

fair share

Lottery money where it's needed most

Evaluation of Fair Share Trust in Blyth Valley (Seaton Valley)

February 2013



Fair Share Trust is managed by UK Community Foundations and supported by the National Lottery

Comments about Fair Share Trust

"It's been a boom to the whole of the area"
Treasurer, New Hartley Community Centre

"If Gina were to finish ... I don't know what we'd do ... we would be lost without her"
Secretary, Seghill Community Centre

"She's a pot of gold ... she's been so helpful"
Volunteer at Seaton Sluice Community Centre

"If we didn't have our fair share in the first place, we've certainly have had it now"
Fair Share Trust Panel member

"Things have changed for the better"
Volunteer at Seaton Delaval Community Centre

"Before we'd just be plodding on but now we can see a future".
Volunteer at Seghill Community centre

"Every year over the 10 years, there's never been a step back".
Seaton Valley Partnership representative

Acknowledgements

Doing this evaluation has been an absolute pleasure. In the course of the fieldwork we have met many committed, enthusiastic and decent people who are dedicated to the work they do on behalf of their communities or the communities they serve; both professionals and community members. It has been a pleasure to meet these people and our lives are richer for it. We would like to thank those people who we have interviewed for the time they have given to us to answer our questions.

About Community Foundation serving Tyne & Wear and Northumberland ('the Community Foundation')

The Community Foundation was established in 1988 as a charity and limited company to benefit communities particularly, although not exclusively, in Tyne and Wear and Northumberland. Their vision is: 'effective giving, thriving communities and enriched lives'. Their purpose is to be the hub for community philanthropy in the area, inspiring and supporting giving that strengthens communities and enriches local life. To do this they: enable effective giving by people and business; support organisations and individuals with money, time and expertise; and inform and influence issues affecting communities.



More information: www.communityfoundation.org.uk

About the authors

Barefoot Research and Evaluation is a social research organisation based in Newcastle upon Tyne, working across the North East and Cumbria. They have particular expertise in consultation and research with local communities particularly participatory research with communities of interest. Barefoot Research and Evaluation has carried out work on a diverse range of social welfare programmes in the voluntary and public sector. Dr. Christopher Hartworth, who set up Barefoot, has 20 years' experience of research and evaluation, beginning in developing countries in poverty alleviation programmes and continuing in the North East of England in work with disadvantaged communities.



More information: www.barefootresearch.org.uk

i Executive summary

This is an evaluation of the Blyth Valley (or Seaton Valley) Fair Share Trust which ran from 2003 to 2013. The objectives of the evaluation are ultimately to look at what has been achieved, whether or not the programme was a success and if the money was well spent. Specifically we wanted to know what the impact had been on the local community and the social fabric of the area; we wanted to know whether the programme had resulted in good community development.

This evaluation shows that the local programme has been a success. More than this, it has been a remarkable success and we think it is a model of best practice. The community associations and the local community have benefited greatly from Fair Share Trust and there has been considerable 'distance travelled' over the last 10 years. The experience has been a true embodiment of participatory development; local development led by local people on their terms. This has meant good and sustainable local community development.

Fair Share Trust

Fair Share Trust puts change in the hands of communities. In 2003, Big Lottery Fund (BIG) noticed that certain parts of the UK were not receiving equal amounts of their funding because they lacked the resources or experience to put together successful funding applications. So, Fair Share Trust was created when BIG put £50m into a trust. The funds were to be spent across the 80+ areas in the UK over 10 years. UK Community Foundations is the sole Trustee and delivers Fair Share Trust by working with its members and other local partners, called Local Agents, who use their local giving expertise to make sure funding is distributed based on what communities want. The main programme aims were to:

- Build capacity: the confidence, skills and experience of individuals and communities
- Enhance social capital: the networks, relationships and contacts of individual and organisations
- Improve liveability: the look and feel of the neighbourhood
- Create sustainability: a positive lasting legacy.

Fair Share Trust was not a grants programme, in that it was a local funding resource to which funding applications could be made. Moreover, as the Fair Share Trust states, it was about process rather than projects and 'only in this way can the importance of learning from unsuccessful projects be retained'.

Fair Share Trust activities

The majority of the Fair Share Trust investment has been in community development: a total of 86 percent of total funds (£760,614) was invested in capacity development and community development. The single biggest

investment was in Community and Voluntary Action Blyth Valley (CVA Blyth Valley) who received a total of £587,449. The remaining 14 percent (£100,563) was invested in health activities, with the biggest single investment being Doxford Youth Project (£65,177).

The majority of the funded elements were of a strategic nature and contributed to the objectives of the Fair Share Trust about contributing to longer term goals of the Fair Share Trust Panel representing the local community. There were other smaller projects which did not contribute to such strategic aims and appeared to be more one-off in nature, such as Watbus and the Food Chain projects. However, this is not to say that they did not have a positive impact and they did contribute to spreading the impact of Fair Share Trust across all elements of the community, ensuring that residents of local care homes for example had their fair share of Fair Share Trust.

Evaluation findings

The evaluation makes the following key findings.

1. High quality community development

The community capacity development programme delivered by CVA Blyth Valley has been of the highest quality and has had significant impact. There has been an overwhelmingly positive response from the local community and professional community about the Fair Share Trust. The community associations which have been recipients of both Fair Share Trust funding and from the support provided by the capacity building programme implemented by CVA Blyth Valley, have all reported significant benefits. There was high praise for all the Community Development Workers (CDWs) from CVA Blyth Valley. Indeed, many of the impacts of the work were attributed to the quality and approach of these Workers.

2. Built capacity of the local Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS)

This was a key objective of the Fair Share Trust - to increase the capacity of local VCS organisations, to enable local communities to organise themselves, verbalise their needs and lead their own development.

There is evidence to indicate that this has happened on a number of different levels to a number of different types of voluntary and community sector organisations, from established professional organisations, to community associations focused around a community centre, to single focus organisations such as Scouts or Singing groups. We have found that Fair Share Trust, through the capacity development work implemented by CVA Blyth Valley and through funded projects, has resulted in the following impacts.

- **Creating new VCS organisations:** through the support provided by CVA Blyth Valley, local people have been helped to create new organisations.
- **Helping existing VCS organisations grow, develop and expand:** Fair Share Trust has enabled established organisations to grow and develop which has in turn led to an increased number of beneficiaries.

- **Increased the numbers of volunteers:** through encouraging and supporting events, including consultation events and volunteer fairs, Fair Share Trust has led to an increase in the numbers of community members who contribute to their time to community organisations.
- **Improved the physical infrastructure of community resources:** through direct funding and levering in additional funding, Fair Share Trust has improved physical resources. This has led to increased use, a greater choice of activities for local communities and improved finances.
- **Improved the financial sustainability of community organisations:** this has been made possible through the provision of financial management training in the community, the organisation of local funding fairs and increasing the number of activities that run from the Community Associations and thus their rental income.
- **Rejuvenated community resources and improved community spirit:** the capacity development work that has been carried out has refreshed and given new energy and drive to existing community associations, and by implication to local communities themselves.
- **Created links between community organisations and funders:** funding is key to the survival and sustainability of community organisations. The CDW not only identified suitable funders but also created relationships between funders and local organisations.

3. Strengthened civil society

Fair Share Trust has increased the number and diversity of organised groups in the local community; new groups have been formed because of Fair Share Trust, new funds have been accessed by the new organisations and membership and useage has increased.

4. Increased use of community resources

Fair Share Trust has increased the number of local people who use the community centres. By improving the physical condition of buildings, increasing the numbers of activities, increasing the profile of the centres, the community development work has increased useage.

5. Improved local services

Fair Share Trust has resulted in an improved range of services on offer to local people and an increased number have used these services, including more people using the community centres.

6. Levered in substantial funds for local organisations

The community development work of CVA Blyth Valley has supported local organisations in successfully applying for over £600,000 . Examples of beneficiary organisations include community venues, toddler groups, youth groups, sports groups, residents associations, scouts, guides and brownies, dance groups and Parent Teacher Associations.

7. Increased services and activities

As a result of Fair Share Trust, activities and events have increased in a number of areas, both inside and outside of the community centres. Activities have increased for all members of the local community and have included a

diverse range of subject areas from community cinema, youth activities, walking, cooking and theatre.

8. Increased organisational diversity

The activities of CVA Blyth Valley have attracted a number of new organisations and services which otherwise would not have been present. Seaton Valley now has more organisations delivering more activities because of Fair Share Trust.

9. Improved community safety and reduced risk

Through working with community groups and providing training (either directly or through organising others to provide training), the community development work has made communities safer places.

10. Improved public health

As a result of the community development work and the investment in health activities, a number of positive public health impacts have been noted. This includes more health related activities (for example, keep fit, yoga, walking clubs) and more people participating.

11. Sustainable development

Generally, there was a consensus amongst community centre representatives interviewed that they are significantly stronger now compared to before Fair Share Trust. There was also a recognition that they could carry on as community associations now, whereas before their futures were uncertain.

Conclusion

The Fair Share Trust in Seaton Valley has been a considerable success and a model of how good community development can happen: in our opinion it has been a model of best practice. The local community, with support from an infrastructure organisation and a fund manager, has led their own development process with significant impacts on both community organisations and local populations. There are more things for local people to do, better facilities and more community spirit because of Fair Share Trust. Those benefits also accrue to all sections of society.

We see that the local community is in much better shape than it was 10 years ago, with the area now having improved social and physical capital. There has also been a high degree of sustainability to initiatives with communities now forging their own development route and having their own ambitions. The Seaton Valley Partnership is key to this sustainability and the four major community centres in the area have been enthusiastic signatories. The Partnership recognises the value of a CDW to continually support their development plans and processes and they are keen to continue this. Similarly, they have recognised the value of a Youth Worker and are currently looking for funds to continue the work started by Fair Share Trust. An important conclusion can be made from this: that local communities and organisations recognise the value of external, professional support and although the community organisations are led by volunteers, they lack the

capacity (time and sector expertise) to support and administer their own development process to an optimum level. In short, community development is better if it is supported by a professional community development worker. The quality of the worker is also important and CVA Blyth Valley has supplied workers of the highest quality.

There has been other significant learning in the 10 years since Fair Share Trust started. Because of the experience, we now know:

- The Community Foundation now have considerable expertise in administering a geographically focused, community development programme.
- The model of community capacity development created and delivered by CVA Blyth Valley is effective at stimulating a sustainable community development process. Adopting this community capacity development approach has resulted in an almost 100 percent matched funding, representing considerable value for public money.
- There was significant advantage in the community capacity development work being neutral, particularly during a period of upheaval associated with local government reorganisation.
- Individual professional performance is key to the development process with the CDWs demonstrating their dedication, commitment, empathy and technical ability.
- There are considerable advantages of working with a 'preferred provider': CVA Blyth Valley has almost acted as a lead provider and as one interviewee commented "*when you have one lead provider, things are quite straightforward*".
- The community organisations across Holywell, New Hartley, Seaton Delaval, Seaton Sluice and Seghill have demonstrated themselves to be dedicated, energetic, trustworthy and worthy of investment, representing well the local communities which they serve.

During the evaluation, there was much discussion about what would have happened to those community associations if Fair Share Trust had not existed. We received comments of "*if it wasn't here, the Gala would have gone, the older people's party would have gone ... the Centre would have closed*". Another comment was "*I'd hate to think what would have happened*".

Finally, to end with two comments from community leaders: "*it's been a really positive experience*" and "*it's been a pleasure working with Fair Share*".

Table of contents		Page number
i	Executive summary	3
1.0	Introduction	9
1.1	The structure of the report	10
1.2	About the evaluation	10
1.3	Fair Share Trust	10
1.4	The local area: Seaton Valley	13
1.5	Investment in Seaton Valley	16
1.6	The Panel	19
2.0	Fair Share Trust activities	22
2.1	Priority one: community capacity development	22
2.1.1	Community development through capacity development: CVA Blyth Valley	22
2.1.2	Support to the community centres	27
2.1.3	Blyth Resource and Initiative Centre	29
2.1.4	WATBUS Community Transport	30
2.2	Health related activities	31
2.2.1	Doxford Youth Project	31
2.2.2	Women's Health Advice Centre	34
2.2.3	Other projects	34
3.0	Evaluation findings	36
3.1	High quality community development	36
3.2	Built capacity of the local VCS	37
3.3	Strengthened civil society	43
3.4	Increased use of community resources	44
3.5	Improved local services	44
3.6	Levered in substantial funds for local organisations	45
3.7	Increased services and activities	47
3.8	Increased organisational diversity	48
3.9	Improved community safety and reduced risk	48
3.10	Improved public health	49
3.11	Sustainable development	49
4.0	The experience of the Community Foundation	51
5.0	Conclusion	54
	Appendix one: Interviewees	56
	Appendix two: Funds levered in through CVA Blyth Valley	57

1.0 Introduction

This is an evaluation of the Seaton Valley Fair Share Trust which ran from 2003 to 2013. It is a challenging task to evaluate a 10 year programme, principally because of the volume of work that has taken place over the length of time involved. It is difficult to do it all justice, to reflect the value of everything and to create an accurate record.

However, the records of the Community Foundation who have administered Fair Share Trust (very effectively) capture all that detail and ensure there is an audit trail. We have presented some of that detail here, but the aim of the evaluation is not to re-present the detail of Fair Share Trust. We have also tried not to make the evaluation overly long.

The objectives of the evaluation are ultimately to look at what has been achieved, whether or not the programme was a success and if the money was well spent. Specifically we wanted to know what the impact had been on the local community and the social fabric of the area; we wanted to know whether the programme had resulted in good community development.

We already know that on a national level Fair Share Trust has been a success, as it has led to the development of the current Big Local. The national evaluation carried out by Sally Downs¹ provided the evidence and highlighted the learning and successes of Fair Share Trust. So, the local experience in Seaton Valley has resulted in Big Local programmes in Lynemouth, Whitley Bay and Jarrow (to name a few).

This evaluation shows that the local programme has been a success. More than this, it has been a remarkable success and we think it is a model of best practice. The community associations and the local community have benefited greatly from Fair Share Trust and there has been considerable 'distance travelled' over the last 10 years. The experience has been a true embodiment of participatory development; local development led by local people on their terms. This has meant good and sustainable local community development.

Supporting this development has been CVA Blyth Valley and they have performed in an exemplary manner throughout the 10 years and much of the success of the local community development process can be attributed to them; their vision and their staff of the ground. Again they have been a model of best practice. Based on the evidence of this evaluation, we would strongly recommend CVA Blyth Valley to any other area based community development programme.

We hope that this evaluation can be used by those community associations and voluntary organisations involved to demonstrate their value and importance in supporting the local community and leading local development.

¹ Downs, S. 2009, The first five years of the Fair Share Trust programme, Sally Downs Consulting With Alison Millward Associates BDOR Shared Practice

Finally, there is a film which captures the impact of the programme, made by Meerkat Films. We thus encourage readers to watch that film as it visually presents many of the findings in this report. The film can be downloaded from the Fair Share Trust website (www.fairsharetrust.org).

