



IMPACT REPORT

SOUTH & NORTH TYNESIDE
2021/2022



FOREWORD

Groundwork is committed to creating a future where every neighbourhood is vibrant and green, every community is strong and no-one is held back by their background or circumstances. Through our vision of 'Changing Places, Changing Lives' we help people in their local neighbourhoods to build community resilience, improve and protect green spaces, lead more active lives, gain confidence to get back into training or work and overcome significant challenges such as food or fuel poverty, isolation and loneliness, low skills and poor health.

In 2021 Groundwork celebrated 30 years of delivering our mission in South Tyneside, our services have never been more needed, the impact of the pandemic and cost of living crisis has been significant, this challenge alongside the climate emergency has highlighted the stark inequalities across communities. We will tackle these inequalities as we continue to work with partners to build green jobs and deliver across four main areas, Empowering Sustainable Communities, Raising Aspirations, Creating Better Places and Enriching Lives Through Culture and Heritage, in the places that need it most.

This report sets out what we have achieved in the last year across Groundwork and our associated subsidiaries TEN North East and Windmill Trading Company, as well as sharing some of the inspiring stories of change brought about through our projects, programmes and partnership working. Through our dedicated team we have developed hybrid delivery models, embraced digital and outdoor provision and have been able to engage our beneficiaries in new ways, ensuring we keep everybody as safe as possible, whilst ensuring our services are accessible to all.

The Trustees and myself are so proud of the work and positive impact we make. Our services and programmes delivered would not be possible without the support of many partner organisations, funders and commissioners, and we would like to thank them for their on-going commitment to helping communities and supporting us in delivering our vision of Changing Places, Changing Lives.

Andrew Watts, Chief Executive



WE ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT:



Empowering Sustainable Communities:

Empowering, enabling and enhancing local communities



Raising Aspirations and Creating Better Prospects:

Individuals who are resilient, confident, ambitious and independent.



Better Places:

A high quality built and natural environment that provides social benefit.



Enriching Lives through Environment, Culture and Heritage:

Individuals who are educated, entertained and informed.



Celebrating 30
years in South
Tyneside



THE YEAR IN NUMBERS



245

Households helped to reduce their energy. Tackling fuel poverty



1326,528m²

Area of land maintained or actively managed



16,183

People visiting Jarrow Hall, enriching lives through culture and heritage



112

People supported into education, training or work



31

Community groups supported. Building pride of place



29970

People supported throughout the year



259

Young people supported to learn, achieve & thrive



772

People supported with their mental health & wellbeing



5032

Children & families supported. Reducing inequality



120

Tonnes of waste channelled into a circular economy



Our children love to explore the space. It seems to have a magical affect on them and they always come back home happy and relaxed.



Groundwork is a federation of charities mobilising practical community action on poverty and the environment across the UK.

We are passionate about a future where:



Every neighbourhood is vibrant and green.



Every community is strong and able to shape its own destiny.



No-one is held back by their background or circumstances.

We believe that working with local communities to build their resilience is vital in facing up to the challenges of a globalised economy and a changing climate.

We know that the negative effects of climate change and environmental breakdown impact first and worst on those who have the least power in society, and who contribute least to the cause of the crisis. A 'just transition' to an inclusive, netzero economy must tackle, rather than entrench, this inequality and provide a springboard for better work and healthier, happier lives in the places that need it most.

This means creating green jobs that build wealth in local communities, changing behaviour to reduce wasted food, energy and water, providing biodiverse, accessible green spaces, supporting businesses to be more responsible and empowering communities to lead activities that improve their quality of life and promote health and wellbeing.





EMPOWERING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Empowering, enabling and enhancing local communities

Our Green Doctor LEAP programme delivered across Tyne and Wear provided a hybrid provision, offering a phone service combined with home visits, providing energy advice to support the most vulnerable in our community to save energy and money to have a warmer home. For more information please visit: www.groundwork.org.uk/greendoctor
Our Green Doctor service:



Supported 245 households

Identified new income / savings of over £243,198

Fitted 2007 small energy saving measures e.g. LED lightbulbs, radiator reflectors and draft excluders saving 650.445 carbon units.



