



## Combined Worker Report Dec 2021 - 14 Jan 2022



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BS & SG have taken 2 week's annual leave in this period. We have been hybrid working in line with the Covid 19 Government Guidelines and in line with current risk assessments.

**Online platforms such as Zoom and Teams are** still widely being used during COVID – 19 and many organisations including Local Trust has advocated the ongoing use as a preferred choice for several organisations to gain the widest reach across partnerships to remain flexible. The introduction of hybrid meetings has been introduced to allow for further reach and wider capacity building.

**Gaunless Gateway Big Locals Facebook pages:**

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=gaunless%20gateway%20big%20local>

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=gaunless%20gateway%20big%20local%20volunteering>

### Community Development Lead

#### Good News Stories



#### **Wear Valley Community Action Group - Henknowle Christmas Party**

This voluntary group has been supporting Gaunless Gateway Big Local by consulting local residents across our funded area, organising and putting on events across local community settings, as identified in our plan. Residents of Henknowle Estate and surrounding areas such as Cockton Hill asked the group after a well-attended family Halloween Party if they could arrange something for their children. Even though the group had already planned a Christmas Fayre, they reacted at short notice, using their own unrestricted funds. Elected ward Councillors and Bishop Town Mayor pitched in on the day, with additional support from partner organisations and youth and play workers. All for £2 a ticket! Children enjoyed A Santa's Grotto, the Grinch, Disco, competitions, (Party Perfect North East) food and refreshments. 120+ attended. Each child received a present from Santa. Comments from the day: " We've had the best time this afternoon, saw santa and the grinch had our hand painted, ate hot dogs, danced, played games, won a prize and got a nice treat box to bring home. Very well organised and really happy we attended. Thank you to everyone involved!"

"We had a fab afternoon at the Xmas Party, thank you for all your hard work

organising it, the bairns had loads of fun!! 🍷🎄🎁



#### **Wear Valley Community Action Group - Henknowle Christmas Fayre**

The week after the family Christmas party, the group were back within Henknowle Community Centre organising a free to attend fayre. There were stalls and a massive tombola. Even though some stall holders had to cancel due to COVID Santa and the Grinch were back for those who couldn't make the christmas party handing out a free gift. The face painting stall was in high demand with the organisers making sure everyone had a chance to leave with some 'face/ hand' art.

## For information

### Group and organisational support

#### Henknowle Working Group

GGBL development lead is a member of an officer working group initiated by Cllr Hunt and Cllr Howey, attended by MP Dehenna Davison, senior officers for estate management from Believe Housing and Durham County Council Highways, Regeneration and Local Services. The group have made site visits to Dorset Place and areas of Henknowle Estate and met local residents. Residents have highlighted areas that are in a state of disrepair and that have been hotspots for ongoing antisocial behaviour. Ownership and responsibility of the estate has now been established between Believe Housing and DCC with a view to securing much needed funding for essential estate improvements.

The group has agreed to establish a resident panel facilitated by Gaunless Gateway to ensure residents views are heard, communications are timely and factual and expectations are managed as plans develop.

#### South Durham Community Led Local Development (CLLD) Local Action Group (LAG)

The South Durham CLLD programme is delivered in the Bishop Auckland, Coundon, Leeholme, Shildon, Spennymoor, St Helen Auckland and West Auckland areas. The CLLD programme still has over a year to run and a huge amount of work to get through, with both ERDF and ESF funds still to allocate to good quality projects, around the following priorities:

- enhancing economic inclusion
- developing growth and enterprise
- stimulating entrepreneurship
- enterprising spaces

GGBL Development lead has been accepted onto the LAG and is looking forward to contributing the partnerships local skills and knowledge to support forthcoming projects. [Click the link below to read the latest newsletter](#) and latest open call for projects. **Did you know....one to one support is available to take you through the whole process**

#### Partnership support and Volunteer Broker



**Good News Story 24-Hour Community Podcast Show Alongside One World Strong Foundation and Our Barn Community** played out across the airwaves on the 27th December 2021 from 11am (GMT), special guests from all over the globe recapped special episodes on Heston West Big Local Podcast Show featured from the previous year. Gaunless Gateway Big Local received a huge big thanks, alongside many other organisations involved. Jane Crawford from Daisy Arts produced and Chris Bradburn from Bradburn Films edited the podcast submitted for this event on a volunteer basis. We as a partnership are truly grateful, we feature at 9 minutes and 56 seconds on the first video, it's a joy to watch. [http://www.hestonwest.org/24-hour-podcast?fbclid=IwAR3sF6e6ZBxzLCXuTGH6doohUF6ZtbHsqr4dKKEXsqB-HK1PyBAIP7Tf\\_qo](http://www.hestonwest.org/24-hour-podcast?fbclid=IwAR3sF6e6ZBxzLCXuTGH6doohUF6ZtbHsqr4dKKEXsqB-HK1PyBAIP7Tf_qo)

**ERS Research & Consultancy** were signposted to myself via Fiona Cowley at Local Trust, they were looking for designated workers who worked alongside volunteers in their identified roles for an insight into the role and the recipients' requirements. This was both a reflective account and a discussion based on the aspiration's based on data compiled for the plan. Click the link below for more information on the organisation: <https://www.ers.org.uk/>

**Bishop Auckland Bowls Club** had a wonderful article covering the Deacon Star award event hosted by Eileen Atkinson, in the Bishop's Press. This was kindly reported and photographed by Chris Percival an amazing community volunteer, who supports so many groups and organisations.

