



South Tyneside Council

item 8

Jarrow Neighbourhood Board (Jarrow Forward) Update

This document has been classified as: **Official**

Rory Sherwood-Parkin, Corporate Lead for Policy & Insight
– rory.sherwood-parkin@southtyneside.gov.uk

Cabinet – 5th November 2025

Report to Cabinet

Cabinet Portfolio/Lead Member: Cllr Margaret Meling, Lead Member for Economic Growth and Transport

Report of Rory Sherwood-Parkin, Corporate Lead for Policy & Insight

Subject: Jarrow Neighbourhood Board (Jarrow Forward) Update

Date: 5th November

Wards affected: Bede, Fellgate & Hedworth, Monkton and Primrose

Council ambitions: All

Does the report and any appendices contain information which has been identified as confidential or exempt?

- No, this report does not contain information identified as confidential or exempt.

For Executive Decisions only:

Is the decision a Key Decision? Yes

Is it included in the Forward Plan? Yes

If not in the Forward Plan is the report: N/a

Relevant Scrutiny Chair:

Cllr John McCabe, Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating and Call in Committee

Is the decision eligible for call-in by Scrutiny? Yes

Purpose of Report

1. This report asks the Executive to endorse the ten-year Regeneration Plan for Jarrow produced by the independent Jarrow Neighbourhood Board, Jarrow Forward, and to support its governance arrangements and future plans.
2. Jarrow Forward is comprised of partners across Jarrow, defined as the NE32 postcode areas, and South Tyneside Council is its accountable body.
3. The Regeneration Plan has been produced following extensive engagement with residents, young people, businesses, community groups and local, regional and national agencies over the past year.
4. The submission of the Plan into Government will unlock £20m of funding over ten years through the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government's Plan for Neighbourhoods programme beginning in April 2026. Approval is expected by March 2026.

Background Information

1. Jarrow was identified in October 2023 as one of fifty-five, which subsequently became seventy-five, towns across the country to benefit from £20m of funding over ten years through the previous Government's Long Term Plan for Towns. The programme would focus on three priorities; anti-social behaviour, town centres and connectivity.
2. Jarrow was chosen, alongside other towns in the North East, such as Spennymoor and Washington, based on a methodology which looked at indicators such as deprivation, employment, crime and anti-social behaviour. The funding would be 75% capital and 25% revenue and South Tyneside Council would be the accountable body.
3. Government asked in early 2024 that, in order to unlock the funding, an independent Town Board be created. Some capacity funding from Government was made available to help with this.
4. Jarrow Forward was therefore formed, comprising a wide range of partners across the public, private and voluntary sectors including Barbour, Kate Osborne MP, Bede's Helping Hands, Tyne Coast College, Groundwork North and South Tyneside, Nexus, Bilton Hall Community Trust, Inspire South Tyneside and Jarrow School.
5. The Chair was agreed as Susan Wear, Geoff Thompson was named as Vice Chair while four elected members were nominated to represent each of the wards (Bede, Fellgate and Hedworth, Monkton and Primrose).

6. The Board agreed to focus on the NE32 postcode area definition of Jarrow, established clear governance including a Terms of Reference, Code of Conduct and Declaration of Interests process and formed an Executive Group to help progress its plans.
7. Following the announcement in October 2023 and guidance issued in early 2024, Government asked all Town Boards to submit a ten year Town Plan and three year investment plan by 1st August 2024.
8. Jarrow Forward held a number of meetings and a workshop of key partners over the course of Spring and Summer 2024 which led to the creation of a high level plan that was submitted to Government by its 1st August deadline.
9. This had ten key priorities and was deliberately high level, making a commitment to community engagement to help focus the plans and seek residents views on how the funding could be best spent.
10. The General Election in July 2024 resulted in the Long Term Plan for Towns programme being put on hold.
11. Following lobbying by South Tyneside Council, the North East Combined Authority and towns across the country, the new Government announced in the Autumn Budget in November 2024 that the programme and funding would continue, albeit with changes.
12. In March 2025, Government confirmed that the Long Term Plan for Towns would become the Plan for Neighbourhoods with the same amount of funding, but a wider focus and a start date of April 2026. Further capacity funding would be allocated to help boards to engage with local communities and draw up plans.
13. The new guidance saw a change in tone with the expressed intention for it to have a “relentless focus on economic growth” and national renewal. It shifted the priorities away from the previous Government’s priorities for the fund to three new focus areas; thriving places, thereby strengthening town centres and public services; stronger communities, including investment in community projects and boosting a sense of belonging; and taking back control, enabling areas, for example, to join up skills, employment and other services in a place.
14. The language of the fund was also changed away from Town Plans and Town Boards to Neighbourhood Boards and areas were asked to reconfirm their governance arrangements by April 2025, which Jarrow Forward did.
15. Jarrow Forward reinstated its intention as engaging with the community to work out how best to invest the fund to improve the lives of residents, revive the prospects of the town and increase opportunities. This aligns closely with the South Tyneside Vision and Jarrow Forward has put in place a clear set of five values. These provide a framework for the decisions being made so that everything that happens in Jarrow over the next ten years will help progress towards our vision.

16. Since its inception, Jarrow's Neighbourhood Board, Jarrow Forward, has met eight times in total, complemented by work carried out by the Executive Group and, most recently, significant community and partner engagement.
17. Minutes are published on the Council's website and a report taken to Cabinet in July 2024 gave the Board delegated authority over the funding (subject to the Council being the Accountable Body).
18. In addition, the Board hosted a tour of Jarrow for civil servants and a Government Minister in Summer 2025, is currently liaising with other towns within the Plan for Neighbourhoods programme and appointed a Partnership Manager in September 2025.

Main issues and Options to be Considered

19. Government guidance issued earlier this year asked all Neighbourhood Boards to submit a ten-year Regeneration Plan, including a four year Investment Plan, for their town by the end of November 2025.
20. This would be subject to light-touch approval from Government in the New Year, allowing for funding to flow from April 2026.
21. While not prescriptive in terms of format, guidance stated that towns must within their Plans;
 - Set a clear vision for the place, including appropriate short, medium and long-term objectives which take account of the place's wider context and ambitions;
 - Present clear evidence of the needs, challenges, strengths and weaknesses of their area;
 - Present a plan for investment which has clear strategic fit with the programme's three strategic objectives, reflects community priorities and builds on evidence of what works;
 - Clearly demonstrate how the local community and key stakeholders have been involved in shaping the future vision and proposed programme of investment, and how this will continue throughout the programme lifetime and beyond;
 - Present an indicative expenditure profile for your place, based on your best estimate of when capacity and programme funding will be spend over the next 10 years;
 - Demonstrate appropriate system and controls in place to ensure that funding is spent compliantly and effectively.
17. As a result of the work carried out by Jarrow Forward since its formation, a Regeneration Plan has been agreed by the Jarrow Forward Neighbourhood Board.