1.1 The structure of the report

The report is constructed in the following way: in the first section we set the scene and present the evaluation, Fair Share Trust, the local area, the level of financial investment, the recipient organisations and the Fair Share Trust Panel; following this, we briefly describe the projects that have been commissioned; then we present the evaluation findings, concentrating on the priorities chosen by the Panel (community development and health); we then present the experience of the Community Foundation; and finally a conclusion is offered.

1.2 About the evaluation

The evaluation was carried out between July 2012 and February 2013 by Barefoot Research and Evaluation, a social research organisation based in Newcastle upon Tyne. The emphasis of the evaluation has been to examine the impact of the programme on the local communities and the local voluntary and community sector. As such, the methodology predominantly used qualitative research methods including semi structured interviews, focus groups and participatory research workshops (appendix one provides a list of interviewees and participants²).

In this report, we have focused on findings and outcomes, rather than a dedication to the project detail. As it was a 10 year programme, the report would be much more lengthy had we done so.

Nationally Fair Share Trust has been thoroughly evaluated and there are three reports³. These reports look respectively at: the background to Fair Share Trust and the Community Fund's open funding programme; how the Fair Share Trust was set up and how it operates in local neighbourhoods; and the experience of the Fair Share Trust over the first five years. It is not the intention here to go over that detail and thus instead, those interested are directed there. Here, we present the briefest of backgrounds to give the reader an idea of what it was all about.

1.3 Fair Share Trust

Fair Share Trust puts change in the hands of communities. In 2003, Big Lottery Fund (BIG) noticed that certain parts of the UK were not receiving equal amounts of their funding because they lacked the resources or

² There may be some omissions to this list, of people who have been part of meetings or workshops and to those we apologise.

³ These can be downloaded here: www.nof.org.uk/research/stronger-communities/evaluating-fair-share

experience to put together successful funding applications. So, Fair Share Trust was created when BIG put £50 million into a trust. The funds were to be spent across the 80+ areas in the UK over 10 years. UK Community Foundations is the sole Trustee and delivers Fair Share Trust by working with its members and other local partners, called Local Agents, who use their local giving expertise to make sure funding is distributed based on what communities want.

The main programme aims were to:

- Build capacity: the confidence, skills and experience of individuals and communities
- Enhance social capital: the networks, relationships and contacts of individual and organisations
- Improve liveability: the look and feel of the neighbourhood
- Create sustainability: a positive lasting legacy.

To be clear from the outset, Fair Share Trust was not a grants programme, in that it was a local funding resource to which funding applications could be made. Moreover, as the Fair Share Trust states, it was about process rather than projects and ‘only in this way can the importance of learning from unsuccessful projects be retained’⁴.

In relation to how Fair Share Trust was constructed, the Big Lottery commissioned the UK Community Foundations⁵ to manage the Fair Share Trust and fund. UK Community Foundations together with the Big Lottery set up the Fair Share Trust which was a time limited Trust dedicated to the implementation of the Fair Share Trust and the investment of the Fair Share Trust monies. More information on the origins of the programme is shown in box 1.0.

The local administrators of the Trust were the individual Community Foundations across the UK. These set up local Fair Share Trust Panels made up of residents and sector specialists who advised the Community Foundation where to invest the money.

This Fair Share Trust was locally administered by the Community Foundation serving Tyne & Wear and Northumberland. A Community Foundation Trustee chaired the local Panel meetings.

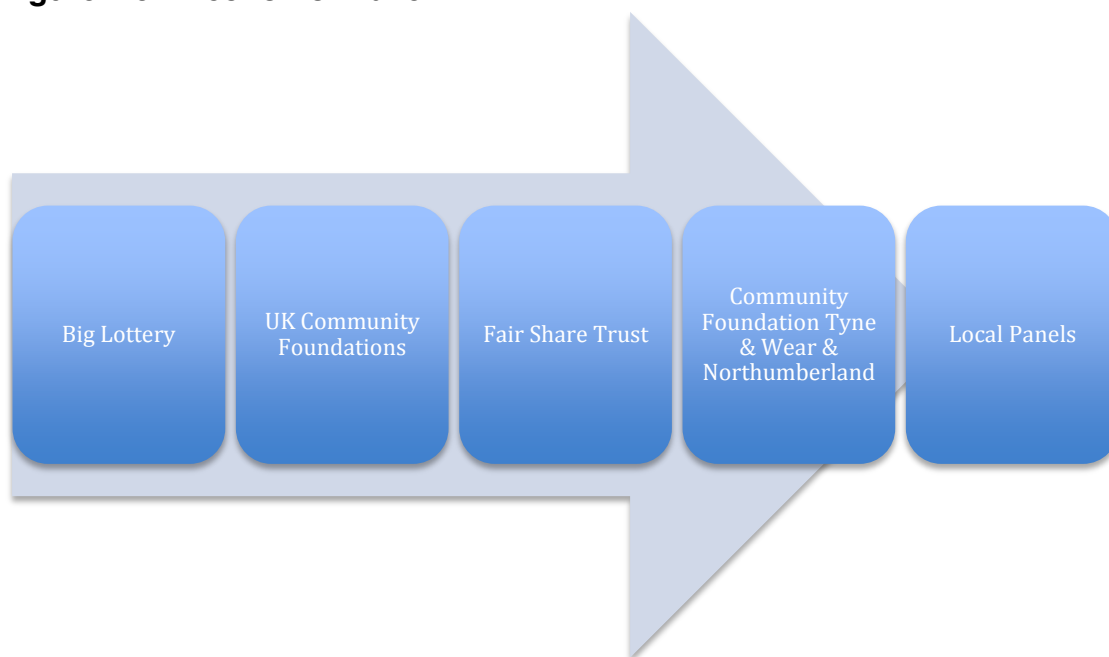
The local Panel was made up of residents and local community development specialists who advised the Community Foundation on where to invest the money. The Fair Share Trust stated that ‘the panels created an interface between the Fair Share Trust Local Agents and the communities they serve’⁶. The following figure shows the direction of travel in the Fair Share Trust.

⁴ www.FairSharetrust.org/index.php/about/article/history/

⁵ This is the national Community Foundation to which belong the regional Community Foundations; the Community Foundation serving Tyne & Wear and Northumberland is one of these.

⁶ www.FairSharetrust.org/index.php/about/article/history/

Figure 1.0 Direction of travel



In relation to how the area was chosen, the Big Lottery had identified that Blyth Valley Borough Council local authority was an area that had received few Big Lottery grants and as such had not received a 'fair share' (particularly in the areas of arts, sports and heritage). The entirety of Blyth Valley was too large an area to be covered by the fund; a smaller area was required. The proposition to identify a Fair Share Trust area was taken to the Local Strategic Partnership who chose Seaton Valley as an area of historical under investment in the Borough. One of the reasons for this under investment was Seaton Valley's proximity to several deprived areas, such as Blyth and parts of Cramlington, which had attracted regeneration investment in the past. It was also ineligible for Coalfields Regeneration monies, again because of its deprivation status (it did not have comparably high indicators of deprivation). As one community representative observed "*we'd been overlooked again and again*". Another community member said "*we applied for money from the Coalfields [Regeneration Trust] but we didn't get anything because we're not a poor area*".

It was also noted that the Fair Share Trust spanned a time of change and uncertainty in Northumberland, which included the dissolution of the borough councils and the creation of the unitary authority, the restructure of the local authority's community development service and changes in infrastructure support to the VCS. One local authority Locality Development Officer reported "*it was a time of great change and Fair Share has helped the voluntary sector across that time*".

Box 1.0 Origins of the Fair Share Trust initiative

Fair Share Trust developed as a result of two main issues. Firstly, the initiative developed partly out of pressure on Lottery distributors to address concerns about the equity of distribution of Lottery money, and the feeling that many areas were missing out on their 'fair share'. The reasons for the inequalities were complex, and it was clear that addressing the problems would involve changes in the way that funding was accessed and investment in the capacity of target communities to take advantage of what is available. Secondly, in the wider fields of regeneration and social policy, there was an emerging view that communities should be given more say over what was funded in their local area. As part of this, Lottery distributors considered their own role in encouraging and stimulating good quality applications from communities.

In consequence, the then Community Fund and New Opportunities Fund (now merged into the Big Lottery Fund, known as BIG), were charged by the Department of Culture, Media and Sport with developing a joint Fair Share Trust initiative. It was intended to increase successful Lottery applications in selected areas, chosen for their mix of relatively high levels of deprivation and relatively poor history of successful Lottery bids. Fair Share Trust areas are located in all four countries of the UK.

Fair Share Trust thus became an area-based initiative, focused on local authority areas. It became a ten year strategic grants programme ending in 2013 run by the Fair Share Trust on behalf of the former New Opportunities Fund. This was a new approach to Lottery funding, namely an expendable endowment for the benefit of Fair Share Trust areas. There was an emphasis on engaging with local organisations and communities in order to set local priorities and develop strategic approaches to a programme of funding intended to meet local needs.

Source: Downs, S. 2007. Evaluation of the Fair Share Initiative

1.4 The local area: Seaton Valley

The Seaton Valley locality lies in the South East of Northumberland bordering Tyne and Wear to the south and the North Sea to the east. It is a rural area interspersed with small urban centres, with a population of approximately 17,000⁷. It has an area of 28.4 km² (the largest of the 10 localities in South East Northumberland) and a population density of nearly 600 people per km². Seaton Valley locality includes the following urban areas:

- Holywell, population 2932
- New Hartley, population 1546
- Seaton Delaval, population 6806
- Seaton Sluice, population 2959
- Seghill, population 2783⁸.

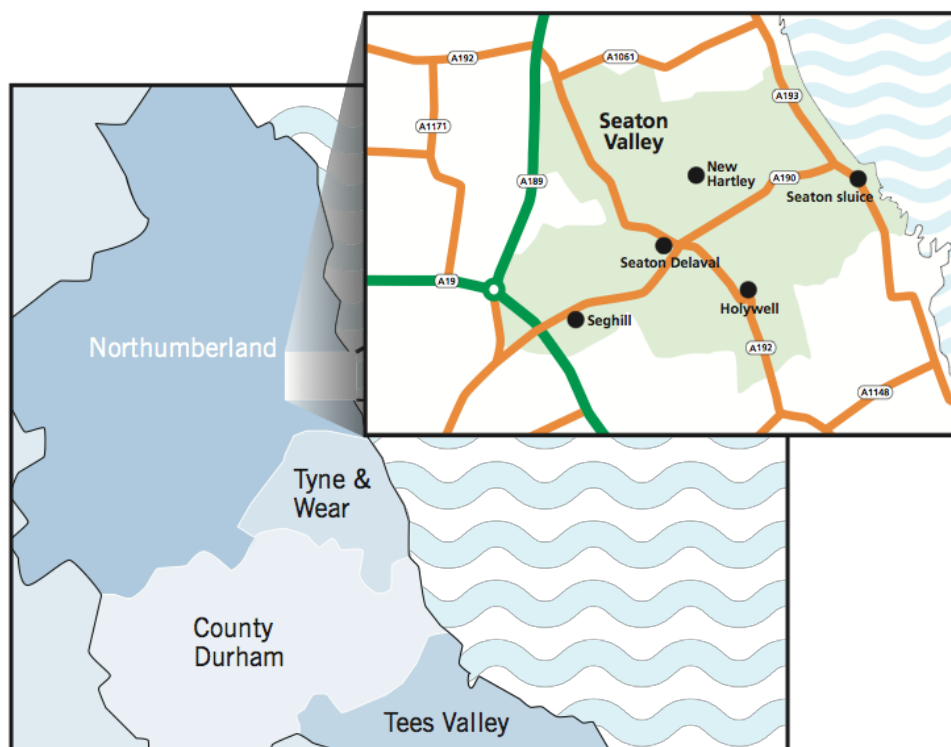
⁷ 2010 census.

⁸ All 2010 census figures.

The area has a history of coal mining spanning more than 100 years, beginning in the 1800s and the most recent closing in the 1960s. New Hartley experienced a terrible pit disaster in 1862 where 204 men and boys died⁹, which had a major impact on the area's social consciousness. Today, the area has few major employers with the exception of the pharmaceutical company, Proctor and Gamble. Most people of working age travel out of the area for work (see box 1.1).

Each urban area has a community centre whose ownership varies, including community owned, the County Council, the Hastings family (of Delaval Hall¹⁰) estate and Homes for Northumberland (and one of unknown ownership). Previous to the advent of Fair Share Trust, the community centres were in varying states, with most in need of considerable investment. Also membership and attendance of the community associations varied, with the majority being characterised by dwindling numbers of older community members. Again their income status varied, with certain centres being near bankruptcy.

Figure 1.0 Location map: Seaton Valley and Northumberland



⁹ More local historical information can be found on: www.seatonvalley.org.uk

¹⁰ The area includes Delaval Hall which has been the seat of the aristocratic Delaval family since the 1700s.

Box 1.1 Key Issues for the Seaton Valley locality

People and Place

- 16.3% of the population are aged between 0 to 15 years (Northumberland 17.4%, North East 18.1%) and the number of people aged between 0 to 15 years decreased by 0.7% between 2005 and 2007.

Community Involvement and Cohesion

- 35.5% of people believe they can influence decisions affecting their local area (Northumberland 28.1%).
- 46.3% are satisfied with how their complaints to their county or district council were handled (Northumberland 38.8%).

Economic Well-being

- 20.8% of people aged 60 and over are in income deprivation (Northumberland 16.6%, North East 23.5%, England 18.3%).

Housing

- 29.9% of all private dwellings are classified as non decent and 6.5% are classified as being in a state of disrepair (Northumberland 40.9 and 10.4).

Transport and Services

- 74.1% of people living in Seaton Valley work outside of Northumberland; this is the second highest rate out of all 27 localities.
- 73.5% of people travel to work by car, motorcycle, scooter or moped (Northumberland 67.5%, North East 65.0%).
- 35.8% of people are satisfied with local bus services and 33.9% are satisfied with local transport information (Northumberland 45.4% and 41.3%).

Health and Social Well-being

- 66.5% of people in Seaton Valley think that their general health is good (Northumberland 73.0%).
- 62.9% of people are satisfied with their local dentist (Northumberland 72.4%, North East 75.1%, and England 69.0%).

Community Safety

- 27.0% of people agree that parents take enough responsibility for the behaviour of their children (Northumberland, 34.2%) and 22.6% think that people not treating each other with respect and consideration is a problem (Northumberland 26.8%).
- 45.7% of people think that teenagers hanging around on the streets are a problem (Northumberland 37.9%).

Source: Seaton Valley Community Profile, Northumberland County Council, Northumberland InfoNet, 2008

1.5 Investment in Seaton Valley

In order to frame the evaluation, it is useful to look at the investment into Seaton Valley and where the money was spent. This is presented in table 1.1. As can be seen, the majority of the funding, 86 percent (£760,636), went towards funding community capacity development. The majority (77 percent) of the community capacity development monies was channeled into one voluntary sector organisation, CVA Blyth Valley.

