive lifestyle choices to improve their physical and mental health

7. As it is a piece of transformational activity, the work is guided by the original World Health Organisation definition of 'health':

**“Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity”**

In this context, the Place Shaping Strand is about creating the conditions necessary for good physical, mental and social well-being, rather than attempting to cure conditions or provide services to sufferers, which falls to the other work strands.



## Progress in 2015/16 – Early Impact of the Place Shaping Agenda

### Take Away Nutrition Project

8. A joint initiative between the Public Health Team and the Environmental Health service took samples of common take away meals from local independent hot food take aways and submitted the samples for detailed nutritional testing.

The survey found a large variation in portion sizes and composition of the same meals, and wide variations in price. It also identified high densities of take away shops in certain parts of Gateshead.

- We have worked with Public Health England on identifying the legal barriers to controlling the proliferation of unhealthy food outlets.
- The Core Strategy and Urban Core Plan for Gateshead and Newcastle contains a Policy controlling the location of, and access to, unhealthy eating outlets.
- Gateshead became the first area in the North East to introduce tighter controls on the basis of health on where and how many fast food outlets can be opened. Our Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) was adopted in March 2015. It allows 12 issues to be considered when planning applications are submitted for take-aways. They include health impact, litter, and disposal of waste, odours and noise abatement, anti-social behaviour as well as proliferation or clustering of take-aways above the national average. The SPD will also allows planners to refuse permission for a new take-away if it is within 400m of schools, parks, leisure centres or other places likely to be visited by large numbers of children and young people.
- Since the adoption of the SPD, planners have refused 3 applications for hot food take aways, take away applications have dropped and Gateshead was featured in the BBC's Inside Out programme over our work in this field.

### Active Travel

9. The importance of creating the right conditions for people to travel in a manner that adds to their level of physical activity has been recognized in a variety of ways:

- Further implementation and development of the Government funded 'Schools Go Smarter' and 'Go Smarter To Work' projects. Funding for these projects runs out at the end of 2015/16. Work is underway on developing 'legacy projects' to take forward elements of this work, and also to work through the Combined Authority on ideas for future bids to promote active travel through the Government's new 'access fund';
- Additional external funding was secured through the Local Sustainable Transport Fund and Cycle City Challenge to enable additional investment in improvements to cycle routes in Gateshead town centre. Continued investment in cycle and pedestrian networks using Local Transport Plan and other funding. Information from the 2011 Census has shown an increase in levels of cycling and walking to work in Gateshead since 2001.

## Financial Inclusion

10. The Gateshead Financial Inclusion Partnership has continued to take a multi-agency approach to addressing financial exclusion. Welfare Reform changes and in particular the introduction of Universal Credit are of significant concern, and are closely monitored by the partnership to identify any potential support at an early stage.

Key actions of the partnership have been to:

- Monitor developments of the government's welfare to work agenda, including the timeline for all phases of Universal Credit roll out and the Benefit Cap.
- Identify appropriate support mechanisms for residents affected by welfare reform, in particular the Personal Budgeting Support (PBS) available from Revenue & Benefits, and the utilisation of Alternative Payment Arrangements (APA) to safeguard the tenancies of vulnerable residents.
- Digital mapping has been completed to show where residents can get free online access in order to make an online claim to Universal Credit. This is now available on the Council website.
- Worked with Credit Unions to address debt and credit by promoting a savings culture, and by highlighting quick and easy access to fair and affordable credit.
- Share information across all partners ensuring front line advisory staff are aware of the resources and support available to improve the financial wellbeing of Gateshead people.

In addition to the work of the FI Partnership Economic & Housing Growth has also:

- Delivered two internal Credit Union events for employees to offer savings via salary deduction. This has resulted in 24 employees opening new Credit Union accounts and an additional savings income to NEFirst Credit Union in excess of £1,300 per month (£15,600 per year).
- In partnership with Barclays and Northumbria Police delivered the first of a series of Fraud & Scams Awareness Workshops aimed at Gateshead's most vulnerable residents.
- In partnership with Jobcentre Plus and Citizens Advice Bureau brought into Gateshead 'Sanction Prevention Workshops', the first of which was delivered 3rd February 2016 with further workshops scheduled to run bi-monthly.
- Been the driving force behind the creation of the newly formed 'Regional Financial Inclusion Partnership', with representation from all seven local authorities coming together to discuss and address regional priorities to address financial exclusion.
- Work is also ongoing with Tyne & Wear Fire & Rescue which will see a Financial Inclusion support leaflet distributed to vulnerable residents during Fire Officers regular visits to vulnerable households. Tyne & Wear Fire & Rescue currently visit in the region of 10,000 vulnerable people each year, making the potential to get financial inclusion support messages into vulnerable households huge.

## **Recommendations**

11. It is recommended that the Committee:

- notes the progress made on the Place Shaping strand of work;
- agrees to continue with the activity, and to receive a further progress report in April 2017.

**CONTACT:** Peter Wright

**EXTENSION:** 3910

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**TITLE OF REPORT:** Flood & Water Management Act 2010 – Annual Progress Report

**REPORT OF:** Paul Dowling, Strategic Director, Communities & Environment

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## **SUMMARY**

To report progress in the implementation of the duties and responsibilities of Gateshead Council as lead local flood authority.

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## **Background**

1. In February 2011, November 2012, March 2014 and March 2015 this Committee received reports outlining:
  - the Council's statutory responsibilities and duties in relation to local flood risk management (FRM), following the introduction of the Flood & Water Management Act 2010 (F&WMA);
  - the duties for local authority scrutiny committees to review work by public sector bodies and essential service providers in order to manage flood risk and to prepare an annual report on local actions to manage flood risk and to implement the Pitt Review.
2. Under the F&WMA each unitary authority or county council is identified as the lead local flood authority (LLFA) for their district and they are expected to provide leadership and accountability for local FRM regarding surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses.
3. The Service Director of Development & Public Protection is the Council's lead officer: the Highway & Flood Risk Management team (in Transport Strategy) is managing the function.

## **Lead local flood authority duties**

4. The key implications of the legislation for local authorities are:
  - preparing, maintaining and publishing a local FRM strategy to link to the Environment Agency's (EA) national and local strategies;
  - preparing, maintaining and publishing a register of third party FRM infrastructure assets;

- investigating reported flooding incidents and publishing a register of investigations;
- statutory consultee to the local planning authority (LPA) for sustainable drainage systems (SuDS);
- consenting of ordinary watercourse works (diverting, culverting, restricting flow etc.);
- cooperation with and oversight of other FRM bodies.

### **Local flood risk management strategy**

5. Preparation of the flood risk management strategy has been ongoing for some time. The draft document has been through consultation with FRM partners and will be submitted to Cabinet in April for approval. The strategy has been delayed because of the changes to the SuDS planning regulations.

### **Register of third party FRM infrastructure**

6. The register must include location, size, condition and ownership details of drainage infrastructure (river embankments, walls, revetments, culverts etc.) that prevent or limit flooding on ordinary watercourses. The register has been established and work is ongoing to identify critical culverts.

### **Investigation of flood incidents**

7. A register of reported flooding incidents has been established. The rainfall in the summer and autumn of 2012 was exceptional and well beyond the design capacity of typical piped drainage systems. The storms led to an unprecedented number of enquiries (over 300) which were investigated by the FRM engineer in the Transport Strategy service. The storms of December 2015 and January 2016 were also significant but not of the same magnitude as 2012.
8. Over fifty minor infrastructure improvements to highway / land drainage to reduce the risk of future flooding have been carried out since 2012. Several other minor improvement schemes have been identified since the January 2016 storms and have been added to the list of future works.
9. Following the storms of 2012 twelve flooding locations required detailed investigations to determine the precise mechanism of the flooding and possible improvements to drainage systems. The majority require joint working with the Environment Agency (EA) or Northumbrian Water (NW). The limited resources available mean that it will be several years before full investigations and improvement schemes are completed. Appendix A lists the locations where joint working with partners is ongoing.

## **Sustainable drainage systems statutory consultee**

10. SuDS are natural or manmade green infrastructure features designed to store water or discharge water to the ground to limit flows to downstream drainage systems: examples include soakaways, ponds, swales etc. SuDs also have the benefit of improving water quality.
11. The Government (through Defra) introduced regulations in April 2015 requiring major developments to incorporate SuDS as part of the site surface water management systems. The regulations established the LPA as the body responsible for approving SuDS and the LLFA became statutory consultee for the SuDS approval process. The Highway & Flood Risk Management team has added a dedicated SuDS engineer to respond to the consultations.

## **Consenting of ordinary watercourse works**

12. Consenting procedures have been developed in conjunction with the EA: to date six applications for works have been received for the culverting or diversion of small lengths of watercourses.

## **Scrutiny and oversight of other FRM bodies**

13. Quarterly liaison meetings have been established by officers from the Transport Strategy FRM team with colleagues from the EA and NW. Regional groups of LLFA officers have been established to share best practise, experience and local knowledge: one of the groups has been considering local planning guidance for SuDS. The groups include officers with expertise in FRM, development management, and environmental management.

## **Recommendations**

14. It is recommended that the Committee:
  - notes the statutory responsibilities of Gateshead Council for local FRM and the measures taken to comply with those duties;
  - agrees to review local FRM outcomes of all local agencies and to receive an annual progress report in March 2017.

**CONTACT:** Jimmy Young

**EXTENSION:** 3073

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Ref.	Streets	Lead / Partner	Area / Ward	No. of Properties	Probable Causes	Short Term Action (completed)	Possible Long Term Measures
2012/01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ridgeway</li> <li>The Willows</li> <li>Scott's Court</li> <li>Langley Avenue</li> <li>Beaufront Close</li> <li>Leam Lane</li> <li>The Bowes Railway</li> </ul>	Gateshead Council / NW	Leam Lane <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wardley &amp; Leam Lane</li> </ul>	Up to 50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Surface water runoff from the farm land and Leam Lane to the south</li> <li>Surface water runoff from houses / drives / hardstands onto roads</li> <li>Blocked road gullies</li> <li>Blocked culvert</li> <li>Surcharging culvert?</li> <li>Blocked public sewers</li> <li>Surcharging public sewers</li> <li>Debris from the Bowes Railway path</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public sewers checked by Northumbrian Water</li> <li>Culvert checked and desilted</li> <li>Road gullies jetted and desilted</li> <li>Additional road gullies in the low points on Leam Lane and Ridgeway</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed mapping and condition assessment of the public sewers, highway drains and culvert</li> <li>Construct a new culvert inlet on Leam Lane and inspect the inlet monthly</li> <li>Reconstruct the Bowes Railway surface to resist storm water damage</li> <li>Storm water storage?</li> </ul>

- The Highway & Flood Risk Management team has submitted a bid to Defra (through the EA) for funding to carry out a feasibility study to precisely determine the causes and mechanics of the flooding.
- The feasibility study will establish the likelihood and risk of further flooding and will determine whether (or not) the 2012 flooding will qualify for a Defra grant for a flood risk management construction scheme.
- Carl Hodgson is working with Northumbrian Water (and their specialist consultant) to prepare a joint feasibility study / scheme to address surface water flooding and public sewer flooding.
- The target date for construction is summer 2016.

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Ref.	Streets	Lead / Partner	Area / Ward	No. of Properties	Probable Causes	Short Term Action (completed)	Possible Long Term Measures (completed)
2012/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Noel Avenue</li> <li>Mundle Avenue</li> <li>Holly Avenue</li> <li>Naylor Avenue</li> <li>Spa Well Road</li> </ul>	NW / Gateshead Council	Winlaton Mill <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Winlaton &amp; High Spen</li> </ul>	Up to 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Surface water runoff from the farm land and discharge of public sewers into the stream to the west of Winlaton Mill</li> <li>Surface water runoff from houses / drives / hardstands onto roads</li> <li>Blocked road gullies</li> <li>Blocked culvert inlet</li> <li>Blocked public sewers</li> <li>Surcharging public sewers</li> <li>Debris from the watercourse</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public sewers checked by Northumbrian Water</li> <li>Culvert inlet improved to prevent grill blockages</li> <li>Road gullies jetted and desilted</li> <li>Additional road gullies in the low points on Noel Avenue</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NW is installing a major upgrade to the public sewer system</li> <li>It includes works to manage surface water using storm water tanks</li> <li>The scheme is scheduled for completion by April 2015</li> </ul>

- The NW scheme was completed in May 2015.
- The improved sewer and storm water systems coped well with the storms of December 2015 and January 2016.

Ref.	Streets	Lead / Partner	Area / Ward	No. of Properties	Probable Causes	Short Term Action (completed)	Possible Long Term Measures
2012/03	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Green Lane Gardens</li> <li>Eastwood Gardens</li> <li>Felling Bypass</li> </ul>	Gateshead Council / NW	Nest Estate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Felling</li> </ul>	Up to 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Surface water runoff from the streets and land above and in front of Green Lane Gardens</li> <li>Surface water runoff and pumped water from the Felling Bypass</li> <li>Blocked road gullies</li> <li>Surcharging public sewers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public sewers checked by Northumbrian Water</li> <li>Road gullies jetted</li> <li>Large soakaways in the open space land in front of Green Lane Gardens</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NW's consultants are undertaking a detailed assessment of the flooding events and a feasibility study for possible improvement works</li> <li>Gateshead Council has made a small financial contribution (£10k) to the study</li> <li>Gateshead Council has secured a Defra FRM grant for surface water management works</li> <li>A joint scheme of public sewer upgrades and surface water management works has been provisionally scheduled for 2016/17</li> </ul>

- The Highway & Flood Risk Management team has secured a grant through the EA / Defra for a flood management scheme.
- A feasibility study has established the likelihood and risk of further flooding and identified options for improvement works.
- The target date for construction is summer 2017.

Ref.	Streets	Lead / Partner	Area / Ward	No. of Properties	Probable Causes	Short Term Action (completed)	Possible Long Term Measures (completed)
2012/04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Valley Drive</li> <li>Dryden Road</li> <li>Durham Road</li> <li>The Drive</li> <li>Salkeld Gardens</li> </ul>	Gateshead Council / NW	Low Fell <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deckham</li> <li>Low Fell</li> <li>Saltwell</li> </ul>	Up to 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Surface water runoff from streets and land above Valley Drive</li> <li>Surface water runoff from fields in the Dryden Centre</li> <li>Surface water runoff from houses / drives / hardstands onto Valley Drive</li> <li>Blocked road gullies</li> <li>Surcharging public sewers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public sewers checked by Northumbrian Water</li> <li>Road gullies jetted</li> <li>New channel drains in Valley Drive / Old Durham Road junction</li> <li>Storm water storage ditch in the Dryden Centre</li> <li>Kerb works on Durham Road</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional road gullies in the low points on Dryden Road and Durham Road</li> <li>Gateshead Council has secured a Defra FRM grant for property level protection (flood doors, air brick covers etc.) to 12 properties on Salkeld Gardens and Valley Drive</li> <li>The works are being undertaken jointly by Gateshead Council &amp; NW and are scheduled to be completed by April 2015</li> </ul>

- Northumbrian Water (NW) has carried out a survey of the public sewers serving the area: no blockages and no significant structural defects were found.
- NW is satisfied that the case for alterations to the public sewerage system is not justified.
- The minor improvements to the road drainage system on Old Durham Road / Valley Drive / Dryden Road and the drainage ditch in the Dryden Centre will reduce the risk of water running onto Durham Road and The Drive.
- An EA / Defra grant was secured for the installation of flood doors, air brick covers, flood barriers etc. for 12 properties on Salkeld Gardens, Valley Drive and Dryden Road. Carl Hodgson worked with NW and a specialist consultant / contractor for the installation of the works.