18. This is underpinned by strong evidence from a range of sources, including publicly available data, engagement with key local, regional and national partners (from three workshops), MHCLG data and, crucially, a comprehensive community engagement campaign which ran between March and May 2025.
19. The 'Your Jarrow' campaign sent every house in Jarrow a Jarrow Festival brochure with an advert for the campaign; receiving 1,500 responses to an online and paper survey. This included 500 submissions from young people. The campaign engaged 100 groups and stakeholders, including seven focus groups; carried out bespoke community engagement with specific groups, clubs and community organisations via Cultural Spring and Groundworks; and spread the word about Jarrow Forward through online communications, press releases, social media and posters in community venues, transport hubs and on big screens.
20. From all of this research, engagement and evidence gathering, clear themes emerged. The engagement across Jarrow, which included a big focus upon creative participation, found that residents and young people want to see more opportunity in the town for skills, leisure and creativity.
21. They want to see safe and attractive parks, playgrounds and other green spaces and would like a thriving town centre with a wider variety of shops, cafes and things to do. While adults suggested youth centres, young people tended to talk about better outdoor facilities and places to meet, being part of events and festivals rather than separated off and invisible.
22. Partners and residents wanted to see a significant improvement in Jarrow's image, and landscape; enhancing its key visitor sites and experiences to give them national or even international standing, capitalising on UK and international visitors to the global headquarters of Barbour, St Paul's monastery, Jarrow Hall, Monkton Athletics Stadium and South Shields FC.
23. In particular, businesses and schools looked for ways to support young people to help themselves to a better future, growing their ambition and confidence through art and creativity, cultural events and festivals, and opportunities to learn skills that are not on the curriculum.
24. It was clear across the research and analysis that there were many opportunities on offer in Jarrow that residents did not know about and there was a real thirst for more information about things to do, see, take part in, and for more information to help update outdated perceptions of the town.
25. Jarrow Forward also talked to many national partners, discovering their ambitions and planned developments and it became apparent that there needed to be an integrated blueprint for Jarrow. Importantly, it was recognised that sustained long-term delivery must be driven for and by the community itself.
26. Therefore, a clear Vision was created; to transform Jarrow into a place where people can thrive on opportunity and where every young person will have a helping hand to be the best they can be;

“Inspired by its iconic history, Jarrow will once more be a vibrant creative and cultural centre, powered by the community, empowering its young people to be the best they can be.”

27. The plan is based on five values which will underpin all decisions; life enhancing, innovative, sustainable, engaging and considering legacy.

28. Three key priorities have been developed to achieve the vision;

- **Better futures for Jarrow’s young people;** More opportunities for young people in Jarrow to inspire ambition, grow confidence and increase creativity. We will prioritise play and creativity, and support the growth of culture, arts and sports. Additional non-curriculum skills, crafts, digital and employability training, including a potential flagship centre for creativity and innovation to be a focal point for youth provision and a hub for 18-25 year olds.
- **A re-energised Jarrow town centre;** Transform the look and feel of Jarrow town centre, improving transport, digital and active travel connectivity within and with the outlying Jarrow estates, sport and heritage assets; creating innovative events to attract people into Jarrow and raise Jarrow’s profile; developing new initiatives and hubs for skills, creativity, health and wellbeing, encouraging new independent social enterprises and bringing health to the high street.
- **A connected, cohesive Jarrow community;** This will all be underpinned by creating a new image for Jarrow as it transforms to a place where there is opportunity for all to thrive. We want to celebrate the pride in Jarrow and its numerous assets, encouraging residents, visitors and investors to the town. We will invest in events, festivals, leisure and heritage assets and build capacity in the vital community groups that do so much to support communities across Jarrow.

29. While Jarrow Forward await feedback from Government on the plan, it is developing a communications strategy to build on the initial engagement with communities, partners and businesses, supporting efforts to inform, enthuse and inspire the community and partners to engage and participate.

30. It is also launching a community fund later this year to support community organisation capacity and will establish Jarrow Forward Working Groups of board members and partners to cover each of the three priorities. This will help to shape and work up projects and schemes in advance of April 2026 in partnership with local, regional and national partners.

31. Therefore, the two options for the Executive are to either;

- Not endorse the plan and Jarrow Forward’s continued ways of working, which would put the £20m of funding for Jarrow into jeopardy;

- Or, as recommended, endorse the work of Jarrow Forward and its Regeneration Plan, sending a strong signal to Government of our intent to use this funding to make a real difference to Jarrow.

Implications

32. The implications of the proposal are set out above, but in short are that by endorsing the Regeneration Plan for Jarrow, £20m of funding over ten years can be unlocked enabling interventions which can help boost the town.
33. The evidence gathering undertaken has highlighted and identified key challenges and barriers in Jarrow which this funding can play its part in overcoming.
34. The Plan is designed as an integrated strategy that can unlock wider funding from other local, regional and national sources to maximise the benefit for Jarrow.

Financial and Resources

35. The Plan for Neighbourhoods £20m of funding over the next ten years is external funding from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.
36. Jarrow Forward is subject to Section 151 officer approval and oversight and has clear governance processes in place – see Appendix 1 – which will allow the Council to undertake its role as Accountable Body.

Legal and Governance

37. There are limited legal implications as the Cabinet report from July 2024 gave Jarrow Forward delegated authority over spending decisions subject to adhering to the Council's procurement rules. The governance of Jarrow Forward is set out in Appendix 1 and will be supplemented by additional working groups for each of the three themes.

Risk

38. The major risk is of not endorsing the Regeneration Plan which would put the £20m of funding at risk. There are additional risks on the delivery of key projects, all of which will be managed through Jarrow Forward and its governance.

Equality and Diversity and Community

39. Equality, diversity and community are at the heart of the Regeneration Plan for Jarrow and the priorities are rooted in feedback from the community.

Environmental and Sustainability

40. There are no significant environmental and sustainability implications arising from the proposed recommendations in this report. However, one of Jarrow Forward's key values is of sustainability and ensuring any interventions and projects consider the natural environment.

Council Ambitions, Policies, Strategies and Plans

41. The proposal clearly aligns with the Council's ambition to ensure residents are healthy and well, connected to jobs and part of strong communities as the Regeneration Plan prioritises all of these areas.

Consultation and Engagement

42. Significant consultation has been carried out with local residents, community groups, businesses, partners and others as set out in the report and in Appendix 1.

43. Jarrow Forward has made a commitment to continue this engagement, including through a community capacity fund launching later this year.

Recommendations

44. It is recommended that the Executive;

- **Endorse the Regeneration Plan produced by Jarrow Forward and welcome its submission to Government;**
- **Support the governance of Jarrow Forward and its future work.**

Reasons for Recommendations

45. The reasons for these recommendations are set out above, particularly as the plans and priorities of Jarrow Forward's Regeneration Plan align closely with the South Tyneside Vision.

Appendix 1 – Jarrow Regeneration Plan

JARROW FORWARD

Neighbourhood Board

Inspiring the Jarrow of Tomorrow

REGENERATION PLAN 2026 - 2036

Inspired by its iconic history of innovation, Jarrow will once more be a vibrant creative and cultural centre, powered by the community, and empowering its young people through opportunity to be the best they can be

Supported by



South Tyneside Council



Funded by
UK Government



Contents

Foreword from the Chair	4
Executive Summary	5
1. Vision & Values	8
2. Local Context	9
3. Spatial Targeting	12
4. Our ten year plan for Jarrow	15
5. Identifying our three priorities for Jarrow	17
6. Delivering our Plan	24

Foreword from the Chair of Jarrow Forward

This 10-year Regeneration Plan for Jarrow is the result of months of engagement with residents, young people, businesses, service providers and national agencies.