Table 1.0 Fair Share Trust funding in Seaton Valley, 2003 to 2013

Description	Recipient organisation	Year	Amount £
Priority one: Community Development			
Community capacity Development	CVA Blyth Valley	2004 to 2011	587499
Community Associations: contributions to core costs	Seghill Community Association Seaton Delaval and Holywell Community Association Seaton Sluice Community Association New Hartley Community Association	2004 to 2007	68000
Community transport	Watbus	2010 to 2011	7000
Adult education classes	Blyth Resource and Information Centre	2010 to 2011	12500
Community capacity development	Seaton Valley Partnership	2010 to 2011	71990
Sustainability planning	Seaton Valley Partnership	2011	5123
Sub total			752,112
Priority two: Health			
Music workshops	North East Music Factory	2006	5525
Parenting course	Parenting Initiatives	2006	1897
Children's activities	New Hartley Kids club	2006	4500
Healthy eating	Food Chain	2007	7124
Youth health and roadshow	Doxford Youth Project	2008 to 2011	73701
Healthy community activities	Women's Health Advice Centre	2009	16340
Sub total			100563
Evaluation and film	Fair Share Trust	2012	20000
Grand total			881175

Share of funds

The figures below show how the funds were divided between the community development and health priorities in Seaton Valley and what they funded.

Figure 1.0 Community development: 2003 to 2012

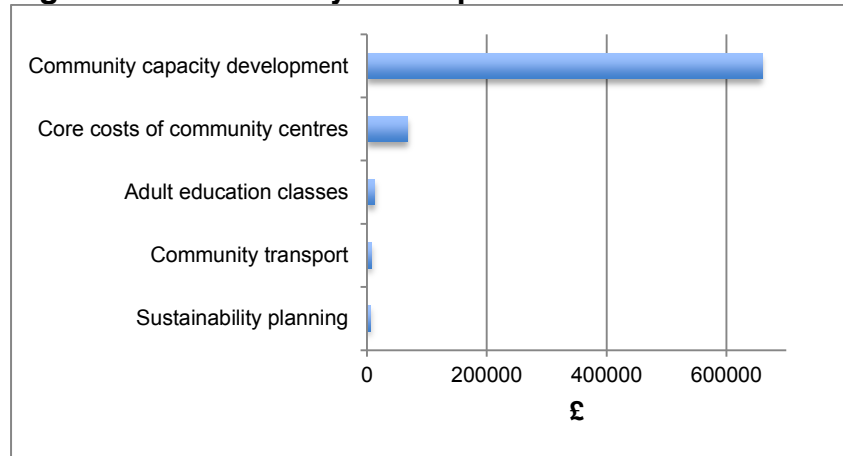
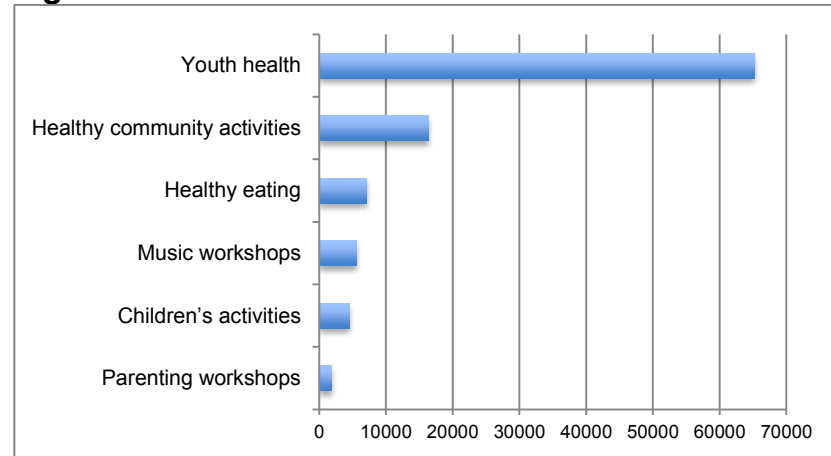
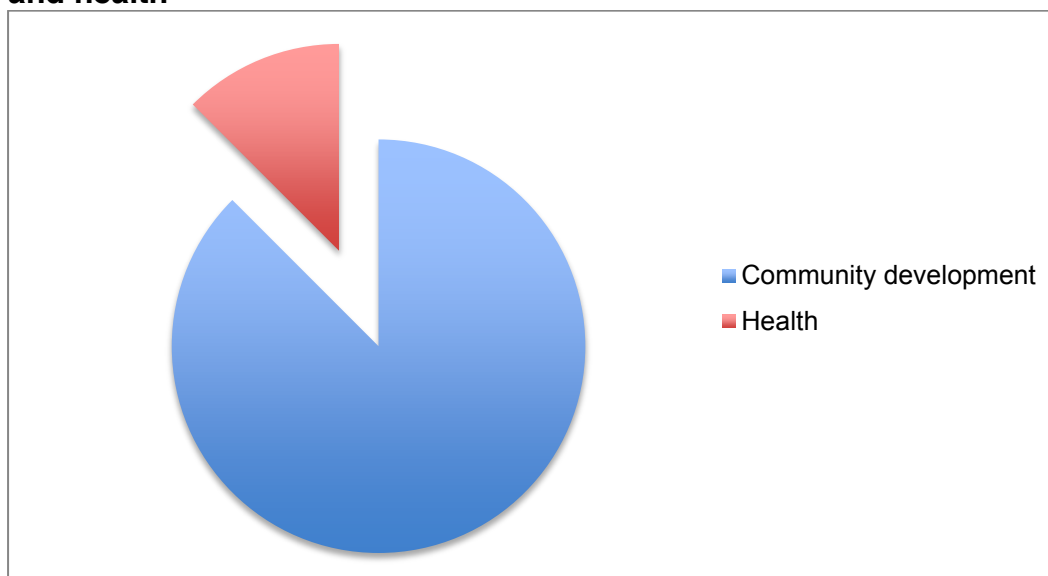


Figure 1.1 Health: 2003 to 2012



There was roughly a 1:7 funding ratio between health and community development activities. See following graph.

Figure 1.2 Proportion of funding devoted to community development and health



Box 1.2 The decision to fund CVA Blyth Valley

As the level of investment into CVA Blyth Valley was so significant and represented such a considerable proportion of total Fair Share Trust funds at such an early stage of the programme, it is worthy of some examination.

At the time when Fair Share Trust was just starting, the Manager of CVA Blyth Valley was the voluntary sector representative on the Blyth Local Strategic Partnership (LSP), acting as the Chairperson. When the Fair Share Trust Panel was created, they became the LSP representative on the Panel (as was stipulated by the Fair Share Trust guidance). CVA Blyth Valley already had existing relationships with community and voluntary sector organisations as the local voluntary sector infrastructure support organisation and as such was well known and trusted. During the first few Panel meetings, the need for a comprehensive community capacity development programme became apparent. Discussions between the Community Foundations Programme Officer and the Manager of CVA Blyth Valley focused on how this would become operational. The Manager then created a framework for such a programme which included CDWs (including organisational and activity specific workers), training budgets and a small funds resource). The Manager commented that “*this vision was translated into a framework*”.

The framework was ratified by the Panel who had confidence in CVA Blyth Valley and felt involved and included in the development of the community capacity development programme. As the evidence in this evaluation demonstrates, this programme proved to be extremely effective.

Note: the CVA Blyth Valley Manager was conscious of the need for impartiality in their role and declared a conflict of interest on any proposals which came to the Panel which had a pecuniary interest to CVA Blyth Valley.

1.6 The Panel

The Fair Share Trust Panel was created from individuals identified by the Blyth Valley Local Strategic Partnership. These individuals were ratified by the Community Foundation. On the Panel, there was representation from all of the community associations attached to the community centres in Seaton Valley, as well as residents, and representatives from the local authority, the Local Strategic Partnership and the voluntary sector.

It was felt by community organisations and other voluntary sector organisations working across Seaton Valley that the Panel was representative of the local community. The Community Foundation themselves reported “*we didn't feel that the Panels were not representative*”.

The Panel decided that the strategic objectives of their Fair Share Trust would be community development and health. These were aligned with the priorities of the Local Strategic Partnership and the Fair Share Trust in general (community/capacity development).

It was made clear to the Panel by the Community Foundation that it was not an open programme, that any community organisation could apply to, in the sense of a grants programme, i.e. Fair Share Trust would not give grants to local organisations. Moreover it was a process of strategic commissioning where a Panel would advise the Community Foundation on the areas to be funded.

Since its inception, the Panel has functioned well and with good participation from regular members. Its functioning has been characterised generally by an absence of conflict and good debate. As one Panel member commented, “*everybody was nice, there was no ill feeling*”. However, it was noted by more than one Panel member that in its early life, some meetings could be “*tense and hard and nothing progressed*”. It seems that these early difficulties have been forgotten by most Panel members as current success and progress has erased earlier problems.

It was felt that it took some time for panel members to fully understand the objectives of Fair Share Trust. As one Panel member said “*it took me a long time to work out what it was all about*”.

In relation to the representatives of the community associations on the Panel, after participation at the Panel meetings, the members would return to their own organisations and debrief them about what had happened. As most of the community organisations represented on the Panel have now felt the benefit of Fair Share Trust, they mostly have a good level of understanding of its purpose.

Box 1.3 How the funding process worked

The Panels advised the Community Foundation which initiatives to fund. How this worked in practice was, ideas would be brought to the Panels by Panel members; in Seaton Valley, this was often via the CDW. Panel members would discuss these proposals in the context of the general programme and the priorities which had been decided (community development and health). Panel members would scrutinise the proposals and vote, and the successful ones would then form the advice to the Community Foundation. From an idea or proposal coming to the Panel to its funding would take approximately six months. The lengthy time period was due to the Panel quarterly meetings and that they had to be considered by the Community Foundation Board. However, this six month process was often dramatically reduced by the flexible use of the CVA Blyth Valley allocation. A total of £135,000 was allocated as a small projects fund, which was used to support activities and speed up an otherwise lengthy process.

For the evaluation, the members of the Panel were involved in a critically reflective participatory exercise which looked back over the 10 years. They answered three key questions:

- What have been the good things about Fair Share Trust?
- What have been the not so good things about Fair Share Trust?
- What would you do differently?

On the last point, Panel members proposed their own areas and then voted and so we get an appreciation of the priorities (the most popular areas).

Panel members felt the best things about Fair Share Trust (see following figure) were: the ways the organisations involved in the Panel worked together in a true partnership sense (for example, one Panel member commented “*It was the community centres working together*”); the range of activities and events that were created because of Fair Share Trust (one member said “*More things for people to do*”); the support provided by CVA Blyth Valley (“*CVA BV workers – the right people in post*”); and the Panel itself (“*Good balance of organisations represented on the panel*”).

Figure 1.3 What were the good things?

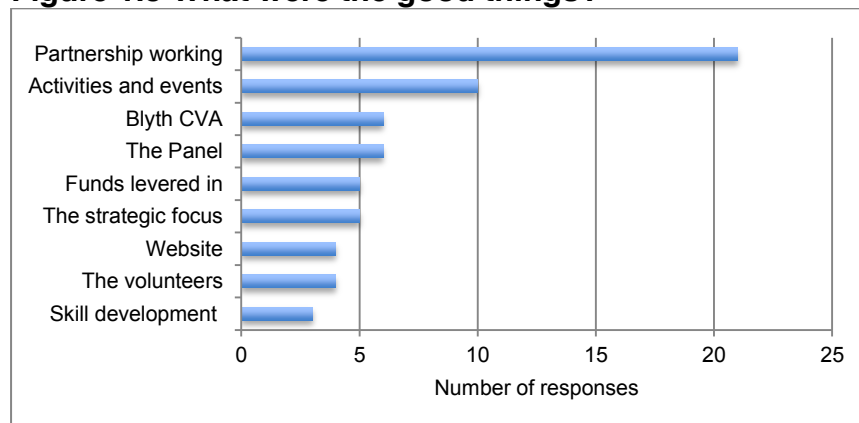
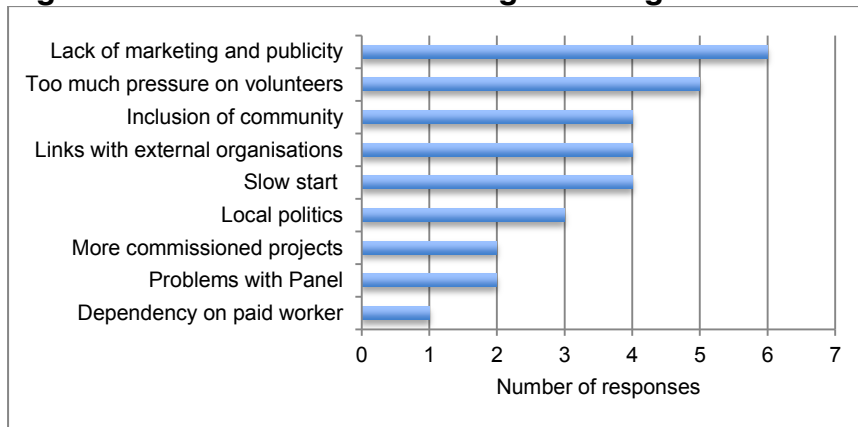


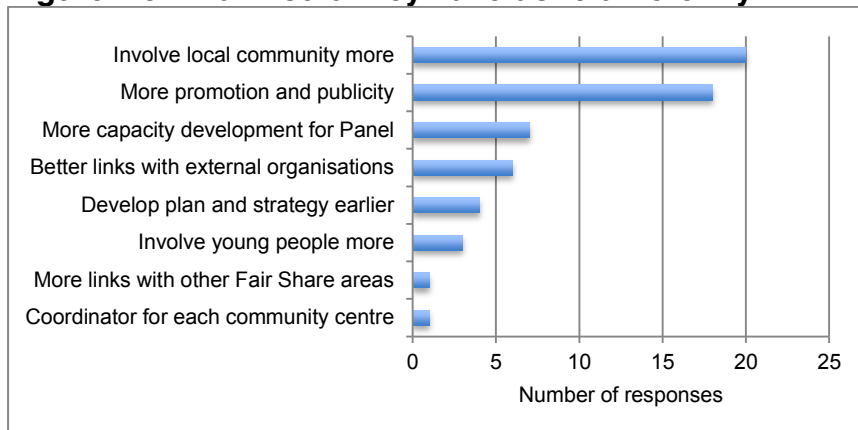
Figure 1.4 shows the responses to the 'not so good things'. As can be seen, the most responses were given for: a lack of marketing and publicity, as one Panel member commented, "*Poor branding of Fair Share*"; and too much pressure on volunteers, for example, one commented, "*the time commitment for volunteers was too much*". There were other comments relating too not enough inclusion of all the community, for example, "*could have been more participatory/engaging*", and links with external agencies could have been stronger.

Figure 1.5 What were the not so good things?



In relation to what they would have done differently (figure 1.5), there were two dominant issues: Panel members felt they could have done more to involve the local community; and better promotion and publicity. In many ways these two issues are interrelated.

Figure 1.5 What would they have done differently?



2.0 Fair Share Trust activities

The majority of the Fair Share Trust investment has been in community development: a total of 86 percent of total funds (£760,614) was invested in capacity development and community development. The single biggest investment was in Community and Voluntary Action Blyth Valley who received a total of £587,449. The remaining 14 percent (£100,563) was invested in health activities, with the biggest single investment being Doxford Youth Project (£65,177).