**Bishop Auckland and Shildon Area Action Partnership** board meeting, was attended in an observational capacity to keep up to date with current Neighbourhood Issues as they directly link to the partnership's plan that is to be delivered over the next five years.

**Woodhouse Close Church Community Centre Christmas Party** was a joy to attend, John Lethbridge gave a wonderful opening speech thanking the wonderful staff and core team of volunteers equally to the influx of support volunteers and partner organisations who have kept this vital community hub vibrant for another year through their additional support. There was a wonderful three course meal served, tombola's, raffles and everyone left with a selection box and an abundance of festive cheer.

### **Meetings attended minutes / notes taken, written up and circulated**

**Full Partnership Monthly Meeting** Minutes taken and accuracy agreed

### **Combined Work and Collaboration**

**Good News Story Just Ideas** pilot scheme direct result from interviews with both staff members feedback to enhance the support the offer to Big Local areas by developing additional resource focused on how partnerships plan and allocate funds. The proposals for a new, facilitated process to enable areas to take stock, review their strengths and challenges, and put actions in place, Local Trust are working with Just Ideas on the design of this and are looking for a small number of Big Local areas to pilot and Gaunless gateway Big Local has been successful in being chosen. This opportunity would aim to complement your ongoing support, help Local Trust to identify barriers, and ensure they are in the best possible place to achieve their goals.

**Good News Story #OperationWiFi campaign** created further wider impact, GGBL is proud to be involved as one of the communities who are continuing to make this happen - data gifting for those in need!

The O2 Christmas advert about gifting phone data to get people connected to the internet?

Click here to watch the advert: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I78UotAouoA>

That idea came directly from the Operation Wi-Fi campaign, of which many Big Local areas and Local Trust were members. Well done to all you who got involved!

The data bank will give out vouchers via community groups, so if your community group wants to get involved you will need to join the online centres network. Click the link for more information:

<https://www.goodthingsfoundation.org/databank/>

**Healthy Heart Beat Group** were introduced to the Wellbeing for Life team who are now delivery a 12 week – based exercise programme that focuses on older adults and or / those less able.

**Putting Communities at the Heart of their own Communities - WSA Community Consultants** we were requested to take part in research to understand the role of Big Local workers from the Local Trust perspective who are forming a broader understanding of the role of Big Local workers and how they support residents. The data from our interviews will be used to support the research, the purpose of which is to build a wide understanding from everyone involved in Big Local covering a range of roles.

**J and K Training Bishop Auckland centre** we met with the delivery team to discuss training opportunities that have been identified as missing in the partnership, GGBL is keen to strengthen and build capacity within the existing businesses and breakdown barriers for individuals through minimising travel and accessibility.

**National Careers Service** we had a meeting with a local based member of the service to discuss opportunities that could link directly into the GGBL Learning Hub which is one of the future identified

projects, that could strengthen a wrap round package of support to an individual. This will form one of the legacy projects that sits within the fully costed 5-year plan that was successfully agreed by Local Trust at the of 2021 and will be brought to fruition over the next plan period.

**Citizens Advice Fuel Crisis Advice** we met up to discuss about some of the challenges partnership members face with the local specialist Energy Citizens Adviser County Durham, this is due to numerous groups / organisations supporting individuals, they have a package of support they can partner with GGBL to deliver to a wider audience to raise further awareness of the current up to date government support available.

**First** we had our first meeting with some of the delivery team who have been funded in the 2021 - 2026 GGBL plan, where we gave them a brief overview of the partnership and a tour of the area. They are a business with a social purpose, they believe that developing leadership and progression skills are the keys to personal growth and sustainable economies. Click the link here to the website:

<https://www.youarefirst.co.uk/>

**Bishop Auckland Christmas Town** came to the market place for a spectacular weekend of festive fun for everyone, it took place on the 26, 27, 28 of November, this event was funded by Durham County Council's Contain Outbreak Management Fund and Community Cultural Events Fund. The event was organised by Bridge Creative and Bacchanalia, in partnership with Bishop Auckland Town Council, Bishop Town Hall and The Auckland Project.

We were thrilled to be approached by Bridge Creative to cascade through our vast networks, opportunities to families and individuals to attend the events available that may have been unobtainable due to different barriers or personal circumstance. Once tickets had been allocated to attendees festive cheer was in abundance and transport was arranged to add the final special touch.

**AYCC Staff Meeting** both staff members attended.

**Online Training / workshops** this is not an exhaustive list and does not list all individual meetings relevant to our job roles, just a snapshot of topics covered and some positive outcomes from attendance

Delivery body	Training / Workshop	Status	Initials
Local Trust	Equality and Diversity workshop	Attended	SG & BS
Durham Community Action	Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Eligibility workshop	Attended	SG & BS
Cabinet Office & UK Health Security Winter Agency	Putting health at the heart of economic renewal: An evidence-based framework for levelling up Health	Attended	SG & BS
Cabinet Office & UK Health Security Winter Agency	Keeping communities safe during winter	Attended	SG & BS
Efiko Academy	Using Tech for Impact Management	Attended	SG & BS
Local Trust	Power of Sport – A Digital Tool Kit	Attended	SG & BS

County Durham & Tees Valley	An introduction to Qwell	Attended	SG & BS
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