



South Tyneside Council

item 4

East Shields and Whitburn Community Area Forum Funding Report

This document has been classified as: **Not
protectively marked**

**Merrik Robertson – Community and Place
Development Manager**

Report to East Shields & Whitburn Community Area Forum

Cabinet Portfolio/Lead Member:

Report of Stuart Reid – Director of Business and Resource

Subject: 2026/2027 Community Area Forum Funding

Date: 2 July 2026

Wards affected: Cleadon Park and Harton Moor, Harton, Horsley Hill and Westoe Crown, Whitburn & Marsden

Council ambitions: Community Area Forum funding supports all five council ambitions with particular focus on “part of stronger communities” and “targeting support to make things fairer”

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? No

Is it included in the Forward Plan? No

If not in the Forward Plan is the report: General Exception Rule / Special Urgency Rule

Relevant Scrutiny Chair: N/A

Is the decision eligible for call-in by Scrutiny? No

(If the decision is anything other than any executive decision made by the Cabinet or a Key Decision made by an officer under delegated powers, call-in is not applicable. This should be explained in the report).

Purpose of Report

1.1 This report contains details of the funding approved by Cabinet on 11 March 2026, for the 2026/27 financial year for this CAF from three funding schemes:

- Housing Capital Scheme
- Environmental Capital Scheme
- Local Neighbourhoods Scheme

1.1.1 This report also contains details of the current funding position for each ward.

1.1.2 This report contains split options for Housing Capital Scheme (HCS)

1.1.3 This report contains details of 5 applications to be considered.

Background Information

2.1 The approved CAF budget for 26/27 is £1,050 M

2.2 Funding split for this CAF is shown below:

Funding Scheme	Allocation to CAF's (£)
Environmental Capital Funding	111,111
Housing Capital Funding	77,382
Local Neighbourhoods Scheme	33,333
Total CAF Allocation	221,826

2.3 In accordance with the Council constitution the Housing Capital Scheme must be used to support investment that benefits local authority dwellings. While £77,382 has

been approved, members are asked to decide how this is split by number of Council houses. Members voted and unanimously voted for the split by Council House.

2.4 The Environmental Capital Scheme can be used for wider environmental improvements, such as verge hardening, highways resurfacing etc. **Each ward has been allocated £27,778.**

2.5 The Local Neighbourhoods Scheme can be used for smaller environmental projects, which are not eligible for capital schemes. These projects are typically small-scale environmental improvements such as grass-cutting, weed treatment, managing shrubs, bulb-planting, or fence painting. This Scheme also has a provision for funding to eligible external organisations and community groups. **Each ward has been allocated £8,333.**

2.6 The Leadership fund will continue to support small scale locally important projects which contribute to the Councils core ambitions, typically where the project supports residents across the whole borough. Where such a project is identified an appraisal will be made using the LNS operating procedure, with a recommendation to leadership by the Director of Business and Resources or the Director of Governance and Corporate Affairs. **The Leadership fund will be £5,000 the same as 2025/2026.**

Current Funding Positions

3.1 The tables below show the current funding positions for each ward.

Cleadon Park	HCS (£)*	ECS (£)	LNS (£)
Allocation	20,478	27,778	8,333
Spent			
Balance	20,478	27,778	8,333
Proposed Projects on report			£1,000 depending on split
Proposed Balance if all projects are approved as per the report	20,478	27,778	

Harton	HCS (£)*	ECS (£)	LNS (£)
Allocation	17,088	27,778	8,333
Spent			
Balance	17,088	27,778	8,333
Proposed Projects on report			£1,840
Proposed Balance if all projects are approved as per the report	17,088	27,778	6,493

Horsley Hill	HCS (£)*	ECS (£)	LNS (£)
Allocation	23,908	27,778	8,333
Spent			
Balance	23,908	27,778	8,333
Proposed Projects on report			
Proposed Balance if all projects are approved as per the report	23,908	27,778	8,333

Whitburn & Marsden	HCS (£)*	ECS (£)	LNS (£)
Allocation	15,908	27,778	8,333
Spent			
Balance	15,908	27,778	8,333
Proposed Projects on report			850
Proposed Balance if all projects are approved as per the report	15,908	27,778	7,483

Main issues and Options to be Considered

4.1 The report is for information, discussion, and decision by members of the Community Area Forum.

4.2 There are 5 projects to be considered, detailed below.

Applicant	Total Cost (£)	Group Contribution (£)	Grant Requested (£)	Maximum Grant Limit (£)
St Gregory's Church – Provision of Food Bags Harton Ward	15,040 (70 x 22 food bags)	740	800.00	1000
Council Ambition				
Part of strong communities				
Breakdown of Cost				
Food, Cakes and Sweets (Lidl, Aldi, Morrisons)		(CAF) (GROUP)	£800.00 £740	
Type of Group:		Purpose		
Church Group		Our aim is to provide some joy and happiness to those most in need at Christmas by reaching out and letting people know we are with them and that they are not alone, while fostering a stronger sense of community and connection. We will do this by bringing together local faith communities to provide practical assistance such as food and gifts to families and individuals facing hardship. We want to emphasise the spiritual and relational aspects of Christmas such as love hope and generosity, rather than the commercial aspects. Our objectives: • Collect and distribute food and gifts for children, families and individuals in need • Encourage Acts of Kindness like writing cards, making donations and offering a friendly word • Partnering with local organisations by collaborating with churches, mosque, and other organisations to reach out to people in need • Raising awareness about the challenges faced by some families and individuals in our community at Christmas and encouraging others to get involved and support them		