The majority of the funded elements were of a strategic nature and contributed to the objectives of the Fair Share Trust about contributing to longer term goals of the Fair Share Trust Panel representing the local community. There were other smaller projects which did not contribute to such strategic aims and appeared to be more one-off in nature, such as Watbus and the Food Chain projects. However, this is not to say that they did not have a positive impact and they did contribute to spreading the impact of Fair Share Trust across all elements of the community, ensuring that residents of local care homes for example had their fair share of Fair Share Trust.

In this section we briefly go through each of the elements that Fair Share Trust has funded, showing the proportion of funding that has been allocated to the major programme elements. Although it is repeated that Fair Share Trust is not about projects but about process and strategic commissioning, it is still necessary to present what the money was spent upon.

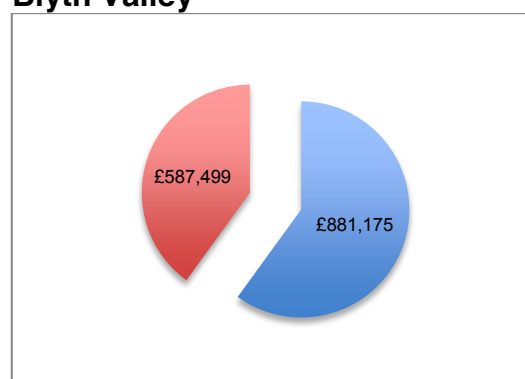
2.1 Priority one: community capacity development

2.1.1 Community development through capacity development: CVA Blyth Valley

The investment in CVA Blyth Valley consisted of:

- Two full time CDWs, one who started in 2005 and another in 2007
- A part time Community Involvement and Engagement Officer who started in 2007
- A training and events programme
- A community website
- A small project fund

Proportion of total funding: CVA Blyth Valley



The overall aim of this initiative was to produce well run and resourced organisations capable of supporting local residents to become involved in community activities. The intervention consisted of a staged approach: stage one consisted of a single CDW, beginning in 2005 for five years (this was

extended by the Seaton Valley Partnership (see box 3.3) who contracted CVA Blyth Valley to continue the CDW post until 2012); stage two consisted of two additional CDWs who began in 2007, on three year contracts, one full time CDW and the other who specialised in developing activities and events (both posts were extended, one to 2011 and the other to 2012; stage three consisted of the staggered withdrawal of these strategic posts, which encouraged groups to do more for themselves and to identify additional resources for themselves, to buy in the necessary support to continue their development needs and to realise that an exit strategy was needed once the Fair Share Trust funding stopped.

The CVA Blyth Valley Manager commented about this staged approach, “*Having 2.5 Full Time Equivalent posts from day one could have been a bit overwhelming for the local community and would possibly have been a waste*”.

Project activities

The programme consisted of a multitude of activities. The main ones are presented below. The CDWs:

- Visited local voluntary organisations, explained their role and what they could offer. This included supporting local organisations develop policies and systems (such as constitution, management structure, health and safety, etc.), develop ideas and source funding. Drop-in style surgeries were also offered as a way to provide access to their services.
- Identified opportunities for new groups and supported them to become operational, through advice, information and guidance. For example, the January 2006 update reported ‘*assisting and advising with the development of four new groups in Seaton Valley including a kids club in Seaton Sluice and an option to develop one in Holywell*’. Another report (March 2006) stated ‘*working with several new groups including St Pauls Toddlers, Friends of Old Hartley, Seaton Sluice First School and Beresford Court Residents Association, developing constitutions and completing funding applications*’.
- Assisted organisations develop funding bids and find relevant funders to apply to.
- Delivering and arranging training courses to local people and organisations, including Basic Book Keeping, Child Protection, First Aid, Food Hygiene, Management Roles and Responsibilities.
- Supported organisations to put on activities and events for fundraising and to increase useage and awareness of organisation.
- Helped organisations attract and recruit volunteers and committee members.
- Networked with local public and private sector organisations with a view to engendering support for voluntary organisations.
- Networked with other voluntary sector organisations in the area to look for areas of mutual benefit, including ‘study visits’ where member of organisations in Seaton Valley visit organisations outside of the area who have been successful.

- Regularly attended community organisations' committee meetings and been easily available and accessible to groups in Seaton Valley.

In relation to organisational capacity development, the CDW provided the following services:

- Developing constitutions, policies and procedures
- Raising awareness of new legal requirements/licenses
- Providing funding/financial advice
- Starting up a new group
- Charity registration
- CRB checks
- Administration
- Business planning/quality assurance

Box 2.1 What does 'building or increasing capacity' mean?

Building capacity means strengthening local voluntary and community organisations, making them better, or helping people organise themselves into organisations, to help them fulfill common goals.

Strengthening existing local organisations means improving their ability to identify needs, carry out local research and consult with people and find funding. It also means strengthening the organisation with the necessary agreements, processes and protocols, such as constitutions, minute taking, health and safety and child safeguarding processes.

Outside of organisations, building capacity means the ability of people to organise themselves, to unite over a common theme and be able to vocalise their needs. It gives people the tools and skills to be able to create an organisation.

Fair Share Trust talks about 'community capacity', they say¹¹ 'community capacity means building factors within a community such as skills, imagination and the ability to address that community's needs. The Fair Share Trust was designed to identify, harness and target the ability to address local needs. The ideal of sustainability is embodied in the outcome of communities developing the capability to find solutions to their own problems'.

Voluntary and community organisations play a major role in building community capacity. Thus a strong local voluntary sector implies a local community with high levels of 'capacity' and in many ways these reinforce one another.

As part of the community capacity development package, CVA Blyth Valley delivered training that was open to all community organisations in Seaton Valley (see table 2.0). Topics were based on need and all were well attended.

¹¹ www.fairsharetrust.org/index.php/about/article/history/

Table 2.0 Training delivered in Seaton Valley

Basic book keeping	Fire safety
Basic DIY	First aid
Basic food hygiene	Health and safety
Basic fundraising	Management roles and responsibilities
Better funding applications	Newsletter training
Child protection	Website training
Costing a salary	

In summing up the work, the CDW said “*we identify their needs, look at processes and protocols, fill any gaps, develop funding applications, activities ... and then step back ... but we’re still there for them if they need us*”.

The Events Coordinator played an important role in developing ideas, activities, energising committees, forming sub committees and generally populating the community associations’ menu of activities and events.

It was clear that Fair Share Trust has led to significant activity within the community centres. As one community centre representative said “*we’ve had new heating, refurbished kitchen, blinds, double glazing, new IT suite ... we’ve done very well ... now it’s a pleasure to come to the building*”. These and other impacts are covered in section 3.

Box 2.1 www.seatonvalley.org.uk

When the CDW started in 2005, one of her first jobs was to talk to local groups and residents to determine local need and get a feel for local issues. One of the main issues which was voiced was people not knowing about activities and events and a general feeling that nothing much happened. For example one resident reported “*there’s nothing for the kids*”. This was in spite of a number of activities which were taking place in and around the locality. The CDW said “*no one communicated*”.

On the basis of this, the CDW and local community associations talked about creating an Internet-based information hub which people could see what was going on and when and which could be updated and managed by the community associations themselves.

The website was officially launched in 2006 after 18 months of development. The objective of the website was to present Seaton Valley and the organisations who work there and act as a source of information to both residents and organisations.

The website is currently administered by 12 different administrators from the community organisations across Seaton Valley.

In 2010/11, there was a total of 11,704 unique page visits.

Visitors are able to book venues, see What’s On and access other local information.



- [About us](#)
- [News](#)
- [Within Seaton Valley](#)
- [Venue Hire in Seaton Valley](#)
- [Seaton Valley Community Partnership](#)
- [Useful links](#)

Events Calendar						
February 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Good morning, welcome to Seaton Valley

Welcome to the community website for Seaton Valley.

This website will give you information about activities running in the area.

This site is constantly being updated and relies on information given from voluntary and community groups in Seaton Valley.

If you have a group in Seaton Valley and are not currently on the site, you are welcome to submit any information. Also if you have any news and events happening in the area and would like them advertised please contact:

Gina Robson or Fiona Wardlaw Capacity Building Officers for Seaton Valley
 on: 01670 353623 or email: gina.robson@cvabv.org.uk
fiona.wardlaw@cvabv.org.uk

The small project fund totaling £135,000 was an important element to the work as it provided an immediate source of funds for community activities. This was available to support the community development work of CVA Blyth Valley and could be accessed without a lengthy application process. Not only did this fund support local community associations but it allowed the bringing in of external expertise and services which did not exist locally. Such examples included Blyth Resource and Initiative Centre and the Citizens Advice Bureau.

2.1.2 Support to the community centres

Support to the community centres was provided through: contributions to the core running costs of the centres between 2004 and 2007; funding of a CDW between 2009 and 2012; commissioning of a sustainability study in 2010.

This area of support was based both on existing research and a need expressed by the Fair Share Trust Panel. The support has been highly appreciated by the community associations (discussed further in section 3).

Proportion of total funding: support to community centres



Contributions to core costs

It was generally recognised by community associations that ensuring sufficient finances to cover the running costs of the community centres was “a struggle” and because of this ‘struggle’ it was almost impossible to plan. Research carried out by Blyth Valley Local Strategic Partnership and the Sustainable Cities Research Institute at Northumbria University also identified the need for investment in the physical community infrastructure¹².

Thus it became an early priority of the Fair Share Trust Panel for ‘capital investment to upgrade and develop facilities which would encourage use and participation in activities’.

It became clear early on in the evaluation that this investment was highly appreciated. One community centre representative said “*the annual grant of £4000 has got us on our feet*”. It was reported by community centre representatives across Seaton Valley that the core cost support allowed them to do a number of things including:

- Being able to access more funds: this has mostly been with the aid of the CDW but also the core funds have enabled the committees the space and time to be able to complete application forms for other things.
- Having the time to plan ahead: knowing that the core costs were covered for the next four years allowed the committees the time to plan ahead and think about what they wanted to develop. It was felt that this would not have been possible without Fair Share Trust as other funds rarely grant core costs.

¹² Blyth Valley Local Strategic Partnership and the Sustainable Cities Research Institute at Northumbria University, 2004, *The Voluntary and Community Sector in Blyth Valley - Developing A Vision For The Future*.

- Allowing organisations to focus on the services they provide: committee members in Seaton Delaval Community Centre are representatives of groups that provide services from the centre, such as the Playgroup, Art Group, Amateur Dramatics, Dance and Community Forum. As a result of the core costs and currently because of the financial security of the Centre, they have to spend less time of ensuring finances can cover running costs and more time of the services they provide. This ultimately improves the quality of those services and the experience of the service users. The leader of the local Playgroup said “*I’ve been able to spend more time on the playgroup ... we can concentrate on what we do*”.

Box 2.2 Community renewables project

Energy studies formed an important contribution to the work to improve the sustainability of the community centres in Seaton Valley. A total of £25,000 was used for a community renewables project; this was commissioned as part of the main CVA Blyth Valley small projects fund.

The first part of this work consisted of a study carried out in 2010 into energy performance and efficiency at the four community centres in Seaton Valley (New Hartley, Seaton Delaval, Seaton Sluice and Seghill). It looked at how the centres could improve their energy performance and improve energy efficiency. This resulted in a number of outcomes, including the installation of energy saving (inflector) blinds (£16,000) and insulation measures (£4800). This first study led to a second level of investigation into renewable electricity and income generation options for Seaton Valley.

As a result of the first phase, a second study was commissioned into the feasibility of being part of a wind generation initiative with other partners and pursuing wave energy generation in Seaton Sluice. A possible outcome of being involved in renewable electricity creation was the generation of a sustainable source of income for the Seaton Valley Partnership (see box 3.0); approximately £150,000¹³ per year after the first 10 years. The second study concluded that wind generation was a viable option although there were technical issues which needed to be overcome which may take several years.

These energy studies which were identified as a need by the Fair Share Trust Panel and led by CVA Blyth Valley have been instrumental at improving the financial viability of the community centres. They have also opened up a new avenue in pursuing a form of independent and sustainable funding for the community organisations. Although the studies has not yet resulted in any concrete agreements between energy providers and the local voluntary sector, there is good potential for the future.

Community capacity development

When the funding period for the community capacity development work to CVA Blyth Valley ended, Fair Share Trust funded the Seaton Valley

¹³ This is the level of finance which would be aimed for after 10 years, although it would depend on the grant/loan finance deal and interest rates.

Partnership (see box 3.3) to continue the work of the CDW. This work was a continuation of the CVA Blyth Valley work, supporting local community development associations (see previous section).

This continuation was noteworthy as the funding was a direct investment into the community associations and not an infrastructure organisation. The proposal also came from the community associations themselves in a newly created partnership organisation.

Sustainability study

In 2011, consultants were commissioned to look into sustainability options for the four main community centres in Seaton Valley. One of their key recommendations for the sustainability of the centres was the need for closer working relationships between the community centres and the creation of the Seaton Valley Partnership.

This recommendation has been pursued with vigour and there have been many examples of closer working and many benefits. These are discussed in section 3.

2.1.3 Blyth Resource and Initiative Centre (BRIC)

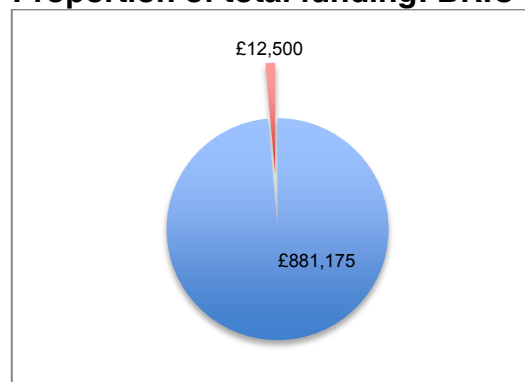
BRIC were commissioned in 2010 and 2011 to create a programme of adult education which was delivered from the community centres in Seaton Valley (the four main centres and the Holywell Veterans Hut). BRIC has provided 57 courses up until the end of December 2012 attracting 370 students.

In addition to the direct grant from Fair Share Trust. BRIC also received £18,000 from CVA Blyth Valley small projects fund.

The courses have mainly been attended by people over 50 with computer courses and non-accredited courses being the most popular. They provided a range of courses including:

- Art
- Digital photography
- Chinese flower and bird painting
- French
- Spanish
- Archaeology
- Genealogy (family history)

Proportion of total funding: BRIC



- Basic IT
- Award using ICT
- Internet genealogy
- History

More information on BRIC is provided in section 3.

2.1.4 WATBUS Community Transport

WATBUS Community Transport is a local service providing transport for communities. In 2010 they received £7000 to provide a total of 12 free journeys per village per year to the local community (a total of 60 trips). Community groups could nominate an individual who underwent training to drive a minibus, which can hold up to 16 people (known as the Minibus Driving Awareness Course). They then collected a minibus from the depot in West Sleekburn in the morning and returned it in the evening when they finished. The main beneficiary has been the Holywell Community Association that has used the bus on nine occasions. The bus has been used to take residents of the care home on day trips; trips to the seaside; to shopping centres; and to garden centers. The transport facility provided by the bus was highly valued and appreciated by the residents of the Holywell care home. It was reported that without the bus residents would have been unable to enjoy trips out. This has associated impacts on health and well being of residents.