**GREEN
DOCTOR**



Marsden Road Health and Wellbeing Centre

Supported by the National Lottery Community Fund, Marsden Road Health and Wellbeing Centre uses a place-based approach to empower local community action.

15 new groups and businesses have joined us this year, dramatically increasing the range of activities we offer - from a new boxing and fitness club to holiday activities for children.

We re-opened the community café with the help of volunteers and learners from Groundwork Route2Work College & opened the pre-loved goods shop, so far channelling 876 items into the circular economy and recycling 603kgs of items.



15

Volunteers support the shop, activity days and cafe



214

Coats and School Uniform items gifted

CASE STUDY

One of our volunteers, Clare, has told us how important volunteering at the pre-loved community shop has become to her at Marsden Road. Clare is a single mother with a very limited income, she has no excess money to socialise in the usual ways of hobby clubs or night's out, and coming to the centre has become an important part of her life. She has been able to meet new people and make friends, while also feeling like she is contributing to the community in a really tangible way.

“It was really great today, the boys absolutely loved it from start to finish”

Step into Spring activity day.



Fighting Fit new sports club at Marsden Road Health and Wellbeing Centre

BIG LOCAL IN CENTRAL JARROW

The Partnership Board set up 3 task groups:

1. Social Enterprise group to continue the work started by Big Local into the future.
2. Digital Inclusion
3. Universal Basic Income

> We continued to support our grassroots community groups and local organisations with small grants, allocating £3,054 to nine groups.

> In partnership with YMCA, Kayla and Grace, were nominated for the North East Youth Most Inspirational Young Women Award, for their commitment to Big Local and social action. Kayla was a runner up and Grace won!

> In partnership with Even Better Wellbeing CIC we provided a community led one to one listening service in Jarrow. We worked together with a local Recovery College (Kind Mind Community) to recruit and train local volunteers; many of whom also had lived experience of mental health issues. 89% of people using the listening service said it helped them feel less lonely.

For more information please visit:

www.groundwork.org.uk/projects/big-local-central-jarrow

CASE STUDY

The Green Gym is funded by Public Health in South Tyneside and supports sedentary individuals to take their first steps back into physical activity.

Through a weekly programme of environmental improvements, conservation and horticulture activities, structured as a physical work-out in local community green spaces; we support people to make new friends, reduce isolation, build confidence, learn new skills, get active and spend time connecting with nature - improving both physical and mental wellbeing.

Lewis joined the Green Gym in October 2021 starting sessions at West Boldon Lodge. Lewis has grown in confidence, making new friends and learning new skills in woodland management. Lewis is really enjoying his time at the Green Gym and has said that it is keeping him fit and active, the asthma nurse weighed him recently and he has lost 5lbs as a result of the increased exercise. Lewis was also recently referred into our BBO employability programme and now has the confidence to take the next step.

*It's just what he was
needing, we are very
grateful for your help.*



RAISING ASPIRATIONS AND CREATING BETTER PROSPECTS

Individuals who are resilient, confident, ambitious and independent

Learning and Skills

Our SEN specialist Route2Work College saw a growth in learners last year, supporting 21 young people through to summer 2021, increasing to enrol 29 young people in September 2021.

Learners engaged in Animal Care and Land-Based Studies, functional skills, PHSE, Life Skills and the National Citizenship Service (NCS) programme and we adapted to provide a remote and in college learning hybrid approach, with a focus on mental wellbeing and resilience.

- 64% achieved their SETPD Core Aim (Qualification) in Animal Care/Land-Based Studies.
- 100% of learners achieved their work experience core aims.
- 20 learners of 21 progressed/reached positive destinations.



