



South Tyneside Council

item 5

Report to East Shields and Whitburn Community Area Forum

Cabinet Portfolio/Lead Member:

Report of Martin Gill – Assistant Director of Housing and homelessness

Subject: CAF Management Team Update

Date: 2 July 2026

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

Council ambitions:

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

☐

Yes

State the applicable paragraph number(s) under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972:

☒

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

For Executive Decisions only:

Is the decision a Key Decision?

☐ **Yes**☒ **No**

Is it included in the Forward Plan?

☐ **Yes**☒ **No**

If not in the Forward Plan is the report:

☐ **General Exception Rule**☐ **Special Urgency Rule**

Relevant Scrutiny Chair:

Is the decision eligible for call-in by Scrutiny?

☐ **Yes**☒ **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.)

Merrick Robertson

Purpose of Report

1. This report provides a summary of Community Area Forum funded schemes and information from the CAF Management Team. An update from the Streetscene Team is also provided.
2. The report lists the Environmental Capital and Housing Capital funded projects approved, which are ongoing.
3. This report also contains updates from relevant officers regarding projects that had not been completed by the date of the last CAF meeting as Appendix A.

The CAF Management Team

4. Merrik Robertson will continue his role as the CAF manager; Merrik will be working on projects across the Borough. Merrik will be supported by his manager Caroline Johnson.
5. A large part of Merrik's role is to work with ward members on current and future CAF schemes assisting them through to the approval stage and supporting members through the CAF planning process throughout 2026/2027.
6. Work is ongoing to review spend and organise scheme progression. A priority for the team is to ensure CAF funding is allocated in the most effective way possible.
7. Contacts for the team are as follows:

Merrik Robertson 07776 995 448 merrik.robertson@southtyneside.gov.uk

8. A number of internal projects were awarded funding from this CAF. This report contains details of projects approved in 2025/26 that are not complete, with updates provided by officers shown as **Appendix A**.
9. This information was correct at the time of writing on 20/06/2026.

Streetscene update

No update – due to Streetscene presentation.

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the information contained in this report.

List of Appendices

- Appendix A – CAF funded projects.

background papers background papers background papers

Report Title

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