2.2 Health related activities

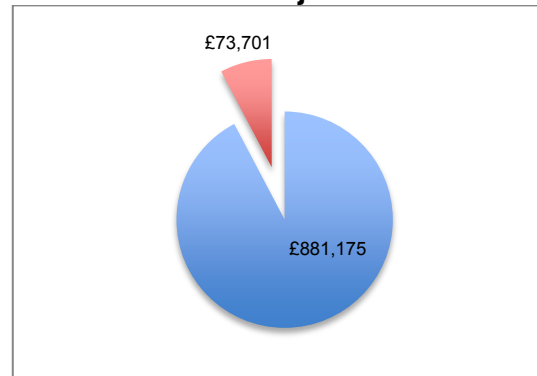
Health related activities received a much smaller amount of the Fair Share Trust funds and consisted of several smaller activities, the most substantial of which was the Doxford Youth and WHAC initiatives.

2.2.1 Doxford Youth Project

Doxford Youth is a young persons charity based in Cramlington. Fair Share Trust commissioned the organisation between 2008 and 2012 to provide health-related youth services in Seaton Valley to young people aged between 13 and 19.

This consisted of one part time youth worker located in Astley High School, co-located with the County Council's Youth Service Officer at the Astley Youth Office.

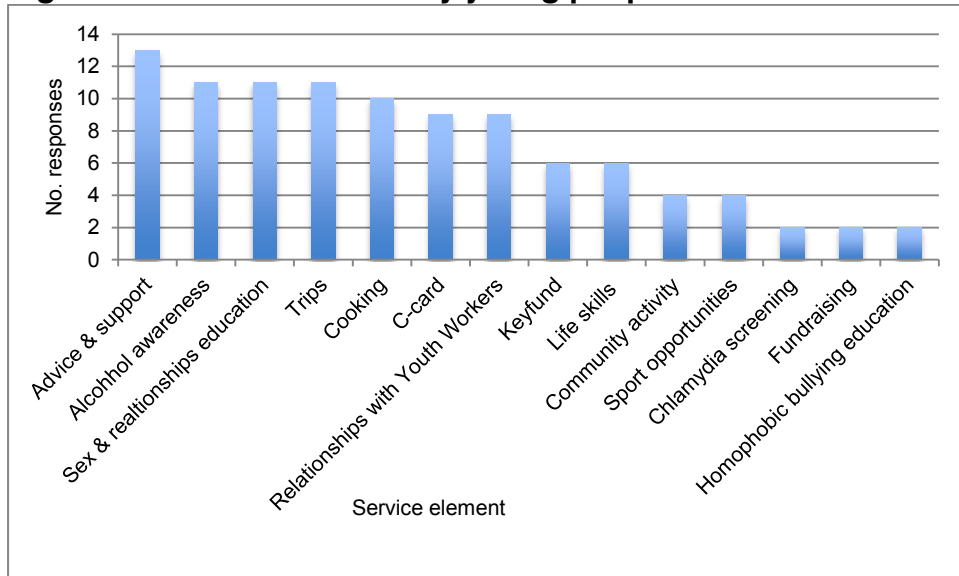
**Proportion of total funding:
Doxford Youth Project**



Working together they carried out a range of health-related activities, including: Sex and Relationship Education in school and classes on homophobic bullying, drugs and alcohol (a total of 18 workshops delivered each year); weekly youth clubs in Seaton Delaval at Astley Park Pavillion and Astley High School, New Hartley, at the Community Centre and Seaton Sluice at the Community Centre; and two drop-ins at Astley High school each week. The service was subject to its own reviews and internal evaluations. These produced very positive feedback, some of which are presented here.

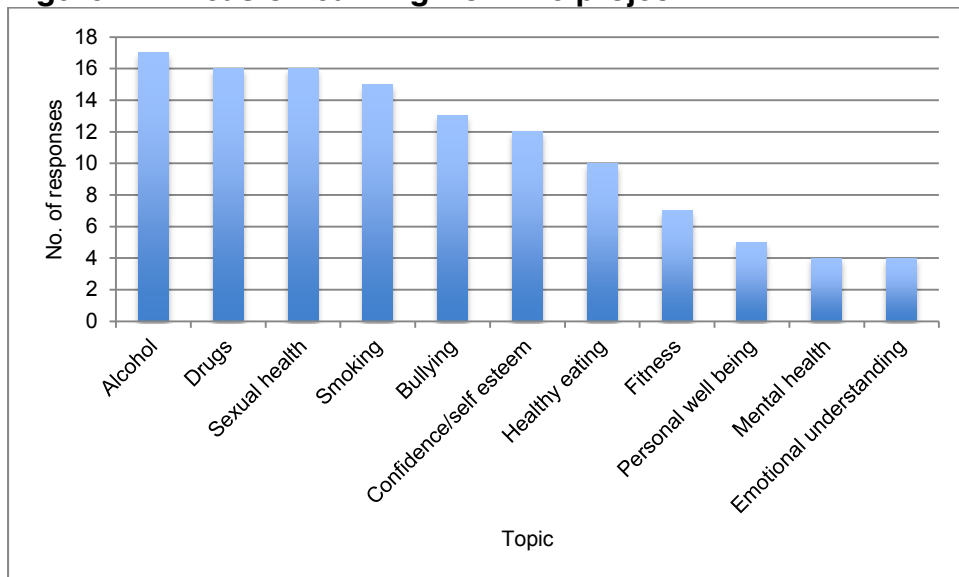
The following figure shows responses from 60 young people who were asked which service element did they like the most. As can be seen the area most valued was the advice and support offered by the service. This finding substantiates the well known and widespread finding that young people value having an approachable and trusted adult who they can approach and rely upon to provide them with advice and support.

Figure 2.0 Services valued by young people



When young people were asked what they had learnt from the project, the areas where there was most learning included alcohol, drugs and sexual health. The Senior Youth Worker said *“the Fair Share money allowed us to engage with the young people, run workshops covering sex, relationships, homophobic bullying, body image ... really important issues that need dealing with ... it was 21st Century sex education”*.

Figure 2.1 Areas of learning from the project



It was clear that the young people who participated in the education and youth activities, valued the service. Some statements from the young people include:

“You get good advice, lots of help with your problems and the youth club is somewhere to go to stop you getting into trouble”.

“SRE [Sex and Relationships Education] made me more aware of sex and consequences and how to take care and be safe”.

The courses and workshops were clearly well delivered and benefitted from there being male and female facilitators; a practical example of how the partnership working between the Fair Share Trust funded voluntary sector organisation and the local authority.

A series of impacts of the service were noted by Northumberland County Council¹⁴ where it was found that the service:

- Improved community relations between younger and older residents in areas where youth clubs were delivered.
- Allowed young people to make informed decisions about their health (e.g. sex, alcohol and drugs). The classes delivered by the project were noted by the local health service to be a model of best practice.
- Increased young people’s participation in local community activities.
- Impacted positively on young people’s lives; service users reported having increased self esteem and confidence and better social skills as a result of participating in project activities.
- Reduced anti-social behaviour because of the engagement and diversionary activities that were provided in Astley Park on a Friday night. The night was called ‘Tea in the Park’ as young people are provided with tea and toast. This among other things (providing a social opportunity, contact with a trusted adult and mentor) this provides young people with some food where they might not have any before drinking alcohol. One community member said *“it gives them something to soak up the alcohol ... previous they were getting home from school and going straight out*

Northumberland County Council also noted that as a result of working in partnership with Doxford Youth Service, the youth work offer since 2008 had ‘grown and developed’¹⁵.

Doxford Youth Project also received £8524 in 2010 to deliver a series of health-related roadshows. The objective of these one off roadshows that were delivered throughout the community was to increase the organisational capacity of young people in Seaton Valley, as well as contribute to the health priority of the Panel.

Much of the success of the Doxford Youth project and its considerable impacts on young people’s health was due to the support from Northumberland County Council’s Youth Service. The Community Foundation’s Fund Manager commented, *“The youth delivery work was excellent though, largely thanks to the support that the worker had from [name of local Senior Youth Worker]”.*

¹⁴ Progress report and review by Emma Rudd, Senior Youth worker, Northumberland County Council, October 2012.

¹⁵ *Ibid*, 2012.

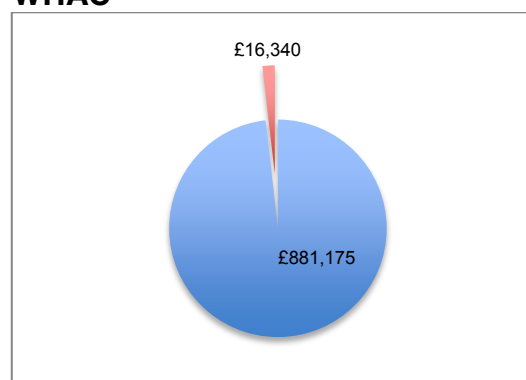
The community associations across Seaton Valley have valued the work carried out by Doxford Youth and Northumberland County Council and wish it to continue. This was despite there being some negative reactions to youth work in the locality at the beginning of the work. However, Doxford Youth are reducing in size and concentrating any work they do in the Cramlington area, so they will not be operational. The Seaton Valley Partnership is keen to employ a youth worker themselves to carry on the work with the local authority.

2.2.2 Women's Health Advice Centre (WHAC)

WHAC implemented the Health Promotion Activities Project in 2009 with a total of £16340 Fair Share Trust funding. The objective was to support the local communities of Seaton Valley to develop their own health-related activities.

The initiative increased the number of health related activities that were delivered from community venues including exercise and healthy eating activities.

**Proportion of total funding:
WHAC**



The initiative was subject to its own external evaluation which found that it achieved a number of outcomes. Importantly this included the project expanding and increasing access to exercise and diet in local communities. The project has stimulated local communities to take control of their own access to health-related activities and now those communities continue and have plans to expand those activities started by the project. For example, Yoga and Tai Chi classes are continuing where previously there would have been none and Real Food Works (a social enterprise whose aim is to improve healthy eating) has taken bookings from other local community groups, such as the Blind Society and a local youth club. The initiative also resulted in the increased use of community resources for health-related activities: one community venue said that the project had resulted in between 20 and 30 additional community centre users each week.

2.2.3 Other projects

There were a number of other smaller projects funded by Fair Share Trust in Seaton Valley including:

- **Parenting training:** the Parenting Initiative ran a six month course for a total of 15 parents.
- **North East Music Factory:** this group delivered five dance workshops over 13 weeks at community centres in Seaton Valley. Workshops were attended by young people and included titles such as Funky Feet, Funk Fusion, Urban Funk, Salsa and Break Dancing.

- **New Hartley Kids Club:** this local club ran a 12 week project called 'Healthy Bodies', whose aim was to encourage members to make healthier choices about the food they eat and exercise they take.
- **Food Chain NE:** this funding extended the work of this Community Interest Company that ran healthy 'cook and eat sessions' in community venues and encouraged fresh fruit and vegetable consumption.

3.0 Evaluation findings

This is the main section of the report and focuses on what Fair Share Trust has meant to local communities and the impact it has had on the local area. We present 11 key findings in no order of preference.

3.1 High quality community development

The community capacity development programme delivered by CVA Blyth Valley has been of the highest quality and has had significant impact. There has been an overwhelmingly positive response from the local community and professional community about the Fair Share Trust. The community associations which have been recipients of both Fair Share Trust funding and from the support provided by the capacity building programme implemented by CVA Blyth Valley, have all reported significant benefits.

There was high praise for all the Community Development Workers (CDWs) from CVA Blyth Valley. Indeed, many of the impacts of the work were attributed to the quality and approach of these Workers. The findings relating to the community development work include:

- **An effective approach:** the CDWs were reported to be understanding, pragmatic and useful. It was reported by members of recipient organisations that the CDW understood their needs and motivations and was able to use this knowledge to effectively support them. She was also reported to be able to “*get things done*” as one volunteer reported and this pragmatic approach was highly appreciated. She was also said to communicate well and community organisations reported that she was good at “*keeping us in the picture*”.
- **A knowledge-based approach:** one of the key reasons why the CDWs were appreciated to such a degree was the knowledge they possessed. This was knowledge that the community organisations did not have. One member of a community association said “*she has the knowledge, she knows about the grants and where to get them ... we go to her for advice*”.
- **An empathetic approach:** it was reported that the CDWs were able to relate to community members and understood them as people and as members of local communities. This made her approachable and “*easy to get on with*” as reported by a community member. Another community representative said “*she’s approached things from a community point of view*”.
- **An apolitical approach:** it was felt to be a significant advantage that the Fair Share Trust had no political connotations. As one local authority Locality Development Officer reported “*people don’t want a political voice but they want to make life better ... Fair Share has done this*”. It was reported that the CVA were independent and this was important in order to carry out working benefitting all of the local community. One professional working in the area reported “*Seaton Valley has got [political] cliques but Gina and Fiona aren’t part of that and so they are very good at working with grassroots organisations*”.

There were feelings from a range of people from community and professional organisations, that if Fair Share Trust and the capacity development work were to stop then the local VCS could carry on and were in a significantly better position than they were previously. It was also felt by the same groups that Fair Share Trust had improved the social fabric of Seaton Valley and that local people had benefitted.

Distance travelled

It was felt by the local authority that there had been considerable 'distance travelled' by the local VCS, i.e. compared to what they were like 10 years ago and what they are like now. It was felt by the same professional that the local VCS may have travelled that distance on their own but Fair Share Trust had saved them time, they had got there much quicker. This was echoed by one CDW who commented that the organisations with who they have worked have "*all moved on massively*". They continued that those groups, previous to the advent of Fair Share Trust "*had lacked guidance and support*" and although they were described as being "*bursting with enthusiasm*", they "*did not know how to do it*". In short "*they were going nowhere*".

Participatory development

The work delivered by CVA Blyth Valley was done so in the true spirit of community development; it was truly participatory, committed and needs led. It was reported by one volunteer that the CDW would support them in the activities that they wanted to develop. The volunteer said "*we'd say to her [the CDW] that we'd like to do this, and she would help us do it ... she'd be a real loss if we didn't have her, she's very dependable*". The work also benefitted both the larger and smaller community associations. For example, one community member said "*she's helped the arts and crafts group, the boating club, the Scouts, Friends of Holywell Dene*".

The CDWs also went above and beyond professional commitments in their work and invested parts of themselves in the communities they worked in. For example, one CDW said that although they were paid for 22 hours work, they worked considerably more. Another CDW went to one Community Association's committee member's 80th birthday party. The work has been done in a truly participatory way and is a fine example of participatory development in action.

3.2 Built capacity of the local VCS

This was a key objective of the Fair Share Trust - to increase the capacity of local VCS organisations, to enable local communities to organise themselves, verbalise their needs and lead their own development.

It is important at this juncture to reflect on the meaning of building capacity. In this context we understand it to cover a number of areas. Building capacity means: bringing people together for a single purpose, helping them organise into group and have the various policies that are necessary, helping them define and verbalise their needs and wants, helping them find funders and construct funding applications, help them with either finding or improving a

physical place to meet and carry out their activities, help them stand on their own two feet. This was to allow local VCS organisations to more effectively serve their local communities of place and interest.