Alongside huge pride in the town's iconic history and green environment, there is an overwhelming desire for more and better local jobs, cultural activities, leisure facilities, an increased range and quality of shops and cafes, and chances for young people to play, create, learn, and grow in confidence and ambition.

One in three children live in poverty in Jarrow, a town of 29,000 people. A third of households do not have access to a car and unemployment and health statistics are among the worst in the UK. Recognising that it will take more than investment in facilities to achieve the radical shift needed to halt socio-economic decline and break the cycle of generational deprivation, our plan sets out how we will begin to tackle the town's challenges together.

We propose using the Plan for Neighbourhoods fund to create opportunities to leverage, and amplify the various aspirations, ideas and plans we have heard from the community, business, public sector partners, government and the local authority.

Our aim is to support a range of new opportunities for children, young people and families that will also re-energise the town centre, providing attractive reasons to visit, increasing footfall that ultimately supports the foundational economy, reinforcing a feeling of safety.

We will also seek to empower and improve community cohesion and connectivity, with better transport for the estates surrounding the town centre and more celebration of our cultural, sport and heritage assets and events.

Key to the success of this plan will be empowerment for the highly motivated community organisations and individuals who are already making a huge difference across Jarrow. And we will nurture and unleash the incredible creativity, evidenced in the engagement activities, of our young people when they told us what they want their future to bring.

The research also revealed ingrained perceptions and highlighted the need to communicate change effectively so that it resonates with residents. To this end, our vision and narrative make reference to the world-renowned achievements in culture, sport, enterprise, innovation and leadership that Jarrow people told us they were proud of.

The plan will help Jarrow to become a place where young people particularly can feel welcome, supported and optimistic about creating their own better future, where every young person will have the chance to become the best they can be.

In ten years' time, in 2036, we will be commemorating the centenary of the Jarrow March, as well as the 1300th anniversary of the world-renowned scholar, The Venerable Bede, whose work is still used in science today.

The Plan for Neighbourhoods fund, backed by the new ideas and initiatives undertaken by Jarrow's resilient and innovative communities, can mark a new milestone in the forward march of Jarrow to become, and be known as, a creative and cultural town with opportunity for everyone to thrive and be part of a new era in Jarrow's iconic history.



Susan Wear,
Chair, Jarrow Forward

Executive Summary

From the start of Jarrow Forward, we have put the voice of Jarrow residents at the centre of our plans, our vision, our values and our key priorities – all with the aim of inspiring the Jarrow of tomorrow. In summary:

Our Plan is grounded in evidence, research and engagement

Our engagement across Jarrow, which has included a big focus upon active participation, found that residents and young people want to see more opportunity in the town for fulfilling jobs, skills, leisure and creativity. They want to see safe and attractive parks, playgrounds and other green spaces and would like a thriving town centre with a wider variety of shops, cafes and things to do. While adults suggested youth centres, young people tended to talk about better outdoor facilities and places to meet, being part of events and festivals rather than separated off and invisible.

Partners and residents wanted to see a significant improvement in Jarrow's image, and landscape; enhancing its key visitor sites and experiences to give them national or even international standing, capitalising on UK and international visitors to the global headquarters of Barbour, St Paul's Monastery, Jarrow Hall, Monkton Athletics Stadium and South Shields FC.

In particular, businesses and schools looked for ways to support young people to help themselves to a better future, growing their creativity, ambition and confidence through art and sport, cultural events and festivals, and opportunities to learn skills that are not on the curriculum.

It was clear across the research and analysis that there were many opportunities on offer in Jarrow that residents did not know about. There was a real thirst for more information about things to do, see and take part in, and for more information to help update outdated perceptions of the town.

We also talked to many national partners and discovered their ambitions and planned developments and it became apparent that there needed to be an integrated blueprint for Jarrow. Importantly, it was recognised that sustained long-term delivery must be driven for and by the community itself.

From our engagement, we have created an exciting Vision for Jarrow

Following the data, research and national and regional context, the overall vision is to transform Jarrow into a place where people can thrive on opportunity and where every young person will have a helping hand to be the best they can be.

Our vision

Inspired by its iconic history of innovation, Jarrow will once more be a vibrant creative and cultural centre, powered by the community, and empowering its young people through opportunity to be the best they can be.

Our plan is based on our clear set of five Values

- **LIFE-ENHANCING**
- **SUSTAINABLE**
- **INNOVATIVE**
- **ENGAGING**
- **LEGACY**



We have three key priorities to achieve our Vision

1. BETTER FUTURES FOR JARROW'S YOUNG PEOPLE

More opportunities for young people in Jarrow to inspire ambition, grow confidence and increase creativity. We will prioritise play and creativity, and support the growth of culture, arts and sports. Additional non-curriculum skills, crafts, digital and employability training, including a potential flagship centre for creativity and innovation to be a focal point for youth provision and a hub for 18-25 year olds.

2. A RE-ENERGISED JARROW TOWN CENTRE

Transform the look and feel of Jarrow town centre, improving transport, digital and active travel connectivity within and with the outlying Jarrow estates, sport and heritage assets; creating innovative events to attract people into Jarrow and raise Jarrow's profile; developing new initiatives and hubs for skills, creativity, health and wellbeing, encouraging new independent social enterprises and bringing health to the high street.

3. CONNECTED, COHESIVE JARROW COMMUNITY

This will all be underpinned by creating a new image for Jarrow as it transforms to a place where there is opportunity for all to thrive. We want to celebrate the pride in Jarrow and its numerous assets, encouraging residents, visitors and investors to the town. We will invest in events, festivals, leisure and heritage assets and build capacity in the vital community groups that do so much to support communities and cohesion across Jarrow.

Our first steps working in partnership

We will develop a communications strategy that will build on our initial engagement with communities, partners and businesses, supporting efforts to inform, enthuse, inspire the community and business partners to engage and participate;

We will launch a community fund later this year to support community organisation capacity;

We will establish Jarrow Forward Working Groups of board members and partners, including young people, to cover each of the three priorities and work up key projects and schemes in advance of funding starting in 2026/27 and do so in partnership with local, regional and national partners.

These potentially include:

- A programme focused on play with a town hub and an adventure facility focal point
- A programme of international interest festivals / exhibitions / arts events celebrating history and innovation – with friends of Jarrow Festivals
- Visual and access improvement to the public realm and environment in Jarrow town centre – with Viking Centre owners and other shops and independent businesses
- Feasibility/development study for a centre for partnership with national and regional organisations such as Arts Council England and Groundwork
- Joint work with Job Centre Plus/DWP to develop a hub for 18-25 year olds year olds and set up careers programmes in Jarrow
- Transport and connectivity improvements giving better and safer access to the town centre from surrounding wards and at metro and bus stations with Nexus, Stagecoach and Go North East
- Explore how health can be embedded into the high street in Jarrow working closely with NHS partners such as the Integrated Care Board and Foundation Trust

We will be setting targets and timelines alongside South Tyneside Council, who are fully committed and integral to the plans, as we look to deliver on our key outcomes.

These are set out along with further detail on how we will achieve this in our full Plan. We look forward to working with Government to inspire the Jarrow of tomorrow.



