

Evaluation Report

The Social Return on Investment of Station House Community Association

PERIOD: 1st September 2008 – 31st March 2010



SUPPORTING CHILDREN & THEIR FAMILIES IN THURNSCOE FOR OVER 20 YEARS

Commissioned by: Station House Community Association

Prepared by: The Project Evaluation Company (Emica Consulting Ltd), Erica Hadley Jarrett, Senior Consultant, 17 Marble Street, Manchester, M2 3AW

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Contents Page

Chapter	Page
Operational Details	Page 3
Executive Summary	Page 4
Methodology	Page 5
Impact map	Page 6
Project Background, Context and Rationale	Page 8
Desk Research	Page 9
Project Aims and Outputs	Page 13
Stakeholder Research	Page 14
Social Return on Investment Calculations	Page 20
Analysis and Conclusions	Page 23
Using and Sharing results from the evaluation	Page 24
Appendix	Page 25

Organisational Details

Registered Charity Number	1121980
Company Registration Number	618380
OFSTED Registered	302864
Registered Office UK	Station House Community Association Station House Lidget Lane Thurnscoe Rotherham S63 0BX
Area of Operation	The Dearne, Barnsley
Consultants	Emica Consulting Lowry House 17 Marble Street Spring Gardens Manchester M2 3AW

Executive Summary

Station House Community Association (SHCA) is a registered childcare provider with Ofsted and is a registered charity. The services offered through the organisation are not for profit. The Family support services have been delivered since 1986 and has become an integrated element of the local community, which has enabled the group to build close links and joint working partnerships with local schools, community/voluntary organisations, local authority and the local Sure Start Centre. During this time the community has grown in its capacity to identify and manage key problems that it faces. The Dearne is plagued by a range of social issues that act as barriers for local people to gain access to mainstream services – SHCA therefore acts as a bridge for hard to reach groups. The service provides quality childcare which provides beneficiaries with a greater quality of education, social interaction and well being, whilst also enabling parents to gain paid employment or continue in education, therefore making a positive contribution to society whilst increasing individual family's life chances.

The purpose of this report is to evaluate SHCA from the time period of September 2008-March 2010. With an aim to assess how popular and important the services are within the local community and to also assess the quality being produced. A large element of this evaluation will be to assess the social return on investment from the childcare provisions which enables parent's affordable, quality and flexible provisions. The report will provide an evidence base for SHCA to access future funding for the services by proving an evaluation on the impact the project has on the community and the saving to the government. This will be achieved by holding a series of interviews with stakeholders who include: parents, volunteers, staff, local schools and Barnsley Council's Child Services. Following this the external environment and demographics will be analysed in line with the social return on investment calculations. The final element of the report will be made up of recommendations for the future of SHCA.

Methodology

The purpose of this evaluation is to identify the social return on investment gained as a result of the work of SHCA in Thurnscoe. The evaluation aims to capture and calculate the importance of the organisations provisions to the community and wider stakeholders. The report will go onto reflect the quality of services offered and the impacts it has on families and the wider community.

The evaluation process will encompass a range of up to date research methods incorporating both qualitative and quantitative methodologies. All research will be conducted openly and transparently to ensure quality information is gathered. Secondary analysis of desktop research was required to understand the local operating area and the social and environmental challenges local people are faced with. This was conducted by the analysis of demographics, local statistics, policy agendas, and other childcare provisions. The stakeholder research was conducted by the formation of questions for volunteers, staff, parents and other local services, the questionnaires were disused on a one to one basis to ensure enough quality information was gathered.

Social Return on Investment (SROI) is an approach to understanding and managing the impacts of a project, organisation or policy. It is based on stakeholders and puts financial value on the important impacts identified by stakeholders that do not have market values.

SROI seeks to include the values of people that are often excluded from markets in the same terms as used in markets, that is money, in order to give people a voice in resource allocation decisions. SROI is a framework to structure thinking and understanding. It's a story not a number. The story should show how you understand the value created, manage it and can prove it.

It is based on seven principles:

1. **Involve stakeholders**

Understand the way in which the organisation creates change through a dialogue with stakeholders;

2. **Understand what changes**

Acknowledge and articulate all the values, objectives and stakeholders of the organisation before agreeing which aspects of the organisation are to be included in the scope; and determine what must be included in the account in order that stakeholders can make reasonable decisions;

3. **Value the things that matter**

Articulate clearly how activities create change and evaluate this through the evidence gathered;

4. **Only include what is material**

Make comparisons of performance and impact using appropriate benchmarks, targets and external standards;

5. **Do not over-claim**

Demonstrate the basis on which the findings may be considered accurate and honest; and showing that they will be reported to and discussed with stakeholders;

6. **Be transparent**

Ensure appropriate independent verification of the account;

7. **Verify the result**

Use financial proxies for indicators in order to include the values of those excluded from markets in same terms as used in markets.