There is evidence to indicate that this has happened on a number of different levels to a number of different types of voluntary and community sector organisations, from established professional organisations, to community associations focused around a community centre, to single focus organisations such as Scouts or Singing groups. We have found that Fair Share Trust, through the capacity development work implemented by CVA Blyth Valley and through funded projects, has resulted in the following impacts.

- a. **Creating new VCS organisations:** through the support provided by CVA Blyth Valley, local people have been helped to create new organisations. These have been formed around a specific need, e.g. a sports facility or the benefits of a partnership, and have enabled local people to identify need and seek to fulfill that need through developing funding proposals and submitting them to funders. There are two key examples of this: Seaton Valley Partnership and Astley Community Activity and Sporting Centre.
- b. **Helping existing VCS organisations grow, develop and expand:** extending the reach of established organisations leading to an increased number of beneficiaries. For example:
 - **BRIC:** BRIC is an education and employability charity located in Blyth. Fair Share Trust allowed them to expand their education activities in Seaton Valley in an additional four community centres. Previous to Fair Share Trust in 2011, BRIC was delivering education in one community centre, Seaton Sluice. As a result of the Fair Share Trust funded delivery, Seaton Valley Community Council have commissioned BRIC to continue to deliver education courses across Seaton Valley to the sum of £5000 each year on a rolling programme. BRIC, who used to be entirely focused on working in Blyth, have used the experience of the Fair Share Trust funded initiative to expand into the areas of Newbiggin and Bedlington. The Community Development Worker was also key to BRIC's work as they were able to express the needs of the community saving BRIC the need to carry out primary needs assessment themselves. The worker was able to broker strong links between BRIC and the community centres, building relationships, which otherwise may have taken longer to develop (or indeed may not have been possible). Now those relationships have been built, the Community Development Worker is able to step back from the work (i.e. they acted as a facilitator. Fair Share Trust also allowed education to be brought to older people, who BRIC reported are often excluded from community education programmes as they are not a target group (the manager said "*there's no funding for older people*"). This in turn supports this community group to overcome issues pertaining to them, such as

isolation, strengthening social networks, improving health and longevity.

- **Women's Health Advice Centre (WHAC):** through their involvement with Fair Share Trust, WHAC has been able to expand its area of working from a base in Ashington to the Seaton Valley area. WHAC delivered a community health project across Seaton Valley, which led to increased participation in healthy activities (e.g. keep fit, Tai Chi) and increased use of the community centres. This has also allowed them to develop an outreach delivery approach and their experience in community development. Without the Fair Share Trust, neither of these elements would have been possible. This has strengthened WHAC's portfolio of services it can offer to funders and commissioners. It also increased the number of people who use and know about WHAC and their therapeutic and health related services. It was recognised by WHAC's Manager that there was significant work that went into making the initiative a success. For example, the Manager commented "*it took a while with the community associations because it wasn't just about delivering a few courses, it was about building capacity*". It was also recognised that there were significant learning on the part of WHAC, again as the Manager commented "*it's been a huge learning curve for us ... as an organisation we have learned a lot and that will help us*".
- **Community associations:** these have been a major recipient of both the capacity development work and individual funds provided by Fair Share Trust. They have all grown, developed and expanded in a number of ways, all outlined here, from seeing an increase in the number of volunteers on their committee and helping at particular events, to increasing their income, reducing their expenditure, increasing their portfolio of activities on offer, improving the condition of the buildings and revitalising community spirit. One member of a community association reported "*we are in a much better position now*".

Groups have been large and small, well resourced and with few resources. Examples include:

Clan na Gael Irish Dance Group
Hastings Initiative
Seaton Valley Radio
Seghill Judo Club
Seaton Sluice and Seghill Scouts
Seghill Toddler Group
Seaton Sluice Women's Institute
Walking groups
Silver Singers
Seated exercise
Lunch clubs
Re-Action (assisted shopping project)
Norma Burton Dance School
Beresford Court Residents Association
Holywell and St Mary's Art Group

Seaton Sluice Bowling Club
Astley Park Pavillion
New Hartley Toddler Group

Box 3.0 Getting people involved

In June, Seghill committee met to discuss the recruitment of new volunteers and committee members. This was needed as the committee felt that in order to drive the centre forward this could not happen without more help. We decided to use the Seghill Gala as a way of inviting local people to a meeting where they could find out more about getting involved in the community centre and the Treats committee (a sub committee of the association). We handed flyers out on the day and this encouraged a lot of discussion with local residents. Flyers were also delivered door to door and press releases and posters were put up in local venues. Some of the younger members also posted information about the meeting on their Facebook pages.

The meeting was a huge success and over 40 people turned up. We started by raising key points including 'why people might not come to the centre, what activities people would like to see, what had stopped people from getting involved? Information that came from the floor included:

- Some people did not know what the building was
- The building was not the most inviting (look and feel)
- Some people did not know what activities went on
- Why there wasn't a newsletter
- Young people wanted a youth club
- Older people would like a luncheon club and tea dances
- Lots of people wanted village trips again

The committee agreed with all the comments but in order to deliver the ideas more people would have to be involved.

Volunteers were asked to become involved in sub groups based on the ideas that came forward including, events group, fundraising group, newsletter group and youth group. These groups have now been set up and feed into the main committee. We also discussed other practical requirements for the centre such as producing volunteer role descriptions that included a caretaker, cleaners, key holders, maintenance people, active citizens and website volunteers. Most of these positions have now been taken up by, as the Secretary said, "*some old faces and some new faces*".

Source: CDW, September 2009 project update

- c. **Increased the numbers of volunteers:** by encouraging and supporting events, including consultation events and volunteer fairs, they have increased the numbers of community members who contribute to their time to community organisations. For example, in one community centre, previous to Fair Share Trust, they only had three people on their committee. Now they have 15 on the committee

and a number of people volunteer for specific activities. This was after the CDW suggested running a community consultation event which looked at why people did not volunteer.

The Secretary to this organisation said “*if it wasn't for [name of CDW], we wouldn't be here*”. This increase in the human capital of the community organisations is arguably the most important element to sustainability efforts.

- d. **Improved the physical infrastructure of community resources:** which has led to increased use, a greater choice of activities and improved finances. Physical improvements have happened both through the Fair Share Trust funds and the additional funds accessed by the community centres themselves supported by the CDW. The Fair Share Trust funds paid the running costs of all four community centres for the first four years (between 2004 and 2008) and some improvements in infrastructure. The investment in the running costs had its own specific impacts on the community organisations. This has included allowing those organisations the space to think about where they want to go and what they want to achieve. As one community centre member said “*having our bills paid for the first four years was great, it's meant we haven't had the worry and we've been able to think about what we want to do, who we want to attract ... we've been able to plan*”.

The physical improvements have made centres more attractive to users and therefore encouraged their use. As one community representative said “*the image of the hall [community centre] has changed*”.

There have been other, more stark examples of improving physical infrastructure. For example, taking empty and forgotten venues and bringing them back into use. The CDW's April 2007 project report states, ‘*... wanted support and advice on funding to refurbish an old veterans hut in the village. The hut has stood empty for some time and we saw this as an opportunity for this area of Holywell to develop a community venue*’. Investment from Fair Share Trust was subsequently made and the Veteran's Hut is now a well used community resource.

Another example is the CDW's work with the Seaton Delaval Cricket Club. The June 2007 project records show, ‘*Seaton Delaval Cricket Club contacted for help with a funding application to refurbish their club house. The Club secured funding from Sita and are now looking for further funding to extend the building*’.

- e. **Improved the financial sustainability of community organisations:** this has been made possible through a number of activities. Firstly, they have provided financial management courses to members of community organisations. Secondly, CVA Blyth Valley has organised local funding fairs where local people could meet potential funders.

Thirdly, they have increased the number of activities that run from the Community Associations and thus their rental income. For example, before Fair Share Trust the Community Associations used to have several nights a week when they would be empty. Now however, this is unusual.

They have also made organisations more cost effective to run by bringing down their utility bills. In one community organisation, because of improvements to the building (insulation work, new heating system) utility bills were reduced by approximately £4000 in one year (in 2009, annual utility bills were £5143, in 2012 after the improvements, the annual bill at Seghill Community Centre was £1124). Another community centre representative said “*our heating bill has come down, our expenditure has reduced ... before it was up and down like a yo-yo ... now our income and expenditure balances and it’s been stable for three years*”.

In addition, there has been income generation through large scale community events which have attracted high numbers. These community events have been supported by CVA Blyth Valley and subsequently strengthened and improved. At these events and during the planning process, there has been significant investment from community volunteers. Thus, both the community associations themselves and the local community have played a key role in their own financial sustainability. This is another example of a participatory development process in action.

A list of all the grants for physical improvement is presented in box 3.1.

Box 3.1 List of all physical improvements

Accessibility measures (disabled toilets)	Guttering
Asbestos surveys	Hearing loop systems
Community notice boards	Insulation measures
Damp proofing	New kitchens
Energy efficient heating systems	Security systems
Fire safety improvements (fire doors)	Storage facilities
	Tables and chairs
	Windows

- f. **Rejuvenated community resources and improved community spirit:** the capacity development work that has been carried out has refreshed and given new energy and drive to existing community associations, and by implication to local communities themselves. There has been very much a ‘before’ and ‘after’ reaction to Fair Share Trust; before being associated with phrases such as ‘struggling on’ and ‘making do’ and after with phrases such as ‘new lease of life’, ‘energised’ and ‘refreshed’. One community association Treasurer said “*before Fair Share there was not much going on, but now it’s almost unrecognisable to how it was*”. There were also linkages made by members of the community associations about the community centres’

physical improvements and community spirit, for example, one community member said *“they look so much better, they’re a pleasure to go to now, it’s had a lick of paint, been spruced up, they look better”*. They thus look better and people have a level of pride about them and their prominence in the community has increased (also see point 5). Another example is Seaton Sluice Community Centre, where volunteers were supported by CVA Blyth Valley to improve their community garden, making the Centre more attractive.

- g. Created links between community organisations and funders:** funding is key to the survival and sustainability of community organisations. The CDW not only identified suitable funders but also created relationships between funders and local organisations.

For example, the CDW’s April 2007 project report stated ‘*SAGE [Business in the Community funding initiative] has agreed to continue to support them [Seaton Sluice Community Association] and have already committed to helping with other projects in the Centre. This could prove to be a very valuable partnership*’.

3.3 Strengthened civil society

Fair Share Trust has increased the number and diversity of organised groups in the local community; new groups have been formed because of Fair Share Trust, new funds have been accessed by the new organisations and membership and useage has increased.

There has been significant cooperation between community organisations, for example, Seaton Sluice volunteers are helping Seaton Delaval community centre setting up their IT suite, New Hartley volunteers are running a lunch club in Seaton Sluice Community Centre and organisations are joining together to bargain with utility companies to reduce utility costs. The community organisations, particularly those who make up the Seaton Valley Partnership, are now stronger because of their cooperation. As one committee member said *“we’ve got a collective bargaining power now, we’re stronger together”*.

There have been several other more intangible outcomes of Fair Share Trust which are more difficult to capture but all imply a stronger civil society. These include:

- The intervention of Fair Share Trust has made the communities more open to new ideas, change, new people and working with neighbouring communities. As the CVA Blyth Valley Engagement Officer said *“it has opened them up and this makes them stronger”*.
- There has been reported impacts of the programme improving community cohesion. For example, one community member reported *“it has mended community tensions”*. At the beginning of Fair Share Trust, many of the community associations existed in isolation and some may have held suspicious views of other villages. One community member described the

villages as parochial. Now, however, all the central village associations have joined to form the Seaton Valley Partnership (see box 3.0). Fair Share Trust has had a positive impact on relationships between villages, which have often been characterised by isolation.

- The interventions have harnessed and channeled the energy of local communities. The Engagement Officer reported “*we have channeled the ideas into durable ideas*”.

Box 3.2 Developing what's already there

The Events Coordinator was contacted by Astley Park ... who wanted to run a summer fair. The Events Coordinator said, “*They didn't know what to do, they hadn't had a summer fair for ages. We developed the ideas together, we had a craft fair, barefoot bowling (after that the women's bowling team went round all the schools in the area and now their membership has gone up!). Now they're on their third summer fair and it's getting better and better. It's opened up the park to all sorts*”.

3.4 Increased use of community resources

Fair Share Trust has increased the number of local people who use the community centres. By improving the physical condition of building, increasing the numbers of activities, increasing the profile of the centres, the community development work has increased useage. One committee member said “*we've had 984 people in one week, it's been brilliant ... in 2010 we only had 18 groups use the Centre [Seaton Sluice], now we have 42 groups*”.

Another example is provided by the CDW's project report for April 2007, which stated ‘*The Rockschoool music sessions [delivered at Seghill Community Association by the North East Music Factory] started in March and 29 young people were recruited and the majority of those attending had never been in the centre before*’.

3.5 Improved local services

Fair Share Trust resulted in an improved range of services on offer to local people and an increased number have used these services, including more people using the community centres. As one volunteer said “*we have become more active [since Fair Share Trust started] we now provide more things for the community*”.

On the most basic level, this has been a result of funding a number of local projects over the 10 year period. Fair Share Trust has increased the services on offer to local communities which in turn resulted in more local people using those activities. This benefitted both young and old and from a range of interest groups. For example: the BRIC activities benefitted mostly older people who were able to access different educational activities, from IT to Spanish; WHAC brought health and fitness activities to again mostly older people who engaged in Tai Chi, keep fit and yoga; the Doxford Youth project which worked in partnership with Northumberland County Council benefitted high numbers of young people from across Seaton Valley who took part in

youth clubs and events. A community association member confirmed this by reporting “*more people use the centre because of Fair Share*”.

There has been a high degree of sustainability to these; they have not simply been ‘one off’ projects. This has been ensured through a variety of means. Firstly, the projects have created the link between community associations (centres) and the organisations delivering the services, after the funding period has ended these links have been maintained and built upon, resulting in continuing delivery, as is the case with BRIC who continue to deliver education in the community centres in Seaton Valley. Secondly, community associations and tutors continue relationships once projects have ended because of need, e.g. WHAC brought a selection of health-related activities into the community centres which were delivered by different tutors, e.g. Tai Chi and Yoga tutors. As a result of demand, once the WHAC funded project ended, those tutors maintained their classes. Thirdly, through capacity building work, newly formed community organisations are applying for funding to continue workstreams, as is the case with Seaton Valley Partnership applying for funds to continue the youth work started by Doxford Youth.

The capacity building work has also resulted in more people using community resources. For example, more people use the community centres because of the improvements; as one resident reported “*they are nicer places, they look better, so more people use them*”. One community centre committee member said that Fair Share Trust had “*rejuvenated the centres and brought new life*”. Another example is Astley Park and the swimming pool at Astley High School. The Engagement Officer said of the park “[the work has] *improved and opened up the community resource ... the park is used by all people*”. The swimming pool is a key example of how the work has resulted in the improvements and better use of a community resource. There are numerous other examples of how Fair Share Trust has led to more services and more activities for local people, from bringing in community cinema to starting luncheon clubs.