*Being at
Route2Work
has helped me
to get the job I
always wanted.*



CASE STUDY

DF started at R2W College in September 2019 and attended for 2 years, leaving in July 2021. DF had challenges such as autism, dyspraxia and speech difficulties as well as a need to develop his personal, social and independent living skills. In his first year with R2W he achieved an Entry Level 3 Certificate in Animal Care Skills and FS Level 1 in English. In his second year he achieved a Level 1 Certificate in Animal Care Skills and FS Level 2 in English (which is equivalent to a GCSE) plus a Level 1 Award in Worker's Rights and Labour Exploitation.

From the moment DF started at R2W College he knew he wanted a career as a bus driver. R2W staff worked closely with him to develop a career plan and he was involved in employability sessions, career interviews, carrying out his own research and in his last term at R2W College he started interviews with different bus companies. In September 2021 he had a successful job interview with Arriva (Durham) and now has his dream job!

DF popped into see R2W staff in December 2021 and told us all about his job, including the routes he drives from Durham down to Hartlepool and Darlington!

Find out more about Route2Work
College and enrichment activities:
www.route2work.org

EDUCATION

Our education team offer sessions linked to the National Curriculum and enrichment activities to support every child to thrive. This year we delivered on-site school visits, outreach based activity in schools and a digital learning approach to maximise our reach.

- > 3,265 school pupils visited Jarrow Hall
703 school pupils visited West Boldon Lodge
3,885 people attended events at West Boldon Lodge
226 people attended free events in their local parks supported by 12 young volunteers.
- > 183 families who gave feedback about events at West Boldon Lodge said:
69% felt more connected with nature
61% reported an improvement in mental wellbeing
36% felt less lonely
77% said they like their local area more



South & North Tyneside 2021/2022



“When you see your child who is normally shy at events come out of his shell and burst with excitement, you know you have been to amazing event.”

KICK START SCHEME

The programme aims to:

- > Provide hundreds of young people with their first jobs in community and environmental work.
- > Help young people to develop the skills they need to be at the forefront of a new green economy.

Combined with £2.2m funding from The Green Recovery Challenge Fund, Kickstart will both create jobs for young people and unlock voluntary action on nature recovery and climate change by undertaking urgent work to protect and enhance parks and green spaces in communities.

We have supported 42 Kickstart positions across Groundwork South & North Tyneside trust, 16 are still with us and 13 have successfully found employment. Our BBO team have also registered some of the Kickstart leavers to receive further IAG, employability support and potential further qualifications.

Kickstart employees have worked alongside our team at Jarrow Hall, Anglo-Saxon Farm Village and Bede Museum, with opportunities to support experimental archaeology aims.

CASE STUDIES

Matty: I wanted to work at a site where I was outdoors and wasn't going to be face to face with the public most of the time. At the time this was the only site offering this type of opportunity. I've had the chance to support the year in the field project including creating an experimental Anglo-Saxon scratch plough. I've learnt quite a lot from coming into this role like the practical hands-on element needed, I had to work as part of a team to learn the skills. I have secured a job working as an archaeologist in Milton Keynes. I start next month. I feel like this position was a good stepping stone into my new job.



Dan: I have really enjoyed working with the animals, I get a lot of satisfaction from it. I've also enjoyed coming in to work every day and working with the people on the team. I have an apprenticeship, I'm going to work in a tree plantation. My Apprenticeship is in Tree Surgery, its starts with Level 2, Level 3 and leads on to a degree level qualification at East Durham and Houghall College. This experience absolutely helped me get my apprenticeship. It was the experience that I didn't have before coming that helped secure me this job. This apprenticeship is my ideal job.



KICKSTART
SCHEME

YOUNG CARERS RESPITE SERVICE

Through a wide range of services, our Young Carers programme offers respite and emotional support to young carers in South Tyneside aged 5 – 24 years of age. 230 individual young carers have been supported this year with young carer respite activities, significantly adapted to create a blended model of virtual, online and face-to-face support.