1. Our Vision & Values

In 2025 government funding of £20m over 10 years was confirmed for the town of Jarrow. As a result Jarrow Forward was formed; a group representing 25 key organisations in the public, private, voluntary and education sectors, along with the MP for Jarrow and Gateshead East, Kate Osborne, and local councillors.

Its role is to engage with the community to work out how best to invest the fund to improve the lives of residents, revive the prospects of the town and increase opportunities.

To deliver on our vision, Jarrow Forward has put in place a clear set of five values. These provide a framework for the decisions we make so that everything that happens in Jarrow over the next ten years will help progress towards our vision.

Life-enhancing

We support interventions that can transform lives, increase confidence and wellbeing, and raise aspirations, particularly focussed on the next generation.

Sustainable

We are committed to caring for and sustaining our environment, protecting and enhancing nature and building resilience to climate change.

Innovative

We encourage dynamic change for the better, actively and inclusively supporting creativity across our businesses, communities, schools and other organisations, attracting new investment.

Engaging

We know that improvements cannot be sustained without the support of everyone in Jarrow, and we will actively and transparently promote the place, place, the opportunities it provides and partnerships within and outside Jarrow.

Legacy

We will always consider the future sustainability of projects and plans, considering longevity and legacy at the outset.

Our vision for Jarrow, guided by these values, is of a place where every young person has the chance to be the best they can be and inspired by Jarrow's innovative past, increasing ambition, confidence and creativity. We will focus on integrating plans, places and services to harness this strong sense of pride and start making a difference straight away to build momentum (this includes community capacity funding).

Jarrow should be vibrant, thriving, clean, green and sustainable, home to jobs and opportunities; it should be welcoming, accessible and home to a sustainable business environment, full of life-enhancing opportunity for young people; and it should be a place to achieve something, learn something, see something and a place where opportunity is unlimited and community is celebrated. Our Vision Statement therefore is:

”

Inspired by its iconic history of innovation, Jarrow will once more be a vibrant creative and cultural centre, powered by the community, and empowering its young people through opportunity to be the best they can be.

2. Local Context

The iconic town of Jarrow in North East England is known worldwide as the home of the polymath, The Venerable Bede, its innovation in steel and shipbuilding and the origin of the 1936 March against hunger and poverty.

With over 29,000 residents, Jarrow has many challenges, not least the decline of its town centre, but it also has a proud, motivated and active community, and elected representatives with a will to create a better future for the next generation.

Jarrow's population is 52% female, 48% male with a fifth of residents under 16, 61% of working age and just over a fifth aged over 65. 97% of residents were born in the UK and 98.5% speak English as their main language. 96.8% of residents identify as White, 1.2% as Asian or Asian British or Asian Welsh, 1.1% as Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Groups, and 0.4% each as Black or Other Ethnic Groups. The town has a small but growing population of families from different ethnic backgrounds. Our plans seek to be inclusive to all through integrated, community working.

Set on the south bank of the River Tyne and adjacent to one of the UK's busiest ports, Jarrow has a unique place in world history but, like most post-industrial towns, suffers some of the worst levels of deprivation in the UK in crime, health, and generational unemployment.

It is well connected to the regional and national transport infrastructure, boasting three Metro stations, and a busy bus station, with easy access to the A19 and A1, the Keelman and Hadrian's Way cycle-paths, and both the vehicle and pedestrian Tyne Tunnels. The airport and mainline stations in Newcastle and Sunderland are within 30 minutes travel by Metro or bus.

CASE STUDY:

The Venerable Bede and Jarrow Hall

Bede Museum at Jarrow Hall tells the story of The Venerable Bede and his time, from the beginnings of the Anglo-Saxon period through his life, death and extraordinary legacy. Widely regarded as the 'father of English history', Bede was an author, scholar, linguist and translator who also composed works on astronomical timekeeping and the motions of the sun, Earth and Moon. An English monk at the twin monastery of Wearmouth-Jarrow, his most famous work is The Ecclesiastical History of the English People. One of the most important original references on Anglo-Saxon history, this work also played a key role in the development of an English national identity. Many of his works are still on the academic curriculum, and was the first person to work out how to count in binary, the system used in computing today.



CASE STUDY: Barbour Head Office headquartered in Jarrow

The Barbour story began in 1894 in the Market Place in South Shields. Founder John Barbour began supplying oilskins and other garments to protect the growing community of sailors, fishermen and dockers. These first weather resistant items quickly established Barbour's reputation for innovation and quality. Today, 130 years on, Barbour remains a family business, now fifth generation. Barbour has grown into a lifestyle brand offering a wardrobe of stylish functional clothing inspired by the unique values of the British countryside. Employing over 500 people in its factory and headquarters in Jarrow, Barbour exports to over 55 countries, welcoming retail and fashion buyers from across the world to its extensive, and growing, showrooms.



Along with good public services and schools, the town boasts unique historic sites, sports facilities, abundant parks and riverside walks and cycling trails. These include Jarrow Hall, St Paul's Church, South Shields and Jarrow Football Clubs, Monkton Stadium, Jarrow swimming pool and the natural environment and ecology in the River Don and Tyne estuary.

Its economy is supported by small and medium size businesses and a handful of major employers, including Barbour, UTS and the NHS. The town has a number of high-quality business estates including Jarrow Business Centre, Viking Industrial Estate and Bede Industrial Estate. Jarrow also has significant technology assets including an innovative renewable energy scheme, Viking Energy, which is providing low-grade heat from the River Tyne to council-owned buildings. There are limited development sites available, although significant derelict land sits adjacent to the River Tyne which could be utilised.

The topography crisscrossed by the A19, the Metro line and the A1 divides the disparate housing areas in the wards of Fellgate, Hedworth, Primrose, Bede and Monkton from each other and from the town centre. A third of households do not have access to a car, and although the town is well served by three metro stations, and a busy bus station, half of Jarrow's residents never visit the town centre.

The main retail area is the outdated Viking Centre which opened in 1961 and struggles to let half its units. The town centre also has the refurbished Jarrow Focus building encompassing a library, gym and theatre. It has an excellent range of schools including Jarrow School (rated Good by Ofsted) and the Route to Work college at Jarrow Hall (also rated Good and expanding significantly to meet the demand for support for children with Special Educational Needs).

CASE STUDY: Bede's Helping Hands

Bede's Helping Hands is a grassroots community group dedicated to supporting vulnerable individuals and families in Jarrow and surrounding areas. Whether it's providing food parcels, organising local events, supporting other organisations or offering a listening ear, the group brings together volunteers with a shared mission: to uplift and empower their neighbours through kindness, compassion, and practical help.



Jarrow is part of South Tyneside, a unique coastal community bordering Gateshead, Sunderland and the River Tyne. We have considerable natural assets, including award-winning beaches, are rich in history (from the Romans and The Venerable Bede to Summer music festivals) and we have real opportunities for growth in the offshore sector (the Port of Tyne is based in the borough with a growing offshore wind cluster), advanced manufacturing (given our closeness to Nissan) and defence industries, alongside our key foundational sectors such as social care. This focus aligns closely with the North East Local Growth Plan.