3.6 Levered in substantial funds for local organisations

The work of the CDW has supported local organisations in successfully applying for over £600,000 . Examples of beneficiary organisations include community venues, toddler groups, youth groups, sports groups, residents associations, scouts, guides and brownies, dance groups and Parent Teacher Associations. The CDW has identified charitable trusts and other funders, such as SITA, the local landfill agency, and has worked with community organisations to identify need and support them in completing applications. The amount of grants and funds have ranged from £100 to £52,000 (see appendix two for a full listing). The range of resources and services funded include the following:

Equipment	IT equipment
Salaries	Training
Music sessions	Sessional workers
Refurbishment	Trips

Box 3.3 Seaton Valley Partnership

The Seaton Valley Partnership consists of the four community associations of New Hartley, Seaton Delaval and Holywell, Seaton Sluice and Seghill. It was formed in 2009 out of two main issues; firstly how to continue the work started by Fair Share Trust; and secondly a realisation that the community centres could save a significant amount of money by cooperating in areas such as utility billing and insurance. In 2009, a feasibility study was commissioned to look at how the community organisations could work better together and it proposed the formation of a partnership.

In 2010, the CDW's post at CVA Blyth Valley ended and the Partnership was keen to explore ways to continue the post. The Partnership successfully applied for Fair Share Trust funding to employ their own CDW until December 2012. As a result of the Partnership not having officially constituted and registered as a charity, one of the community associations, Seaton Delaval and Holywell, became the lead applicant body for the Partnership contracting with CVA Blyth Valley to continue the employment of the CDW, to provide capacity building support, with a new emphasis on supporting the development of new and innovative community activities.

The Partnership has demonstrated its ability and willingness to problem solve and for its constituent members to support one another. For example, members of the committee of one community association had several concerns about the Partnership and were worried about some aspects of the developments. These were discussed at a Partnership meeting and it was determined that information was not getting through to the members of the individual committee. To allay the fears of those committee members, representatives from other community associations said they would come to talk at their next committee meeting. Until the particular community association had their queries resolved it was agreed to halt all developments.

Now, the issues have been resolved and Partnership work is progressing well. Comments about the Partnership from its members include: "*All the Community Centres now work together ... on equipment, activities, applying for grants ... Gina coordinates it*"; "*It's really good for us, there's been loads of benefits already, it's saved us money ... we've got bargaining power now [with utility companies]*"; "*The Partnership will keep us going ... it'll continue the work that Fair Share started ... it's our sustainability*".

The CDWs have taken a truly facilitatory role and has not completed applications for the community associations as some outside organisations may have suspected. This is testified to by both the successful organisations and the CDWs. The funds have covered a variety of areas, from small materials to building work (see appendix two for a list of all the grants and awards levered in through CVA Blyth Valley). There is also a strong element of sustainability in this work, as through the work of the CDW, the community

associations are now aware of a range of potential funders to whom they can apply in the future.

3.7 Increased services and activities

Activities have increased for all members of the local community and have included a diverse range of subject areas from community cinema, youth activities, walking, cooking and theatre. As a result of Fair Share Trust, activities and events have increased in a number of areas, both inside and outside of the community centres.

In the community centres the number of activities have expanded considerably. For example, the seasonal events such as the Christmas, Spring and Summer Fairs had considerably fewer activities before Fair Share Trust. Much of the increase has been the result of the work of the Engagement Officer. At Seghill, the Secretary said *“now we have pamper nights, coffee mornings, jewelry stalls, craft fairs, car boot sales, tombolas, sweets and cakes stalls, soaps and toiletries stalls, tea dances ... it was much quieter before”*.

There have been activities which have particularly benefitted more vulnerable and older members of the community who may be at risk of isolation, loneliness and depression. The Lunch Club has been particularly effective at bringing people together on a regular basis. One community member said *“it brings loads of people together, gets the oldies out of their house, something good to eat ... it’s a social thing”*. However, it is not just older people that benefit. For example, a March 2011 project report stated, *‘The Luncheon Club at New Hartley is going very well with 20 regular attendees. The Club was originally aimed at older people from the village but has attracted all age groups, specifically parents/carers and children from the Toddler Group who attend the lunch before their toddler session’*.

There has been a recognition by both the Fair Share Trust Panel and from the community organisations in the area of the importance of engaging with young people. Fair Share Trust has resulted in a number of targeted youth activities, including youth clubs in New Hartley and Seghill. For example, young people have benefitted from specific Fair Share Trust commissioned activities such as the North East Music Factory who delivered 13 week music workshops from the community centres in Seaton Valley.

Another example of Fair Share Trust’s cross generational impact is the community cinema project, *Doorstep Pictures*, which showed films targeted at different age groups in community venues. The March 2008, CDW project report stated, *‘New Hartley Community Association had two Doorstep Pictures showings [sic] Stardust that was attended by over 50 children linking up with New Hartley Kids Club’*.

Again there is a high degree of sustainability to these services through the work of the Seaton Valley Partnership. The Partnership is currently looking for funding opportunities to continue the current levels of youth work provision,

working in partnership with the Northumberland Youth Service. The CDW the partnership funds, continues to work with older community members.

3.8 Increased organisational diversity

The activities of CVA Blyth Valley have attracted a number of new organisations and services which otherwise would not have been present. The work of the CDW and the Engagement Officer has resulted in a number of different organisations now working with community organisations, for example, Blyth Valley Arts and Leisure now provides services to Mothers and Toddlers groups, the Silver Singers were a group from Alnwick looking to deliver services locally and there is now a new annual music festival at Seaton Sluice Community Centre.

The Engagement Officer reported "*it has made more people want to come and deliver things*". A member of a community centre said "*you get organisations now just calling in, asking if they can run a club ... it's great, before we were struggling with bookings now we're over subscribed*".

Box 3.4 New Hartley lunch club

New Hartley Community Association received a £25,000 grant for a new kitchen from Sita in 2006. The kitchen was largely unused and "*sat empty*" as one interviewee commented. In 2009, the CDW started looking for opportunities to use the new resource.

The CDW had a chance meeting with a local resident at a summer fair in New Hartley whilst handing out leaflets. At this meeting the local resident, Sue*, had said that she had previously run a lunch club at Bedlington. She also said that she had retired and was looking for things to do. When the idea of a lunch club at New Hartley was mentioned and that they had recently had a new kitchen which was underused, Sue was keen.

A successful application was made to Comic Relief's Local Communities Fund for £1000 for start up costs for the club, which included food hygiene and handling training, kitchen equipment and ingredients.

The lunch club started in March 2011. It is attended by around 20 regulars and lunch is sold for £3.50 each. There are also a total of approximately six volunteers who help. They also do outside catering and food for events, such as village fêtes.

Sue was approached by Seaton Sluice Community Association and began delivering a lunch club from their community centre in October 2012.

Sue says that the lunch club has given her a sense of purpose and belonging and has "*changed my life*". She says that the thanks she gets from the customers and at the community centre make it all worthwhile and gives her something to get up for in the morning. She says "*she's made so many friends*".

*Not real name

3.9 Improved community safety and reduced risk

Through working with community groups and providing training (either directly or through organising others to provide training), the CDW has made

communities safer places. The CDW has organised Child Protection Training, First Aid and Fire Safety. These courses have been well attended and mean that local people are in a more knowledgeable position and will respond more effectively to situations of risk.

Some examples of improving safety and reducing risk include following:

- The CDW's January 2007 project report says, '*... been working with New Hartley Community Association to complete a fire risk assessment and put together a report on work that needs to be completed*'.
- The April 2007 project report stated '*New Hartley Juniors has now a child protection policy and members of the group are currently going through CRB checks*'.

3.10 Improved public health

As a result of the community development work and the investment in health activities, a number of positive public health impacts have been noted. Fair Share Trust has brought health activities into the community centres and their users. This has happened through both the community development strand and the health specific strand. There are a number of examples which highlight the impact on public health including:

- In Seaton Sluice a new walking group was formed. The September 2006 project report states, '*over 25 people attended the first walk with numbers increasing each week. The group walks locally each week and on the fourth Friday have an away day hiring a coach. Their first away day was a visit to Derwentside to see the Red Kites. Many of the people who attended the walks do not normally access the [community] centre with some never having been at all. There are now plans to set up a group in each village in Seaton Valley*'.
- The CDW has brought in Health Trainers from local GP surgeries to run diet and weight loss programmes (Weigh 2 Go was a four week programme run from community centres in Seaton Valley). Also the CDW has brought in local voluntary organisations, such as food co-ops, to run healthy cooking sessions. There has also been well attended Basic Food Hygiene courses at community venues.
- The CDW supported and built capacity within health focused voluntary organisations to become stronger and more sustainable. For example, the CDW provided organisational and funding support to Seaton Healing Centre which resulted in successful funding applications. The group attracts 30 people each week.

3.11 Sustainable development

Generally, there was a consensus amongst community centre representatives interviewed that they are significantly stronger now compared to before Fair Share Trust. There was also a recognition that they could carry on as community associations now, whereas before their futures were uncertain. However, there was a definite desire to continue to have the support from a

CDW, which is why there is so much determination to keep the CDW employed to support the Seaton Valley Partnership in achieving their aims.

The reasons given for this need included: firstly, the level of resources that the CDW has been able to draw in for the associations and their track record in accessing finance (with a total of £617,089 levered in); secondly, they required support and direction from someone of the CDW's experience; thirdly, they were all volunteers on the committees and it was felt that they often did not have the time and/or energy to devote the time necessary for community work. One community representative said "*we would survive but we would miss her [CDW] input*". It was also noted that support was needed around funding, with one community representative saying "*funding applications are too much for normal people to fill in, they're too complicated*".

There have been concerted efforts to create an action plan and an exit strategy and carry out sustainability planning. This started in good time in 2010. This resulted in the creation of the Seaton Valley Partnership. This was a result of "*a genuine desire to keep things going because things were getting better ... we saw an opportunity [through the Seaton Valley Partnership] and took it. We want the good work to carry on for the foreseeable*" (reported by a Panel member).

There has also been sustainability planning in the efforts to progress the renewable energy application, which although currently stalled, does have good potential for future sustainable fund generation.

Box 3.5 Astley swimming pool

Sports and leisure facilities in Seaton Delaval are scarce and are greatly needed. They have a swimming pool in Astley High School but the changing rooms were in a poor state of repair and were only partially used.

The CDW made contact with the Astley High School Community Education Department. Through discussion it became clear that there was a need to develop the existing resource for the benefit of the school and the local community and from these discussions, they decided to create a new community organisation. In 2011 they set up the Astley Community Activity and Sporting Centre and just after they applied to Sita for funding to refurbish and redevelop the swimming pool.

Now, they have refurbished the swimming pool, installed a new pool liner and wet walled the swimming pool walls. The groups that use the pool, such as the Aquafit group, speak highly of the new facilities. For example, one pool user said "*we've been coming here for years and it used to be really run down, and not nice, now it's fantastic, new showers, changing ... it's really great*".

The charity's Secretary said '*we set up the community group as a charity with Gina's help. I couldn't have done any of what we have achieved without her support!*'.

4.0 The experience of the Community Foundation

In this section we look at both the experience of the Community Foundation Tyne and Wear and Northumberland at administering Fair Share Trust and also the community reaction to the Foundation.

Administration

Administering a community development grant was a new venture for the Community Foundation. Generally, they are a grant making body and not a commissioner of services. They have had little experience, as an organisation, of running a long term community development programme. However, some of their staff do have substantial community development experience. For example, the current Head of Policy, Projects and Programmes who has been involved with the Fair Share Trust during the 10 year period, having significant community development experience.

The Community Foundation were paid an administration fee for the management of the programme. This equated to approximately £6000 per year and was reported not to be reflective of the work that was carried out, i.e. more time was spent on Fair Share Trust than was budgeted for. An area which required significant time investment was setting up the administration systems for the programme.

The Community Foundation nominated one staff member to manage the programme which included: administering the Panel meetings; monitoring outs and spend; arranging payments; engaging in meetings and discussions with community organisations in both areas; and reporting to the Fair Share Trust. There were a number of staff who took this role over the 10 years; six in total. Towards the end of the programme, one staff member took this role, providing a level of continuity. A Community Foundation Board member chaired the meetings which were held quarterly. There have been two different people acting as Chair.

In relation to funding decisions, after the Panel had received and scrutinised proposals, the Community Foundation took the ultimate decision to fund proposed initiatives.

Experience and learning

The experience of the Community Foundation in administering the Fair Share Trust was a good one and it has been based upon strong experiential learning. Indeed, the Foundation has overcome a series of challenges to delivering Fair Share Trust including the additional workload, the development of administrative systems and dealing with the Panels with skill and diplomacy.

In relation to learning, it gave the organisation an opportunity to develop experience in running a long term community development programme in two

different areas with different demographic profiles. One of the Foundation's staff who managed the programme in the early stages commented "*we had a good time frame ... it was a good case study about how long community development takes*". Particular experience coaching voluntary organisations through significant budget spends and supporting their financial systems has been developed. They have been a supportive community development fund manager. Indeed, if they had been less so and more risk averse, then the substantial outcomes demonstrated here would not have been achieved. They have been an effective intermediary between the Big Lottery and local communities with the most important variables being support and flexibility.

The changes in personnel has not affected overall administrative performance. Indeed, those Programme Officers had responsibility for several years each and one Officer in particular took responsibility for a total of five years. If anything the change in personnel added a freshness to running the programme. It also served to build capacity of those Officers, giving them valuable community development experience.

The cumulative experience over 10 years has resulted in experience in a workstream that did not exist before the advent of Fair Share Trust. It has put them in a good position to administer other community development programmes and they have already used the learning to successfully become an administrator of a Community Benefit Fund¹⁶ in Northumberland. As one senior member of the Foundation reflected "*we have performed really well, we have been a competent and effective manager*". On the basis of the evidence in this evaluation, our findings support that reflection.

In relation to external relations, the Community Foundation has developed new and strengthened existing relationships with community organisations through their involvement in Fair Share Trust. This strengthens the organisation as one element of its work is having strong networks of potential recipient organisations for its funders. It has also made the organisation "*better informed and more knowledgeable*" as one staff member commented.

Relations with the Community Foundation

As part of the evaluation, we asked community associations about their relations with the Community Foundation during and after the Fair Share Trust process. Responses came from those within the Panels and were unanimously positive both about the conduct and performance of Community Foundation personnel and the organisation as a whole.

Panel members reported that the support provided by the Programme Officers had been good, reporting that they had been accessible, flexible and good communicators. One community association member reflected the comments of others "*she's [Programme Officer] been brilliant, always given us enough information, on time, spot on ... a pleasure to work with*".

¹⁶ A community development fund provided by renewable electricity generation (wind farms) in rural areas.

There was also praise for the current Chair of the Panel with representatives reporting that they had *“done a good job ... effective at what he does, very diplomatic ... he’s been great actually”*. These sentiments were echoed by many other organisations including from Programme Officers and senior personnel from the Community Foundation, one of whom commented *“Chris has done far more than could reasonably be expected. We have benefited greatly from having a Chair of the Panel who understands local communities, community development and the local and national policy framework in which Fair Share was located”*.