- > 156 families accessed our family days with trips to mini golf, Northumberland Zoo, the cinema, pantomimes, Beamish and Alnwick Garden, providing opportunities to connect with each other, spend time as family and have experiences that wouldn't otherwise be possible.
- > Progression pathways were developed with 26 young adult carers (aged 16-24 years) providing IAG, listening ear emotional wellbeing services, CV development, one to one coaching, financial/benefits advice and support to access further education, employment and training. Alongside respite activities to build networks of support and reduce isolation.
- > 619 respite packs were distributed with a total of 1,439 activities covering mindfulness, physical activity challenges, arts and crafts, gardening and cookery.
- > 71 families have received significant intervention in the forms of a listening ear/emotional support, referrals to external services, online support, home visits and help with Christmas presents, thanks to our Christmas appeal.
- > 32 food hampers have been delivered as well as countless shopping trips utilising school meal vouchers and donations.



South Tyneside
Young Carers
Service



You all supported me and my children massively when my mental health was at the lowest point. There was no judgement, only understanding and listening to me



The work with young carer staff helped me to acknowledge my negative mind-set and helped me to adapt my way of thinking.



For more information please visit:
www.southtynesideyoungcarers.org



EMPLOYABILITY SERVICES

Our work coaches support clients through the Wise Steps BBO Programme.

This year the emphasis has been, more than ever before, on the wellbeing of our participants. We have provided support with isolation, coping with mental health crisis, providing referrals to food banks, accessing IT, supplying crafts equipment and providing digital skills support. We created training and service directories and assisted many customers to access remote learning.



61

people supported with
a range of issues



25

individuals completed training,
gaining qualifications



41

people progressed into
volunteering/further training



12

people gained
employment



For more information please visit:
tennortheast.org.uk

The support from Wise Steps programme and TEN North East has been extremely beneficial. It has helped me build my confidence and achieve my goal of moving back into work.. it has helped me move forward and look to a positive future.



BETTER PLACES

A high quality built and natural environment that provides social benefit

Natural Neighbourhoods is a targeted programme helping young people into employment by creating jobs and providing a programme of environmental traineeships to support the improvement and protection of local parks and greenspaces, working alongside landowners to enhance the quality of accessible green space in towns with high levels of deprivation, country parks and public space in isolated rural communities.

Funded by the government's Green Recovery Challenge Fund the project is delivered by The National Lottery Heritage Fund in partnership with Natural England and the Environment Agency.

A wider range of people involved in heritage

We have supported 12 young people through the Kickstart Scheme, delivered 8 corporate volunteer days with SAGE that welcomed 61 volunteers.

Skills building

Engaged 235 families through our family events and workshops across all sites, teaching skills in coppicing, hedgelaying, willow weaving, wreath making, bird box making, wildlife ID and family fun/nature connection sessions. Facilitated 57 external qualifications and 55 internal competencies e.g. First Aid, manual handling, safeguarding, control of invasive species, carbon literacy. Level 3 Forest School. Personal and professional development - event planning, leadership, volunteer management.

Heritage education leading to a change in ideas and actions

We improved four woodland sites through social action:

- West Boldon Lodge - Total area 32 Acres
- Monkton Community Woodland - Total area 36 Acres
- Tiledsheds - Total Area 3.21 Acres
- Green Man Plantation - Total Area 7.69 Acres





Thanks to Natural Neighbourhoods I have a much greater understanding and practical knowledge of environmental conservation work..which has helped me to jump start to my career in the right direction.



CIRCULAR ECONOMY

The Groundwork shop recycles unwanted items and the income generated is reinvested into the local community to improve green spaces, create better neighbourhoods and to build skills and job prospects.

Donations are cleaned, small repairs made, and electrical goods are PAT tested, before being sold on at an affordable cost.

- > The Groundwork Shop saved 120.4 tonnes of preloved furniture from end of life, creating a circular economy.
- > Through Crisis teams across the North East we have assisted destitute families in real crisis to make a house a home engaging 5000+ local people.