Yet it has significant health, economic and social challenges that were exacerbated by the pandemic and the cost of living crisis; over half of wards are in the UK's 30% most deprived, we are the 27th most disadvantage council area in England (with one in three children in the borough living in poverty). These issues link closely to the work of the North East Child Poverty Reduction Plan.

JARROW FORWARD
Neighbourhood Board

3. Spatial Targeting

The work of Jarrow Forward and our 10-year plan is focussed on the NE32 postcode geographical area. This is widely considered by residents and local politicians as the most well-known and recognised definition of Jarrow.

The NE32 postcode footprint is used by the Post Office to define the town of Jarrow and incorporates all of the Primrose ward and parts of the Bede, Monkton and Hedworth & Fellgate wards within the South Tyneside local authority area.

It reflects the commonly-held definition of Jarrow and its built-up area. This geography, agreed by Jarrow Forward including the local Member of Parliament, will ensure that residents, partners and Government are all clear on the boundary that the Regeneration Plan comprises and will allow interventions to be focussed upon the distinct communities that make up Jarrow.

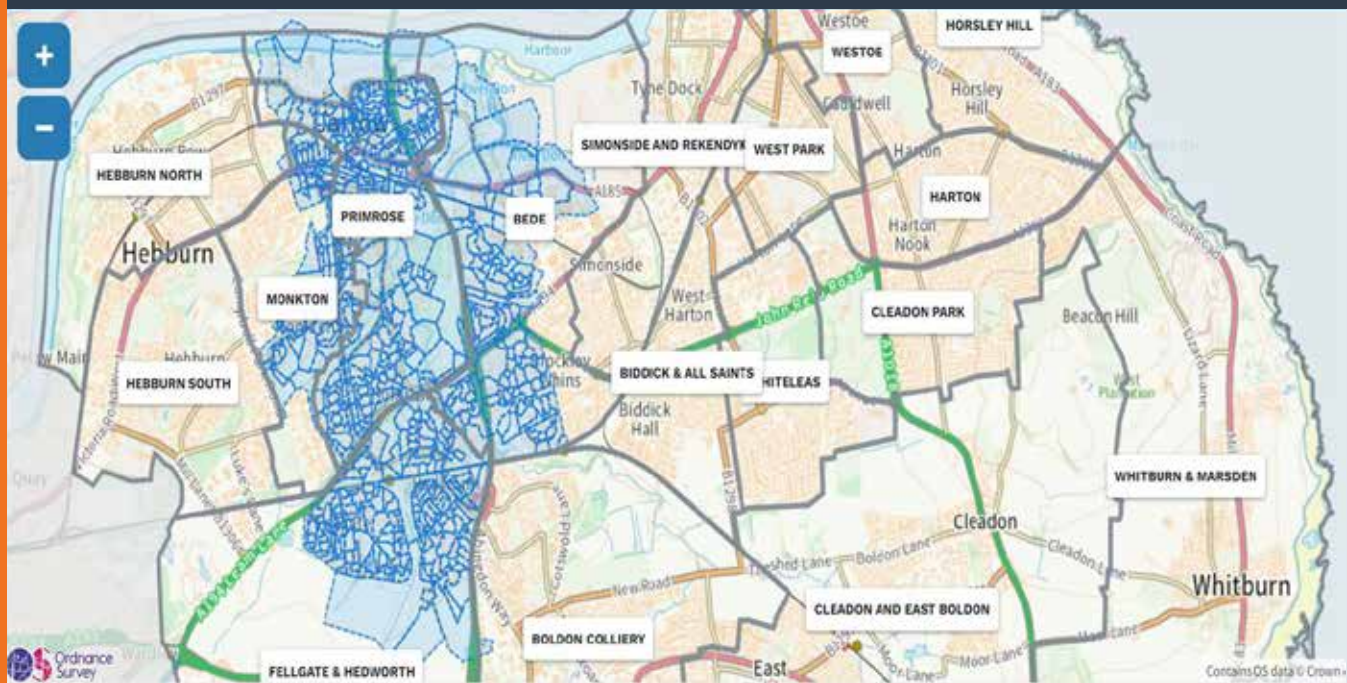


CASE STUDY: Viking Renewable Energy Network

A flagship renewable energy scheme in South Tyneside is complete and operational. The UK-first Viking Energy Network at Jarrow will cut annual carbon emissions by 1,035 tonnes. The multi-million-pound network harnesses low-grade heat from the River Tyne and exports it to council-owned buildings, including Jarrow Focus leisure centre, three residential tower blocks, Jarrow Business Centre and Jarrow Town Hall.

The scheme, which combines a river source heat pump, a combined heat and power (CHP) back-up system, a 1 megawatt solar farm, and a private wire electrical network with storage battery, is the first of its kind in the UK. An energy centre has been built on the banks of the river and an extensive pipe network is used to distribute the heat across the town. This project is a key part of the offshore wind and energy transition focus in the North East Local Growth Plan.

NE32 Postcode Areas



Our assets

The NE32 postcode area has a considerable range of assets (see the map provided above) from our cultural, sporting and heritage offer to the range of vibrant community groups, strong business community, green spaces and good quality affordable housing and transport connectivity. The iconic history and distinct identity of Jarrow is incredibly important to its residents. They are fiercely proud of the town's own place in history and protective of its future in their hands.

They want to update the image of Jarrow often synonymous with poverty, hunger, destructive Viking era and promote the greater achievements over centuries of innovation, learning, science and leadership.