One Panel member said of the Community Foundation *“I hope it’s not the end [of the relationship] when it ends, it’s been really good ... we need them and us to continue”*.

5.0 Conclusion

The Fair Share Trust in Seaton Valley has been a considerable success and a model of how good community development can happen: in our opinion it has been a model of best practice. The local community, with support from an infrastructure organisation and a fund manager, has led their own development process with significant impacts on both community organisations and local populations. There are more things for local people to do, better facilities and more community spirit because of Fair Share Trust. Those benefits also accrue to all sections of society.

We see that the local community is in much better shape than it was 10 years ago, with the area now having improved social and physical capital. There has also been a high degree of sustainability to initiatives with communities now forging their own development route and having their own ambitions. The Seaton Valley Partnership is key to this sustainability and the four major community centres in the area have been enthusiastic signatories. The Partnership recognises the value of a CDW to continually support their development plans and processes and they are keen to continue this. Similarly, they have recognised the value of a Youth Worker and are currently looking for funds to continue the work started by Fair Share Trust. An important conclusion can be made from this: that local communities and organisations recognise the value of external, professional support and although the community organisations are led by volunteers, they lack the capacity (time and sector expertise) to support and administer their own development process to an optimum level. In short, community development is better if it is supported by a professional community development worker. The quality of the worker is also important and CVA Blyth Valley has supplied workers of the highest quality.

There has been other significant learning in the 10 years since Fair Share Trust started. Because of the experience, we now know:

- The Community Foundation now have considerable expertise in administering a geographically focused, community development programme.
- The model of community capacity development created and delivered by CVA Blyth Valley is effective at stimulating a sustainable community development process. Adopting this community capacity development approach has resulted in an almost 100 percent matched funding, representing considerable value for public money.
- There was significant advantage in the community capacity development work being neutral, particularly during a period of upheaval associated with local government reorganisation.
- Individual professional performance is key to the development process with the CDWs demonstrating their dedication, commitment, empathy and technical ability.

- There are considerable advantages of working with a ‘preferred provider’: CVA Blyth Valley has almost acted as a lead provider and as one interviewee commented “*when you have one lead provider, things are quite straightforward*”.
- The community organisations across Holywell, New Hartley, Seaton Delaval, Seaton Sluice and Seghill have demonstrated themselves to be dedicated, energetic, trustworthy and worthy of investment, representing well the local communities which they serve.

During the evaluation, there was much discussion about what would have happened to those community associations if Fair Share Trust had not existed. We received comments of “*if it wasn’t here, the Gala would have gone, the older people’s party would have gone ... the Centre would have closed*”. Another comment was “*I’d hate to think what would have happened*”.

Finally, to end with two comments from community leaders:

“it’s been a really positive experience”.

“it’s been a pleasure working with Fair Share”.

Appendix one: Interviewees

Name	Position	Organisation
Ben McMaster	Youth Worker, Doxford Youth	Seaton Valley
Bernard Pidcock	Community councilor	Seaton Valley
Cath Carnaby	Manager	Women's Health Advice Centre
Cath George	Manager	BRIC
Chris Drinkwater	Chair of Panel	Community Foundation
Claire Mitchell	Secretary	Seaton Sluice Community Centre, Seaton Valley
Clive Raper	Chair	New Hartley Community Centre, Seaton Valley
Derry Nugent	Head of Philanthropy Services	Community Foundation
Elsie Harvey	Secretary	Seghill Community Centre
Emma Rudd	Senior Youth Worker	Northumberland County Council, Seaton Valley
Fiona Wardlaw	CDW – Engagement Officer	CVA Blyth Valley Seaton Valley
George Arnott	Representative on Seaton Valley Partnership	Seghill Community Centre
Gina Robson	CDW	CVA Blyth Valley Seaton Valley
James Turner	Senior Head of Region - North East	Big Lottery
John Seymour	Panel member	New Hartley Community Centre, Seaton Valley
Karen Daghish	Fund Development Manager responsible for the Fair Share Trust	Community Foundation
Ken Patterson	Committee member	Seaton Valley Partnership
Margaret Rochester	Chair	Holywell Community Association
Maria Fraser	Panel member	Seaton Deleval and Holywell Community Centre Seaton Valley
Mark Pierce	Head of Policy, Projects and Programmes	Community Foundation
Peter Hillman	Treasurer	Seaton Deleval and Holywell Community Centre Seaton Valley
Rob Williamson	Chief Executive Officer	Community Foundation
Suzi Goncu	Community Development Worker	Northumberland County Council
Thom Bradley	Manager	CVA Blyth Valley

Appendix two: Funds levered in following information and advice provided by CVA Blyth Valley

GROUP NAME	AMOUNT RECEIVED (£)	Activity
Hastings Initiative	7,000	Swimming activities
Seaton Sluice Community Centre	25,953	Heating system
Seaton Sluice Community Centre	500	Beverage bay
Seaton Sluice Community Centre	2,000	Windows
Seaton Sluice CA	2,300	Youth activities
New Hartley Community Association	25,000	(kitchen/toilets/heating/windows/disabled access to front of building)
Holywell Homing Society	1,200	
Seaton Sluice Community CA	5,000	Towards kitchen
Seaton Sluice CA	1,000	Security system
Seaton Sluice CA	3,500	Youth lounge
Seaton Sluice CA	850	Community garden
Seaton Sluice CA	450	Community garden
Seaton Sluice CA	350	Baby change units
Seaton Delaval Community Assoc	5,000	Security system
Seaton Sluice Scouts	5,000	Camping activities
Seaton Sluice Scouts	300	General costs
Seaton Delaval WI	100	Accessible bus for outing to Saltwell Park
Seaton Delaval Panto Society	4,000	
Seaton Sluice CA	1,500	Youth activities
Norma Burton Dance School	6,474	Costumes, shoes, materials and sewing machine
Hastings Initiative	2,300	Youth Activities
Seaton Delaval WI	3,100	outings
Seaton Sluice CA	3,000	Tables and chairs
Seaton Healing Centre	4,912.00	Equipment
New Hartley	850	kitchen
Beresford Court Residents	1,930.00	Outings/equipment
Seaton Sluice Community Association	250	Curtains
Seaton Sluice community Association	2,000	Windows
Butterfly Craft group	5,505.84	equipment
Seaton Sluice Community Association	2,300	Youth project (Friday Extra Session)
Hastings Initiative	2,000	Seaton Sluice Nippers Club
New Hartley Cricket Club	700	Training equipment
1st New Hartley Brownie Group	200	Craft equipment
New Hartley Toddlers	300	New toys
New Hartley Junior Football Club	500	New strips
Hastings Initiative	5,000	Healthy Living Sessions
Hastings Initiative	2,000	Youth Club
New Hartley Community centre	500	Chairs and tables
Holywell and St Mary's Art group	146	
Seaton Sluice Art club	146	
Seaton Sluice craft club	146	
Holywell village 1st school	250	
The Friends of Chann na n'Gael Irish	250	

Dancing Club Seghill		
RESPECT	3,579	Equipment
New Hartley Juniors	500	Waterproof jackets
New Hartley Community Assoc	3,000	equipment
Hastings Initiative	1,000	Youth activities
Hastings Initiative	500	Laptop
NE Music Factory	7,000	Music sessions
Seghill community assoc	7,000	Music sessions for young people
Parenting Initiative	10,000	Crèche worker course
Seghill 1st toddler group	2,000	Running costs
Parenting Initiative	1,000	Crèche workers course
NE Music Factory	600	Music sessions
NE Music Factory	2,000	Music sessions
NE Music Factory	3,000	Music sessions
NE Music Factory	9,790	Music sessions
NE Music Factory	250	Music sessions
New Hartley community centre	1,950	E music sessions
New Hartley community centre	500	Chairs/equipment
Hastings Initiative	10,000	Kids and Nippers club
Hastings Initiative	250	Kids and Nippers club
New Hartley	5,000	Understage storage
Seaton Delaval football club	10,000	refurbishments
Hastings Initiative	9,000	Youth activities
Hastings Initiative	£4,884	Youth club
Hastings Initiative	£5,000	Youth club
Bates Cottages Cricket Club	£3,000	Refurbishment of club
Seaton Delaval Football Club	£950	Lawn Mower
Bates Cottages Cricket Club	£3,000	Refurbishment
Seaton Sluice CA	£500	Room hire/resources for Doorstep pictures
New Hartley junior football club	£680	Football strips/goal nets/footballs
Seaton Delaval residents	25,000	Toddlers play area
Seghill CA	20,000	Toilets
New Hartley Kids Club	£250	Craft materials
New Hartley Community Centre	£180	Payment for touring scheme
New Hartley Kids Club	1500	Equipment
Atkinson house school	£1,000	To take children with emotional and behavioural problems to The Gambia (Feb 08)
Seghill CA	250	Highlights promotion
Seghill CA	12,000	Toilets
Seghill CA	10,000	Toilets
Seghill CA	20,000	Refurbishment
Valley Players	250	
Hastings initiative	1,000	Training budget
Hastings initiative	2,000	Kids and Nippers
Bates Colliery Cricket Club	750	Refurbishment
Bates Colliery Cricket Club	1,000	Refurbishment
Seaton sluice CA	950	Snooker room
New Hartley Juniors	500	Rain jackets

1st New Hartley Brownies	1250	Christmas trip to Kielder
The Bottleworks	255	Summer trips
3rd Seaton sluice rainbows	300	Bus hire to Wiltunstall camp site
1st Seaton Sluice scout group	1,245	Stainless steel kitchen
Hastings Initiative	5,000	Summer scheme
Hastings Initiative	1,000	Training budget
New Hartley toddlers	500	Running costs
Concorde house residents	800	Craft project and tutor
New Hartley Kids Club	1,131	Bird box project/environmental
Seaton Sluice CA	1,880	Fire doors
Seaton Sluice CA	2,000	Fire Doors
New Hartley Community Centre	£6,015.67	Kitchen equipment and lunch club/training
New Hartley Toddlers	1,000	Picnic tables
Bottle works	£1,020	Chairs
Valley Players	£500	Curtains
Seghill CA	£5,000	3rd party 11% Sita grant payment for heating
Hastings Initiative	£3,500	Book club
hollywell residents	£5,000	Security/fencing
New Hartley CA	£2,590	Loop and sound system
Valley Players	£1,314	Curtains
Seaton Delaval and hollywell community Forum	£4,355.00	Transport, disco and workshops
Seghill Community Association	£700	New Heating System
Seghill Community Association	£1,000	New Heating System
Seaton Sluice CA	£2,000	Fire equipment
Creative Kids	£4,100	Equipment
Seghill CA	£1,000	Heating
New Hartley	£65	Highlights
Seghill	£65	Highlights
Seaton Sluice Bowling Club	£1,500	Young People Bowls and Tables and chairs
Seghill CA	£2,000	Heating
Seghill CA	£500	Heating
Seghill CA	£1,000	Heating
Seghill CA	£30,000	Heating
Hastings Initiative	£3,000	Seaton sluice group (mar 09)
Hastings Initiative	£750	5 A Side
Hastings Initiative	1,470	Kids and nippers
Concorde House	3,440	Trips
The Hastings Initiative	2,334	Room hire at Seaton Sluice
The Pop Bottles	770	Arts and Crafts materials
New Hartley Cricket Club	750	Equipment for juniors
Seaton Delaval Amateur Football Club	2,152	Kitchen
Seaton Sluice Craft Club	623	Machine, storage and trip
Seaton Delaval Scouts	1,000	Switzerland trip
Seghill CA	500	Newsletter
Seghill CA	400	flooring
Norma Burton	500	material
Hastings Initiative	10,000	Seghill Youth Club

Seghill CA	700	floor
New Hartley Art Group	200	Room hire/equipment
St Mary's Art	560	Tutor fees/rent
Seaton Sluice CA	19,126	windows
Seaton Delaval Pre School	3,000	Salaries
New Hartley Art Group	600	Rent/equipment
New Hartley Art Group	250	Room hire
Seaton Delaval Amateur Football club	750	Grasscutter
Seaton Sluice Art Club	1,484	Boards and workshops
Seaton Delaval Amateur football club	10,000	Roof
Hastings Initiative	1,000	Seghill electrical equipment
Seaton Del Amateur football	500	Roof repairs and woodworm
Hastings Init	100	Summer trips (transport)
Hastings Init	3,000	seasonal work
Seaton Delaval Dynamos	500	laptop
Norma Burton Dance	750	costumes
The Pavilion	1,000	Events
Seghill CA	1,000	Ramp
Hastings Init	812	equipment
Seghill CA	£1,000	Tai Chi classes
Seghill CA	£500	Senior Citizens Christmas party
New Hartley CA	£669	Cabinets
Seghill CA	£1,000	Damp proofing
Astley park Pavilion	£761	Gala event
Seghill CA	5,000	Roof and repairs
F Of Hollywell Dene	750	Insurance
New Hartley CA	900	Display Cabinets
PARTNERSHIP NUMBERS FROM HERE		
Seaton Sluice CA	850	Blinds
Seghill CA	1,000	Damp proofing
New Hartley CA	1,000	Expenses and equipment for lunch club
New Hartley Toddlers	250	equipment
Hastings Init	950	Training team building
N Hartley CA	995	Summer fair
New Hartley Toddlers	£1,200	Rent and publicity
New Hartley Toddlers	£1,000	Rent costs
Seghill Community Association	£2,500	Fire doors
New Hartley Memorial group	£1,000	Pit Banner
Seghill CA	£1,000	ramp
St Marys Art Group	£500	Workshops
St Marys Art Group	£680	Workshops
Astley Community Activity and Sporting Centre	£52,000	Refurbishment of changing rooms
CVABV Childrens festival	750	Workshops
The Pavilion	435	Smoothie bike/go karts
CVABV Childrens festival	£1,688	
New Hartley Community Centre	£900	Removal of the path in Memorial Garden
Astley Community Activity and	£1,000	Changing room refurbishment

Sporting Centre		
Seaton Sluice CA	£750	IT Equipment
CVABV Childrens festival	1,000	Activities
CVABV Childrens festival	100	Activities
Astley Community Activity and Sporting Centre	750	refurbishment
CVABV Childrens festival	750	Activities
CVABV Childrens festival	503	Activities
CVABV Childrens festival	1000	Activities
Astley Community Activity and Sporting Centre	1000	refurbishment
Astley Community Activity and Sporting Centre	2000	refurbishment
Astley Community Activity and Sporting Centre	3000	refurbishment
New Hartley Community Centre	2800	stage curtains
Seaton Sluice CA	9975	lunch club
Seaton Delaval and Holywell forum	500	craft activities
Seghill CA	5000	chair and tables
Astley Community Activity and Sporting Centre	3000	refurbishment of changing rooms
Seaton Sluice Community Association	750	language courses
Doxford	2000	youth provision
Doxford	1000	youth provision
	617,089	



Lottery money where it's needed most

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This report was commissioned by Community Foundation serving Tyne & Wear and Northumberland. The views expressed however, are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Foundation.

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February 2013



Fair Share Trust is managed by UK Community Foundations and supported by the National Lottery