Source: <http://www.sroi-uk.org/content/view/31/66/>

Impact map-stage 1

Impact	Activity	Outputs	Outcomes	Expected impacts
Experienced and qualified childcare staff	All childcare services		<p>Children have access to healthy food and drinks</p> <p>Opportunities to develop social skills</p> <p>Opportunities to develop oracy skills</p> <p>Opportunities to develop skills in:</p> <p>Arts, sports, gardening, cooking, recycling, keeping safe,</p> <p>Opportunities to explore local places of interest</p>	<p>Increase of children's physical and mental health</p> <p>Increase of children's skills development</p> <p>Increase of children's self confidence</p> <p>Better school attendance and punctuality</p> <p>Rise in academic achievement</p> <p>Parents can access advice on other services that support family's</p> <p>Early identification of children and families at risk</p>
	Playgroup session	60 places per week (39 weeks)	Children better prepared for nursery places	<p>Higher skills entry level at nursery, long term leading to rise in children's educational achievement.</p> <p>Improved parenting skills</p>
	<p>Afterschool club</p> <p>Holiday club</p>	<p>80 places per week (39 weeks)</p> <p>80 places per week (11 weeks per year)</p>	<p>Children collected from schools and kept in a safe, fun environment until parents can collect them</p> <p>Parents able to work and study</p>	<p>Decrease of latch key children</p> <p>Reduction of accidents caused by lack of supervision</p> <p>Reduction of anti social behaviours due to lack of supervision</p> <p>Positive impact on local economy</p> <p>Less families living in poverty</p> <p>Less families reliant of out of work benefits</p> <p>Increase on treasury income via Tax and NI</p>
	Toddler group	10 places per week (39 weeks)	Parents and carers play with their children	Improved outcomes for children

	Volunteering opportunities	Up to 10 per year	1000 hrs per annum Training opportunities accessed	Enhanced services for our service users Increase in confidence of volunteers Increased mental and physical health of volunteers Increase in community cohesion
	Work experience opportunities	Up to 6 per year	Vocational training supported and qualifications achieved Training opportunities accessed	Increased skills and qualification of participants Increased confidence of participants
	Employment of staff	3 full time 5 part time	Jobs secured CPD Opportunities to work with other organisations to create better outcomes for children and increase own professional knowledge	Positive impact on local economy Reduction in local unemployment figures Better outcomes for children, in health education and welfare
	Community run organisation	5 trustees + stakeholder group	Community controlled services	Community cohesion
	Working with other not for profit groups	Up to 50 contacts per years	Support the development of community and voluntary and not for profit organisations in Barnsley and south Yorkshire	Growth and development of the sector
	Working to support local and national priorities	Cross cutting through all our services	Opportunities to contribute to better outcomes for children and support for employment objectives	Achievement of local and national targets

At the time of writing this report we did not have the capacity to complete a full SROI, therefore a simplified version assessing savings made on keeping parents in work was made. This means that when we have the capacity to have a full assessment, the SROI figure will be higher again.

Project Background, Context and Rationale

The aim of SHCA is to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of Dearne in a common effort to advance education, and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation, leisure time occupation with the object of improving conditions for local residents.

SHCA was set up in 1996 as an independent charity in response to the withdrawal of the family support service which was then provided by The Children's Society. Over the years, SHCA has delivered services which reflect the changing needs of the community.

Currently, Station House Community Association provides early year's children's services which include:

- ❖ Toddler group once a week;
- ❖ Playgroup – 4 sessions per week
- ❖ Afterschool Club
- ❖ Holiday Club
- ❖ Volunteering Opportunities
- ❖ Work Experience Placements

During the evaluation period the funding portfolio for SHCA services was as follows:

- ❖ Grant funding provided by Coalfields Regeneration Trust, Awards for All and Targeted Support Fund;
- ❖ Subsidised fees charged to families;
- ❖ Provision of commissioned services;
- ❖ Services to the community (Room hire, children's parties etc);
- ❖ Internal Fundraising Activities;
- ❖ Donations.

Benefits to services users and the wider community include:

- ❖ Quality and affordable childcare provision;
- ❖ Improved educational and leisure facilities for children and young people;
- ❖ Work placements and volunteering opportunities;
- ