

Northumberland County Council
Ashington and Blyth Area Committee
Work Programme 2023-24

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UPDATED: DECEMBER 2023

TERMS OF REFERENCE

- (a) To enhance good governance in the area and ensure that the Council's policies take account of the needs and aspirations of local communities and do not discriminate unfairly between the different Areas.
- (b) To advise the Cabinet on budget priorities and expenditure within the Area.
- (c) To consider, develop and influence policy and strategy development of the Council, its arms-length organisations, and other relevant bodies, to ensure that they meet local requirements and facilitate efficient and transparent decision making.
- (d) To receive information, consider and comment on matters associated with service delivery including those undertaken in partnership agencies, affecting the local area to ensure that they meet local requirements, including matters relating to community safety, anti-social behaviour and environmental crime.
- (e) To consider and refer to Cabinet any issues from a local community perspective with emerging Neighbourhood Plans within their area, and consider local planning applications as per the planning delegation scheme
- (f) To consider and recommend adjustments to budget priorities in relation to Local Transport Plan issues within their area, and to make decisions in relation to devolved capital highway maintenance allocations.
- (g) To engage, through the appropriate networks, with all key stakeholders from the public, private, voluntary and community sectors to facilitate the delivery of area priorities. This will include undertaking regular liaison with parish and town councils.
- (h) To inform, consult and engage local communities in accordance with Council policy and guidance, through the appropriate networks.
- (i) To, as appropriate, respond or refer with recommendations to local petitions and councillor calls for action.
- (j) To make certain appointments to outside bodies as agreed by Council.
- (k) To determine applications for grant aid from the Community Chest, either through Panels for individual Local Area Committee, or through the Panel of Local Area Committee Chairs for countywide applications.
- (l) To refer and receive appropriate issues for consideration to or from other Council Committees, and as appropriate invite Portfolio Holders to attend a meeting if an item in their area of responsibility is to be discussed.
- (m) To exercise the following functions within their area:-
 - (i) the Council's functions in relation to the survey, definition, maintenance, diversion, stopping up and creation of public rights of way.
 - (ii) the Council's functions as the Commons Registration Authority for common land and town/village greens in Northumberland.
 - (iii) the Council's functions in relation to the preparation and maintenance of the Rights of Way Improvement Plan.
 - (iv) the Council's functions in relation to the Northumberland National Park and County Joint Local Access Forum (Local Access Forums (England) Regulations 2007.

(v) the Council’s role in encouraging wider access for all to the County’s network of public rights of way and other recreational routes.

ISSUES TO BE SCHEDULED/CONSIDERED

Standard items updates: Public question time , petitions, members’ local improvement schemes (quarterly).

To be listed:

Northumberland Communities Together

Tourism

Capital Programme Slippage

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15 November 2023	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winter Preparedness Update • Community Chest (Wansbeck)
10 January 2024	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northumbria Police Update • Fix my Street Report • Budget
13 March 2024	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Chest (Newbiggin)

15 May 2024

- Community Chest (Blyth)
- Healthwatch

Northumberland County Council
Ashington and Blyth Local Area Committee
Monitoring Report 2023-2024

Ref	Date	Report	Decision	Updates
1.	15.11.2023	Petition seeking the continuation of staffing and activities in Hirst Park once grant funding from National Lottery Heritage Fund ceases.	RESOLVED that members considered the report and noted: <ul style="list-style-type: none">i. A great deal of good work had taken place to rejuvenate Hirst Parks thanks to investment in the Hirst Park Revival project by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, Northumberland County Council, Ashington Town Council, Ashington Leisure Partnerships, and others.ii. The lifetime of the project had been extended and was planned to run until the end of March 2024.iii. Staff employed by the Hirst Park Revival Project were employed locally, remaining professionally linked to Hirst Park and the local community.iv. NCC and partner organisations would continue to support and promote events, activities, and	

			volunteering within the park as part of the on-going management arrangements for the park, as this was a key part of the legacy of the project and supported achievements of the parks "Green Flag" status.	
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