



Connecting the Coalfield Partnership

issue three

26 Projects 34 workers and more on the way

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The Urban II programme is already supporting 26 projects in the Hetton and Murton area. With 5 new projects being considered, the number of workers looks likely to increase to 47. However, there is more funding to be allocated and there is a continuing call for project proposals.

As a direct result of European Commission funding there has been a significant increase in the opportunities open to the residents of the URBAN II area. School children have extra support, it is easier to access training and community groups can get help.

This is all made possible by over £7 million of European Regional Development Fund money. The funding is distributed by the Connecting the Coalfield Partnership. The local Partnership receives applications from organisations that want to work in the area. Those organisations deliver projects for the benefit of local residents.

Any project ideas should be submitted to the URBAN II Development Team. The Team can support organisations through the application process. Contact Details on page 3.

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URBAN II Supported Project Workers



Project News Page

Community Transport

A lack of transport would limit the opportunities available to the residents of the Connecting the Coalfield Partnership area. Community representatives have continually highlighted the limitations of the area's public transport service. With this in mind, the Partnership is supporting the URBAN II Community Transport Project.

The project started in April and it is already providing transport for community groups throughout the URBAN II area. The community transport partnership between Easington Lane Community Access Point and Sure Start Hetton & Houghton is helping people to attend training sessions, gather together for meetings and access services.

The project is training a body of volunteer drivers. The volunteers are supported by two transport co-ordinators and the project has two minibuses. Residents are invited to use the minibuses to travel to work, training, community activities and Sure Start services.

For more information contact: Clare Watkin
Tel: 0191 5261071

Learning in the Community

The Joint Community Learning project has two bases. From the Community Access Points at the Racecourse Estate and Easington Lane a team of staff will cover the whole of the URBAN II area.

Among the subjects on offer are basic skills, crèche work qualifications, an introduction to youth work, adult and community teaching, art and committee skills. Other subjects will be provided in response to demand.

For more information contact: Clare Watkin
Tel: 0191 5261071

Community and Business Representatives

The URBAN II Community Initiative is directed by the Connecting the Coalfield Partnership. Any organisation with an interest in the URBAN II area can be represented in that Partnership.

All of the decisions about the allocation of funding and the support given to organisations working in the area are made by Partnership Groups. It is important that the Groups reflect the opinions of the communities that will benefit. The membership of the Groups is open. The better the cross section of representatives the better the health of the Groups

Buzz words...

but what do they actually mean



Diversity

Valuing difference in terms of age, gender, race, religion, belief, sexual orientation, (dis)ability and social class.

Equality

When everyone has equal access to the same life opportunities.

Social exclusion

Is “falling through the net” of society, usually as a consequence of multiple deprivation, poverty and a cycle of disadvantage. Many of these people feel abandoned by society; their horizons and expectations being severely limited.

Social Inclusion

Is preventing and addressing social exclusion and reintegrating those who are socially excluded back into society.

Community Capacity Building

Is enabling individuals, communities and organisations to reach their full potential and participate effectively in social, economic and civic life: by providing resources, increasing confidence, skills, knowledge and information, facilitating connections, networks and other channels for involvement.

Community Cohesion

A common vision and sense of belonging for all communities. The diversity of people’s different backgrounds and circumstances are appreciated and positively valued.



Contact Details

If you have an idea for a project, please contact the Development Team for Advice

URBAN II Development Team, Murton Resource Centre,
16-17 Woods Terrace, Murton, Seaham SR7 9AD
Tel: 0191 517 3208
e-mail: urban@sunderland.gov.uk



Is your community group or voluntary organisation based in the following wards?

Haswell, South Hetton, Murton East, Murton West, Hetton, Copthill

Could a small grant make a difference to your group?

You need to contact:

Ashleigh Gibson 0191 4285550

Ashleigh is a dedicated development worker, for the small grants scheme of BRIDGING THE GAP/URBAN II a joint initiative between The Coalfields Regeneration Trust and the Connecting the Coalfield Partnership.

Part of her role is to assist groups in applying for grants. The programme provides small grants of between £500 - £5000 to grass roots groups and organisations. All grants must be spent before the 31st March 2005.

She will come and meet you to discuss your project, advise you on how to apply and explain the whole process in a user friendly way.

Grants can be used for a variety of activities including training, buying new equipment and community events etc.

To apply, your group needs a constitution or set of rules and a bank account with two signatories. You will also be asked to provide other information depending on what you are applying for.

Don't worry if you don't, if you have a good idea that will benefit your community, she can assist you and get you the training you need to get the idea off the ground.

Successful Applicants to date

Lyons Choir	£4,599	Easington Lane Community Access Point	£4,925
Murton Parish Council	£5,000	Robin Todd Centre South Hetton Mother and Toddler Group	£1,846
Elemore Girls for Golf	£3,428	Age Concern Sunderland	£2,052
Murton Family Centre	£4,438	Lambton and Houghton Heritage Banner group	£5,000
South Hetton Community Association	£4,220	The Hetton Trust	£5,000
Robin Todd Junior Youth Group	£1,643	Murton Family Support	£4,835
South Hetton Community Partnership	£2,115		



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Assistance from the European Regional Development Fund will provide over £7 million of grant towards a programme of projects with a total value of over £15 million.