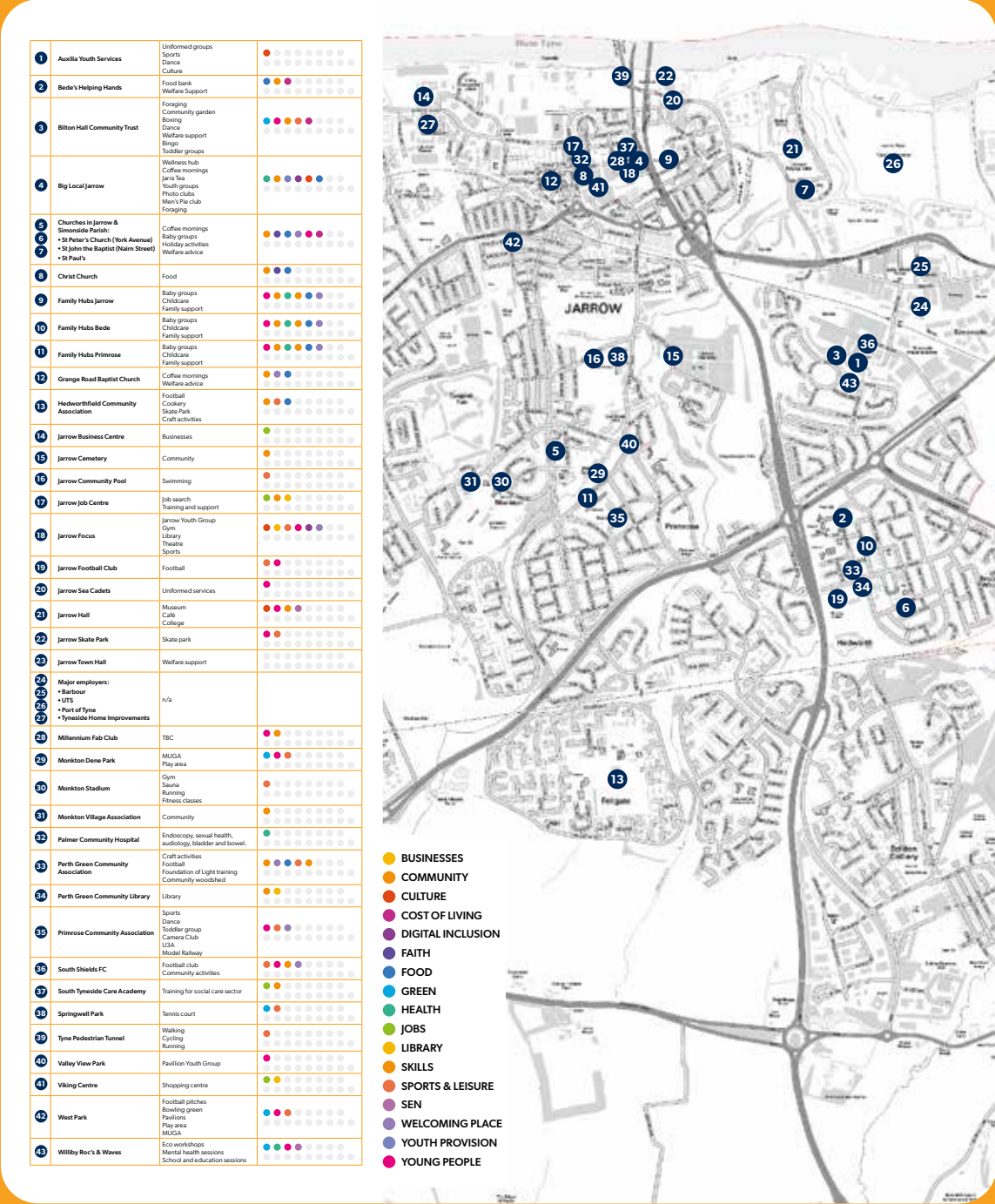
In addition, independent research carried out with key partners across Jarrow last year identified a number of advantages and opportunities:

- Good quality and affordable housing with stable social housing stock, but some issues around anti-social behaviour, safety and crime;
- Excellent network of social infrastructure through community groups and organisations, but a lack of awareness of local assets and services or ability or willingness to travel out of the area;
- Good quality, plentiful and potentially under-appreciated green spaces including parks, allotments and green spaces by the River Don;
- Unrealised potential of the Pedestrian Tyne Tunnel and heritage assets such as Jarrow Hall, St Peter's Church, Monkton Stadium and Jarrow Focus;
- Home to many flourishing small businesses, mixing newly established firms with long-established organisations such as Barbour and South Shields Football Club, but low employment aspirations and a lack of good quality employment opportunities.

The map below sets out some of the significant community assets across Jarrow:

JARROW FORWARD

Neighbourhood Board



”

We want to bring the whole community together to create a vision that could create transformational opportunities for all of our residents, though most importantly focussing on the current generation of young people.

Paul Atkinson,
Jarrow School

4. Our ten year plan for Jarrow

Vision for Jarrow over the next decade

Our long term vision for Jarrow is based on the clear sense of pride present in our town and its unrivalled history and heritage, which has inspired scholars, musicians, writers, athletes, creatives, entrepreneurs and social leaders for centuries, from The Venerable Bede to Charles Palmer (shipbuilding giant), Sir John Jervis (industrialist who gifted land for Monkton Dene Park and Monkton Stadium), Ellen Wilkinson (Education Minister, MP and Jarrow Marcher) to Catherine Cookson (international best-selling author), Alan Price (musician and member of The Animals) and Steve Cram (one of the world's greatest middle distance runners) and Paul Thompson (drummer for Roxy Music) to Frank Williams (Formula 1 driver and owner).

One of the key events is the Jarrow Festival, a week-long celebration of Jarrow, its distinctiveness and its sense of community. It is apt that our plan for the next decade starts from the premise of recognising the considerable assets and opportunities in this unique, proud and close-knit town.

Jarrow is a small town with some enviable assets – but these can be overwhelmed in public perception by the scale of social deprivation. This image is a real barrier to attracting and retaining residents, visitors and investment.

Jarrow could better utilise its unique position as the home of world-celebrated scholarship and scientific invention (Bede) a leader of industry (shipbuilding and steel), a beacon for self-empowered citizenship acting for change (Jarrow March) and sporting prowess (Steve Cram, Josef Craig, Paralympian). Add to that residents' pride in their history and heritage, and their strong motivation to support their own community and culture, in a setting already enhanced with attractive parks and green spaces, and there is a very strong case for change.

Yet we are realistic about the scale of the challenge. While progress has been made, we are still tackling the impact of low pay, low aspiration, high levels of crime, low life expectancy, extreme poverty and ill health that we continue to see and experience across Jarrow.



Geoff Thompson, vice chair of Jarrow Forward and Chair of South Shields FC

Our plan for Jarrow aims to transform the town for generations to come. It will provide more opportunities for young people to explore new things, find what they're good at, and have more control of their own futures. We want to make a lasting difference to residents

Our plan will finish in 2036, exactly one hundred years since the famous Jarrow March of 1936. By using the Plan for Neighbourhoods as a starting point, one that can lever in wider investment, we will deliver a game-changing plan that is ambitious and sustainable, that delivers transformation for residents and raises aspirations, particularly amongst young people, and improves the internal and external perceptions of Jarrow.

Only through long-term collaboration and commitment can we deliver this plan, a value at the establishment of Jarrow Forward in Spring 2024 and one which runs through the heart of everything we are doing. We have listened to the views of residents, businesses and local communities in creating this plan and our aim is to bring the whole community together to create transformational opportunities for all of our residents, focussing on the current generation of young people.

We took the decision early to involve schools, Colleges and organisations that work with young people in Jarrow Forward from the start and why our community engagement expressly sought views from young people across Jarrow. It is the next generation who will be growing up, getting a job and building their own futures in the next ten years and this plan is designed to improve their chances to be the best they can be in Jarrow.

Therefore, our vision takes inspiration from the culture and heritage in Jarrow and seeks to build on it.

We want to use this history of innovation and bring it into the modern age, to create a vibrant, creative and culture centre in the heart of Jarrow, reenergising and reframing our town centre to attract residents and visitors.

We want our plans to be powered by the community, boosting the capacity of community groups and collaborating to change the image of Jarrow while providing support and opportunities to our residents. And we want, fundamentally, to use creativity, play and sport to empower our young people to be the best they can be.

As a result of our clear vision, the Board decided, in recognition of the need to move forward and improve outcomes in Jarrow, learning from our history, to brand itself as Jarrow Forward with the aim of Inspiring the Jarrow of Tomorrow.



I'm pleased to have secured £20 Million in funding for Jarrow. Our Neighbourhood Board, Jarrow Forward are now ready to move forward with plans to ensure the money is spent in areas that will revive Jarrow and ensure a lasting change in our community. I will be making sure the money is spent on the priorities of local residents and I am looking forward to delivering for residents.

Kate Osborne, MP for Jarrow and Gateshead East

5. Identifying our three priorities for Jarrow

To realise this vision and deliver a step change, our Vision and Plan have three core priorities, each of which align with the three strategic objectives of the Plan for Neighbourhoods: **1) Better Futures for Jarrow's Young People; 2) A Re-energised Jarrow Town Centre; and 3) A Connected, Cohesive Jarrow Community**

They are based on our clear theory of change, beginning with our robust evidence base and grounded in the challenges Jarrow faces and the opportunities available to drive change in the town.

CHALLENGES

- Lower skills levels, high rates of youth unemployment and inactivity (and mental health barriers), poor social mobility, lack of youth facilities, lack of optimism
- Poor footfall and lack of town centre vibrancy and connectivity. Poor health outcomes
- Low visitor numbers at cultural attractions, low levels of social trust, pressure on community services

ASSETS

- Engaged young people, strong youth organisations
- Planned town centre investment, significant small business base
- Strong sense of pride and community, significant cultural and heritage offer, excellent green spaces

PRIORITIES

- **BETTER FUTURES FOR JARROW'S YOUNG PEOPLE**
- **A RE-ENERGISED JARROW TOWN CENTRE**
- **A CONNECTED, COHESIVE JARROW COMMUNITY**

INTERVENTIONS

- Invest in youth provision and a Centre for Creativity and Innovation.
- Reconfigure and green the town centre, focusing on play, health and improving the route from the Metro and town centre connections
- Image campaign, support for community groups and investment in cultural and sporting assets

OUTPUTS

- More young people engaging, particularly those not in education, employment or training, and benefiting from employability, literacy and maths skills
- A welcoming space with more events and a choice of shops to attract people
- More visitors to cultural assets, more engagement and participation

OUTCOMES

- Higher rates of youth employment and economic activity
- Higher footfall, a vibrant town centre and changed perceptions of Jarrow
- Increased sense of pride and social trust

These have emerged clearly from the considerable engagement we have undertaken with residents, businesses, community groups, young people and local, regional and national partners over the past year. This includes

Over 10,000 households reached through Jarrow communications

1,500 responses to our survey (with respondents matching the demographic breakdown of Jarrow's population)

Over 500 young people engaged

Over 100 community stakeholders part of the process

Over 50 local and regional partners taking part in our workshops

25 key partners on the board

7 focus groups held

3 workshops of partners held

Alongside quantitative data (covering, for example, crime, commercial vacancies, footfall, skills and productivity), we have garnered qualitative insights from our community engagement and from key partners across Jarrow.



This included a public campaign across Jarrow (including targeted social media, adverts at transport hubs, on digital screens in South Tyneside, in the Council's e-newsletter and a leaflet to every household in Jarrow), a survey for residents with a specific survey for young people, focus groups with particular groups (such as young people, those with SEND and others), community ambassadors (120 ambassadors identified to spread the word) and dedicated community engagement undertaken by two local community organisations (Groundworks and Cultural Spring) to reach seldom-represented groups. It was supplemented by workshops with key partners.

This has demonstrated a clear evidence of need and market failure in Jarrow, specifically (see more detail in Appendix 1):

- Lack of connectivity and safety in the town centre leading to low levels of footfall and lack of vibrancy (footfall has stagnated since the pandemic)
- Lack of variety of shops and retail offer leading to poor footfall and high commercial vacancy rates
- A lack of opportunity for young people leading to high rates of economic inactivity and anti-social behaviour
- Lower skills levels (particularly English and Maths) and lack of good quality employment opportunities leading to significant pockets of deprivation, low productivity and poor health outcomes
- Pressure on services and lack of awareness of services and assets (a key finding from our workshops and surveys) making it difficult to provide community support
- Financial and connectivity barriers stopping residents in outlying estates from visiting Jarrow assets, despite generally good transport and digital connectivity
- Low levels of social trust in institutions leading to a lack of engagement, but high levels of community cohesion
- Outdated image of Jarrow hindering aspiration (in the survey, only 13% of adults and 12% of young people feel very optimistic about their future)

South Tyneside Council Residents newsletter: Article on Jarrow Forward



OUR RESULTING THREE PRIORITIES ARE;

Priority 1:
Better futures for
Jarrow's young people

This reflects a clear theme that has emerged from all our research and engagement; the need for more opportunities for young people in Jarrow to inspire ambition, grow confidence and increase creativity. We will, therefore, prioritise play and creativity, exploring innovative solutions such as adventure playgrounds, youth facilities and equipment, talent programmes and events.

We will support the growth of culture, arts and sports developments. As having a fulfilling job was rated as the most important lifestyle factor for young adults in Jarrow in our community survey, we will work with partners to provide more skills and employability training.

This will include a potential flagship centre for creativity and innovation to be a focal point for youth provision with an emphasis on non-curriculum skills and activities to level the playing field for our young people and reduce the number of young people who are not in education, employment or training. We will connect young people to opportunities in green jobs, nature-based careers, and climate action, equipping them with skills for the future.

Priority 2:
A re-energised
Jarrow town centre

Our aim, working closely with the Viking Centre and businesses, will be to transform the look and feel of Jarrow town centre to increase footfall and vibrancy.

We will do this by improving transport, digital and active travel connectivity within and with the outlying Jarrow estates, sport and heritage assets; making the shopping and town centre a more welcoming, safe, accessible, green and open environment; funding innovative events, pop-up events and festivals to attract people in and raise Jarrow's profile; encouraging new independent social enterprises; and developing new initiatives and hubs for skills, creativity, play and wellbeing.

We will focus on health on the high street and, working with health partners, a different way of delivering health services. We will look at creating multi-agency spaces in the town centre for health provision.

Project examples include:

- Changing the style and layout of the **Viking Centre** following partial demolition plans and removal of the gates, providing a better welcome and more wayfinding, such as from Jarrow Metro station (working with young people in Jarrow).
- **Health provision in the heart of the town centre** through NHS health and wellbeing hubs or community health facilities working closely with the Integrated Care Board and Foundation Trust.

”

Firstly, I would like to see different events going on. Secondly, I would like Jarrow to have more club opportunities such as drama clubs, and more sport clubs or teams.

Young person in survey, age 10-12, 2025

A better future for Jarrow's young people is clearly linked to the Plan for Neighbourhoods Strategic Objective of Taking Back Contro.;

A re-energised town centre is clearly linked to the Plan for Neighbourhoods Strategic Objective of Thriving Places.

75% of our respondents to our survey said that town centre was their top priority.

”

Improve the town centre and make it a local area for business and people to thrive by opening shops etc. Jarrow is a large area and many people would utilise more modern shops and areas.

Resident from Zen City online survey, 2025 age 45-54

Project examples include:

- A new **play hub** which will encourage and facilitate play across the town and possibly have a key focal point in an adventure playground, building on the work of Newcastle University;
- **A Jarrow centre for Creativity and Innovation** – where non-curriculum life skills (such as creative arts, coding, gaming, baking, woodwork, film and media) could be tried and learned out of school.

”
“There's definitely not much for them (young people). Me and my friends used to go to youth groups, and they would try and work on things too. But it is very limited what young people can do as well, I would argue that.”

Adult resident from focus group, 2025

CASE STUDY:
Job Centre Plus Skills Hub

Job Centre Plus are exploring an alternative space for young people aged 18 to 25 to go instead of the formal setting of a job centre where wider support and help would be on offer.