Ref.	Streets	Lead / Partner	Area / Ward	No. of Properties	Probable Causes	Short Term Action (completed)	Possible Long Term Measures
2012/05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>St Mary's Terrace</li> <li>Sunderland Road</li> <li>Shields Road</li> <li>The Drive</li> <li>Heworth Metro Station</li> </ul>	Gateshead Council / NW	Heworth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Felling</li> <li>Pelaw &amp; Heworth</li> </ul>	Up to 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Surface water runoff from the streets and land above Sunderland Road (Heworth Grange School, the new Heworth Cemetery, The Drive, Watermill Lane, High Heworth Lane)</li> <li>Surface water runoff from houses / drives / hardstands onto roads</li> <li>Blocked road gullies</li> <li>Blocked culvert inlet</li> <li>Surcharging culvert?</li> <li>Surcharging public sewers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public sewers checked by Northumbrian Water</li> <li>Culvert checked</li> <li>Road gullies jetted</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed mapping and condition assessment of the public sewers, highway drains and culvert</li> <li>Detailed assessment of the cemetery drainage system</li> <li>Additional road gullies in the low point on Sunderland Road</li> <li>Increase the frequency of the culvert inlet inspections</li> <li>Storm water storage?</li> </ul>

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Ref.	Streets	Lead / Partner	Area / Ward	No. of Properties	Probable Causes	Short Term Action (completed)	Possible Long Term Measures
2012/06	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sherburn Park Drive</li> <li>Glen Close</li> <li>Ponthaugh</li> <li>Avon Close</li> </ul>	Gateshead Council / NW	Rowlands Gill <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chopwell &amp; Rowlands Gill</li> </ul>	Up to 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Surface water runoff from the farm land to the north of Glenn Close</li> <li>Surface water runoff from houses / drives / hardstands onto roads</li> <li>Surcharging public sewers</li> <li>Blocked road gullies</li> <li>Blocked culvert inlet?</li> <li>Blocked public sewers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public sewers checked by Northumbrian Water</li> <li>Road gullies jetted and desilted</li> <li>Additional road gullies in the low point on Sherburn Park Drive</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed mapping and condition assessment of the public sewers, highway drains and culvert</li> <li>Capacity study for the culvert</li> <li>Farm land ditch reinstated</li> <li>Storm water storage?</li> </ul>

- The location has a recorded history of flooding caused by run-off from the land to the north.
- The Highway & Flood Risk Management team has submitted a bid to Defra (through the EA) for funding to carry out a feasibility study to precisely determine the causes and mechanics of the flooding.
- The feasibility study will establish the likelihood and risk of further flooding and will determine whether (or not) the 2012 flooding will qualify for a Defra grant for a flood risk management construction scheme.

Ref.	Streets	Lead / Partner	Area / Ward	No. of Properties	Probable Causes	Short Term Action (completed)	Possible Long Term Measures (completed)
2012/07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shelley Drive</li> <li>Keats Walk</li> <li>Blake Walk</li> </ul>	NW / Gateshead Council	S James's Village <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bridges</li> </ul>	Up to 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Surface water runoff from the streets and land above Shelley Drive</li> <li>Partially blocked (tree roots) and surcharging public sewers</li> <li>Blocked road gullies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public sewer check / derooting by Northumbrian Water</li> <li>Road gullies jettied</li> <li>Additional road gullies in the low point on Shelley Drive</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NW is installing a major upgrade to the public sewer system</li> <li>It includes works to manage surface water using detention tanks and SuDs features</li> <li>Gateshead Council has made a small financial contribution (£10k) for additional works to manage surface water and to improve highway drainage</li> <li>The scheme is scheduled for completion by April 2015</li> </ul>

- The NW scheme was completed in June 2015.
- The improved sewer and storm water systems coped well with the storms of December 2015 and January 2016.