For more information please visit:
www.groundwork.org.uk/projects/groundwork-shop



South & North Tyneside 2021/2022



“The staff are so cheerful and helpful, the goods are very high quality at great prices, saves going to landfill, great service to the community”

ENRICHING LIVES THROUGH CULTURE AND HERITAGE

Jarrow Hall Anglo-Saxon Farm Village and Bede Museum

We continued with our access for all ambition – ensuring that culture is there for everyone to enjoy with accessible programming and volunteering opportunities, achieving Museum Accreditation in December 2021 and the Sandford Award for Heritage Education.

Strengthened cultural partnerships through recruitment of a Collaborative Doctoral Award (PhD) student in partnership with Newcastle University.

Recruited and trained 10 volunteers to help with collections management and 16 volunteers learned heritage skills associated with (re)constructed buildings and received training in experimental archaeology.

The ‘Threads that Bind Us’ exhibition was co-produced with members of the local community submitting embroidery pieces, which reflected their experiences during lockdown.

16,183

Visitors and school children to Jarrow Hall

41%

Visitor growth from 2020/2021

4.5

Trip advisor rating



A really interesting and well-presented museum and great outdoor area, with lots to interest adults and children. Excellent value for money, very friendly and helpful staff.



Jarrow Hall

The opportunity to volunteer at Jarrow Hall was an important thing to talk about in my personal statement and I have found out that I have been accepted to study at Cambridge University this year.

– Eve Robson

My time volunteering with the collections at Jarrow Hall has been great! It has helped me decide to study Museum Studies at Newcastle University.

– Amy Prestidge (collections volunteer)

I have very much enjoyed my volunteering experience with Jarrow Hall it has got me out the house and I have met lots of people from around the world. This has done a lot for my wellbeing as if not volunteering I would probably be just sitting in the house. I also very much enjoyed helping with the Grubenhaus and hopefully its on-going construction. I can look and say I helped build that.

– Ian Holloway.

Find out more about Jarrow Hall, visit:
www.jarrowhall.com

OUR VALUES

The Groundwork Approach:

We will deliver impact through a range of diverse local and national projects, programmes and services, responding to the changing needs of local communities and the opportunity to build powerful partnerships to unlock new resources.

Wherever and however we deliver, our approach will be informed by the following commitments.



We will invest in the places and people that need us most. Prioritising our resources to bring about lasting change by building skills and capacity within local communities where we can make most difference.



We will work with local leaders and listen to local voices. Ensuring our work is shaped by those it is designed to benefit and adding value to the assets that exist in local areas.



We will grow a culture of equity and inclusion – operating transparently and with integrity, and seeking out a diversity of viewpoints, both in the work we do and the people we employ.



We will be committed to collaboration – forging strong partnerships, contributing to a thriving community sector and helping others lead where this will achieve greater impact.



We will act as environmental exemplars – championing practical action to combat the climate and nature emergency and measuring and reducing our own environmental impact.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

We will prioritise our work and measure our achievements based on the difference we make to the lives of people, our impact on the environment and our contribution to UN Sustainable Development Goals. We have identified six goals which align most closely with our work.



Goal 1: No poverty

Helping people into work and building the resilience of those who are most vulnerable.



Goal 7: Affordable and clean energy

Improving energy efficiency and promoting renewables.



Goal 8: Decent work and economic growth

Creating jobs and enterprise and helping young people into work.



Goal 11: Sustainable cities and communities

Improving green spaces, promoting sustainable transport and improving air quality.



Goal 12: Responsible consumption and production

Reducing waste and promoting positive environmental behaviours among communities and businesses.



Goal 13: Climate action

Promoting practical action and strengthening the resilience of communities to cope with climate-related events.

THANK YOU!


Working in partnership with public, private and community stakeholders, we improve, protect and enhance our local communities, partners and environment. A wholehearted thank you is extended to all the organisations and people we have worked with in 2021/22.



IMPACT REPORT 2021/2022 GROUNDWORK SOUTH & NORTH TYNESIDE

Visit: www.groundwork.org.uk/hubs/north-east-and-yorkshire
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