CASE STUDY: Viking Centre

Acquired by Sheet Anchor Evolve in 2023, a number of vacant and dated units have recently been demolished to provide redevelopment opportunities to enhance the vitality and viability of Jarrow town centre. This represents the first stage of works to rejuvenate the Viking Centre and a partnership approach working with South Tyneside Council and other commercial partners will be taken to provide alternative uses for this space.

Revised car parking arrangements have recently been agreed between Morrisons, South Tyneside Council and the operator, this will ensure the car park remains open 24/7 and will be free of charge for the benefit of the users of the Viking Centre and the supermarket equally. As part of the same agreement, Morrisons will be installing EV chargers to some of the spaces to enhance Jarrow's sustainability credentials looking to the future and beyond.

PureGym is due to occupy 10,000 sq ft of currently vacant space in 2026. A letting to a national food operator has recently been completed and lease renewals are being arranged with tenants on a case-by-case basis ensuring that rents remain affordable and that the Viking Centre retains both local and independent retailers alike. The aim is to ensure the Viking Centre remains an attractive destination for eating, shopping and (now) health & fitness for the local community.

Priority 3: A connected, cohesive Jarrow community

This will all be underpinned by creating and communicating a new image for Jarrow as it transforms to a place where there is opportunity for all to thrive.

We want to celebrate the pride in Jarrow and its numerous assets, encouraging residents, visitors and investors to the town. An integrated strategy and communications framework for all partners will be developed to improve awareness of the town's existing facilities, services, and history; help develop community capacity and cohesion, and signify change is ahead.

It will be complemented by investment in events, festivals, leisure and heritage assets to attract visitors and programmes to build capacity in the vital community groups that do so much to support communities across Jarrow.

Project examples include:

- A **Jarrow** musical talent programme;
- Expansion of the community-led **Jarrow Festival**
- **Monkton Stadium** plans for two new stands to attract national and international athletics competitions and a centre for sporting excellence

A connected, cohesive community is clearly linked to the Plan for Neighbourhoods Strategic Objective of Stronger Communities;

”

Being a clean, vibrant, friendly town with lots to offer the community.

Female, age 45-54 in the community survey

”

More events and greater advertisement of existing events to help include the wider community.

Male age 65-74 in the community survey

CASE STUDY: Jarra Tea

In the heart of Jarrow, an innovative initiative is brewing more than just a good cup of tea. Jarra Tea, a project under the Dandelion Partnership and led by Big Local Jarrow, is on a mission to connect communities, tackle poverty, and promote positive activities through unique, tea-centred experiences. Jarra Tea is all about creating inclusive spaces where people from all walks of life can come together, from foraging walks for local people to specialized tea clinics for public, private and voluntary organisations. These activities not only provide a platform for community interaction but also offer volunteers the chance to develop new skills and build lasting relationships.



The long-term outputs outcomes we are looking to achieve

We will judge our progress towards meeting our vision by using a number of key indicators that will evidence whether we are heading in the right direction.

We will monitor these outputs and outcomes annually to check progress and produce a baseline for 2026 using the most up to date sources through the South Tyneside Data Observatory.

Better futures for Jarrow's young people

- Youth unemployment and inactivity rates
- Rates of young people Not in Education, Employment or Training

A re-energised Jarrow town centre

- Town centre footfall.
- Residents' perception of place
- Improving health outcomes through health on the high street

A connected, cohesive Jarrow community

- Rates of cultural and leisure participation and visitor numbers to Jarrow assets
- Life satisfaction measures, including on health and wellbeing



CASE STUDY: South Shields Football Club

Based in Jarrow, South Shields FC is working with aspiring footballers from around the world thanks to a new professional football club international academy programme in partnership with the University of Sunderland. The South Shields FC International Academy programme allows players to combine a UK degree with professional football development. Through this unique bespoke development programme, students receive an elite academy coaching programme with South Shields FC while studying a three-year degree or post-graduate programme at the University. This is a huge opportunity to showcase Jarrow to international students.

6. Delivering our plan

Working in partnership

Jarrow Forward will work to maximise opportunities for private, public and philanthropic match funding and investment under each of its core priorities. We are working to establish partnerships and initiatives that will leverage further funding and further enhance our activities complementing the Jarrow vision and values. The table below is our initial thinking;



Theme	Potential Local partnerships	Potential Regional partnerships	Potential National partnerships
Better futures for Jarrow's Young People	• Job Centre Plus (Skills Hub) • South Tyneside Council (South Tyneside Works) • Tyne Coast College • Groundwork North & South Tyneside	• North East Combined Authority • RISE North East • Northumbria Police & Crime Commissioner	• Department for Education • Arts Council • Sport England
A Re-energised Jarrow town centre	• Evolve (Viking Centre owners) • South Tyneside Council (land owner) • South Tyneside Cultural Partnership • Tyne and Wear Museums	• North East Combined Authority (High Streets Commission) • Northumbria Police & Crime Commissioner (anti-social behaviour) • Integrated Care Board and South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust (health on the high street) • Newcastle University (play in town centres) • Nexus (Metro stations) • RISE North East • Northumbria Police and the Northumbria Strategic Anti-Social Behaviour Board	• Arts Council • MHCLG
A connected, cohesive Jarrow community	• Newcastle Building Society (grants) • South Tyneside Council • South Tyneside Cultural Partnership	• North East Combined Authority • Tyne and Wear Community Foundation • RISE • North East Carbon and Nature Marketplace • Northumbria Police	• Sport England • Arts Council • National Lottery • DCMS

Funding principles

We will ensure that we maximise the impact of the £20m over 10 years by having strict criteria to invest in key projects and programmes. These criteria, agreed by the Board, are:

- Strategic Case (clearly addressing at least one of the areas of market failure identified above, meeting at least one of the three core aims of Jarrow Forward)
- Economic Case (economic costs and benefits with clear output and outcomes)
- Commercial Case (clear commercial feasibility, deliverability and sustainability)
- Financial Case (affordability and value for money)
- Management Case (project or programme management)
- Environmental case (ensuring projects contribute positively to Jarrow's green environment and climate resilience)
- Community benefit (does it help sustain community groups and motivators)
- Added value (including collaboration with partners, being accessible and inclusive)



Therefore, any intervention or project must meet the Vision for Jarrow and the values aligned to it. A project appraisal framework is being developed, learning from the process in place at the North East Combined Authority. For our small community grant scheme, we will take a lighter touch approach to encourage innovation, collaboration.

Throughout the programme we will engage with communities across Jarrow. This includes, over the next few months, a community capacity fund and dedicated engagement with Jarrow School, Tyne Coast College, Routes 2 Work College and the South Tyneside Youth Council.

CASE STUDY: Bede Artist Residency

Funded by the Arts Council England via the South Tyneside Cultural Partnership, a ukuele group was trialled at the Red Hackle pub in Jarrow with local creative Dean Stobbs. 'Try it' sessions were held throughout the summer, including ceramics and lino printing at Bilton Hall. Creative sessions with a men's group took place, along with a trip to the Laing Art Gallery and a wellbeing walk around the local area taking in cultural points of interest. As a result, a programme has been developed for the autumn term building on the 'Try It' session to build more momentum.