Proposed Ward Contribution		
1 ward - Harton		
Background and project details		
Community Project - Love Christmas supports the Council's ambition to create a place where residents live happy, healthy and fulfilled lives by building a stronger community. We will strengthen relationships and support struggling families. In East Shields / Whitburn CAF we expect 30 families to benefit by receiving a bag of food. Families will be referred by staff at St Gregory's School and by Churches Together in Harton. Each food bag will be valued at approx. £22. The grant will be used to purchase food in Lidl, Aldi and Morrisons in South Tyneside. Bags will contain basics e.g. tins of fruit, ham, coffee, tea, squash, box of cakes and treats e.g. Christmas cake, selection boxes. Depending on our finances, we will also distribute bags of toiletries (toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, soap, shower gel). We will buy pyjamas and gifts to support South Tyneside Hospital's pyjama appeal. Across South Tyneside, a total of 500 + households will benefit this year, a 25% increase on 2025 when 348 households benefitted. We will be working with our partners: Churches Together South Tyneside, South Tyneside Faiths Forum (including the Al Azhar Mosque) and The Dialogue Society. In November and December, more than 90 volunteers will be involved, promoting the project, collecting and sorting food, packing and distributing bags. We have already raised money by organising 3 fundraising events; we have received donations from local people;		
Conditions – Groups are required to:	Yes	No
Seek funding through the Council's funding portal, or other funding sources, before making an application to CAF seeking funding to purchase any equipment or for activity such as events	Yes	
Evidence a financial contribution towards the total cost of the project	Yes	
Agree to submit receipts for any spend exceeding £500	Yes	

Applicant	Total Cost (£)	Group Contribution (£)	Grant Requested (£)	Maximum Grant Limit (£)
South Tyneside Flower and Vegetable Show Event at Temple Park, Cleadon Park	1,700.00	700.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Council Ambition				
Residents will enjoy good mental wellbeing and physical health throughout their lives.				
Breakdown of Cost				
		CAF	GROUP	
Hire of Temple Park Centre – South Tyneside Borough Council - £1,100.00		£1,000.00	£100.00	
Printing – Website and Print - £300.00		-	£300.00	
Local Judges – Local Judges - £300.00		-	£300.00	
Type of Group:	Purpose			
Other	Community Event – for all. To encourage gardening in the community, keep the local heritage alive and help with both mental and physical health through horticulture.			
Proposed Ward Contribution				
1 Ward = £1,000 2 Wards =£500 3 Wards = £333 4 wards = £250				
Background and Project Details				
Project to encourage people of all ages, genders and different backgrounds to take part in a local show which showcases the tradition of flower and vegetable shows in the Northeast. We expect that over 500 will attend the event over a two-day period. We access fund through local businesses and South Tyneside residents who sponsor sections of the Show.				
Conditions – Groups are required to:			Yes	No
Seek funding through the Council's funding portal, or other funding sources, before making an application to CAF seeking funding to purchase any equipment or for activity such as events			√	x
Evidence a financial contribution towards the total cost of the project			√	x

Applicant	Total Cost (£)	Group Contribution (£)	Grant Requested (£)	Maximum Grant Limit (£)
Whitburn Community Bowling Club				
Bowling Opportunities for Adults and Children	703.98	353.98	350.00	500.00
12 July 2026				
Council Ambition				
Residents will enjoy good mental wellbeing and physical health throughout their lives.				
Part of strong communities.				
Breakdown of Cost				
			CAF	GROUP
Prize Money for Competitions – Whitburn Bowling Club - £300.00			£200.00	£100.00
Gifts for Children – ASDA - £100.00			£100.00	
Refreshments – Farm Foods - £50.00			£50.00	
Bowling Wedge – Davies Sports - £155.99			-	£155.99
Bowls Set – Robert Dyas - £97.99			-	£97.99
Type of Group:	Purpose			
Sports Club	Community Event.			
	To provide community access to bowling and opportunities for all members of the community, irrespective of age, race, ability and gender, to participate in leisure and social activities.			
Proposed Ward Contribution				
1 Ward - Whitburn				

Background and Project Details		
The Project includes bowling opportunities for adults and children. There will be an Invitation Pairs Competition on 12 July 2026 for 64 people and children's free bowling and games on July 23 and 30 and August 5, 12, 19 and 26. We expect an average of 20 children to take part on each Thursday. Everybody taking part will benefit by being involved in fun sporting activities, socialising with other people, learning a sport which they can continue to play afterwards and being out in the fresh air. Have you attempted to raise funds from elsewhere towards the Project? – Print 2gogo are supplying advertising leaflets and posters.		
Conditions – Groups are required to:	Yes	No
Seek funding through the Council's funding portal, or other funding sources, before making an application to CAF seeking funding to purchase any equipment or for activity such as events	√	x
Evidence a financial contribution towards the total cost of the project		
Agree to submit receipts for any spend exceeding £500		

Applicant	Total Cost (£)	Group Contribution (£)	Grant Requested (£)	Maximum Grant Limit (£)
Whitburn Towers Community Hub Whitburn Ward Xmas Party	550	50	500.00	500.00
Council Ambition				
Residents will enjoy good mental wellbeing and physical health throughout their lives. Part of strong communities.				
Breakdown of Cost				
		CAF	GROUP	
Xmas Party – Asda Xmas party food - £300.00		£300.00	-	
Xmas gifts - B and m stores - £200.00		£200.00	-	
Party gifts – Asda - £50.00		-	£50.00	
Type of Group:	Purpose			
Residents Association	Event for organisation members only We hold coffee mornings and bingo and get together for around 20/25 residents and members of the local community of Whitburn and Marsden.			
Proposed Ward Contribution				
1 Ward = Whitburn = £500				
Background and Project Details				
We hold coffee mornings 2 nights of meet and greet playing bingo having social events helping the residents and community with there loneliness and wellbeing				
Conditions – Groups are required to:			Yes	No
Seek funding through the Council's funding portal, or other funding sources, before making an application to CAF seeking funding to purchase any equipment or for activity such as events			√	x
Evidence a financial contribution towards the total cost of the project			√	x
Agree to submit receipts for any spend exceeding £500			√	x

Applicant	Total Cost (£)	Group Contribution (£)	Grant Requested (£)	Maximum Grant Limit (£)
Denise Readman Volunteer – Harton Ward	1,000	100	900	1,000
Council Ambition				
Stronger communities				
Breakdown of Cost				
Bouncy Castle – PJ Bouncy Castles - £100 Venue – The Sutton Hall - £450 Entertainment – Charlotte Williams - £150 Decorations- Local Shops Charity merchandise Tombola prizes – Local shops - £300		CAF X X X X X X	GROUP X	
Type of Group:	Purpose			
Volunteer Group	This is a charity fundraising community day to help raise funds for Help for Heroes' projects, services or beneficiaries. Increase awareness about the charities mission, the issues they address and the impact of donations. Inclusion, sense of purpose for the community and strengthen relationships. Provide entertainment and engage people of all ages.			
Proposed Ward Contribution				
1 Ward = Harton				
Background and Project Details				
We are a group of volunteers who raise Money for help for heroes, we will be having a community event, with a bouncy castle, food, raffles etc to raise money for a brilliant worthwhile Charity.				
Conditions – Groups are required to:			Yes	No
Seek funding through the Council's funding portal, or other funding sources, before making an application to CAF seeking funding to purchase any equipment or for activity such as events			x	
Evidence a financial contribution towards the total cost of the project			x	
Agree to submit receipts for any spend exceeding £500			x	

Implications

Financial and Resources

5.1 CAF funding is allocated on an annual basis and consists of three separate elements:

- Housing Capital Scheme (HCS)
- Environmental Capital Scheme (ECS)
- Local Neighbourhoods Scheme (LNS)

5.2 The aim of CAF funding is that the expenditure brings about real changes and improvements for the residents of South Tyneside.

5.3 The CAF Management Team will work with key stakeholders and teams to obtain a formal estimate of the cost of works and a summary of risks or service implications arising as a result of the proposed work.

5.4 Should members wish to proceed with a proposed scheme, the details of the scheme is presented to the CAF meeting and must be agreed by the majority of all CAF members.

Legal and Governance

6.1 There are no legal or governance implications arising from this report.

Risk

7.1 Risks are identified during the process to obtain a formal estimate of the costs of works associated with an identified CAF scheme.

7.2 Any identified risks are presented to all members of the CAF as part of the scheme proposal paperwork for consideration.

Equality and Diversity and Community

8.1 There are no negative equality, diversity or community implications arising from this report.

Environmental and Sustainability

9.1 Any environmental and sustainability risks identified during the process will be discussed and presented to all members during CAF.

Council Ambitions, Policies, Strategies and Plans

10.1 this report aligns to the 5 Council Ambitions of:

- Financially secure
- Healthy and well
- Connected to jobs
- Part of strong communities
- Targeting support to make things fairer

Consultation and Engagement

11.1 Officers would welcome feedback on the report, how the report is formatted along with information contained within the report and would welcome any suggestions or recommendations in relation to this report.

Recommendations

12.1 It is recommended that Members

- decide to approve / not approve the projects listed
- note the information contained in this report

Reasons for Recommendations

13.1 To fulfil the role of the CAF as set out in the Council's Constitution and to utilise the available funding for the benefit of the local community.

List of Appendices

14.1 None

CAF Funding Report

The following is a list of the background papers (excluding exempt papers) relied upon in the preparation of the above report:

Background Paper	File Ref:	File Location
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Community Area Forum Grant application forms and supporting documentation		Community Resource Admin, Business and Resources