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Ref.	Streets	Lead / Partner	Area / Ward	No. of Properties	Probable Causes	Short Term Action (completed)	Possible Long Term Measures
2012/08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Field Lane</li> <li>Laburnum Avenue</li> <li>Birch Avenue</li> <li>Sunderland Road</li> </ul>	Gateshead Council / NW	Heworth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pelaw &amp; Heworth</li> </ul>	Up to 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Surface water runoff from the Felling Bypass embankment</li> <li>Surface water runoff from houses / drives / hardstands onto Field Lane</li> <li>Surcharging public sewers</li> <li>Blocked road gullies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public sewers checked by Northumbrian Water</li> <li>Road gullies jettied</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NW is installing a major upgrade to the public sewer system</li> <li>It includes works to manage surface water using detention basins and other SuDs features</li> <li>Gateshead Council has made a small financial contribution (£10k) for additional works to manage surface water and to improve highway drainage</li> <li>The scheme is scheduled for completion by April 2015</li> <li>Gateshead Council has secured a Defra FRM grant for additional surface water management works on Field Lane during 2017/18</li> </ul>

- The NW scheme was completed in June 2015.
- The improved sewer and storm water systems coped well with the storms of December 2015 and January 2016.

Ref.	Streets	Lead / Partner	Area / Ward	No. of Properties	Probable Causes	Short Term Action (completed)	Possible Long Term Measures
2012/09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lobley Hill Road</li> <li>Queensway North</li> <li>Eslington Park</li> <li>River Team</li> </ul>	EA / Gateshead Council	Team Valley <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lobley Hill &amp; Bensham</li> <li>Dunston &amp; Teams</li> </ul>	Up to 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>River Team outside its channel</li> <li>Surface water runoff from factories / houses / drives / hardstands onto roads</li> <li>Blocked road gullies</li> <li>Blocked culvert inlet</li> <li>Surcharging culvert?</li> <li>Surcharging public sewers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EA preliminary assessment</li> <li>Culvert inlet cleared and culvert checked</li> <li>Road gullies jetted</li> <li>Highway drains desilting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The EA has secured a Defra FRM grant for River Team alterations and environmental improvements</li> <li>A joint EA / Gateshead detailed River Team integrated drainage system study has been completed</li> <li>The EA has commissioned a feasibility study to determine options for River Team deculverting and surface water management</li> <li>UK Land Estates has committed to joint funding of the improvement works</li> <li>The works are provisionally scheduled for 2017/18/19</li> </ul>

- The joint River Team drainage study is nearing completion and the computer model for the Team Valley Trading Estate catchment is in final verification: the EA is leading on the study.
- The EA has applied for a Defra funded grant to reduce flood risk, improve water quality and to improve river habitat along the River Team from Lamesley to the Tyne.
- The improvement grant is subject to review by Defra and is competing with all major schemes around the country: allocations and the scheme implementation may be delayed by the recent flooding in Southern England.
- UK Land Estates (the main Team Valley land owner) has committed to jointly funding the River Team improvement works.

Ref.	Streets	Lead / Partner	Area / Ward	No. of Properties	Probable Causes	Short Term Action (completed)	Possible Long Term Measures
2012/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grange Terrace</li> <li>Grange Estate</li> <li>The Crescent</li> </ul>	Gateshead Council / NW	Kibblesworth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lamesley</li> </ul>	Up to 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Surface water runoff from farm land and the bridlepath to the south</li> <li>Blocked road gullies</li> <li>Blocked culvert</li> <li>Surcharging culvert?</li> <li>Surcharging public sewers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public sewers checked by Northumbrian Water</li> <li>Culvert checked</li> <li>Highway drains desilting</li> <li>Road gullies jetted</li> <li>Ditch desilting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed mapping and condition assessment of the public sewers, highway drains and culvert</li> <li>Additional road gullies</li> <li>Storm water storage?</li> </ul>

- Carl Hodgson was previously investigating the possibility of a storm water detention basin near the Bowes Railway line access road at the top of Grange Terrace.
- However the Environment Agency has commenced a detailed study (jointly with Gateshead Council) for the management surface water as part of a larger scale scheme to reduce flood risk on the Team Valley.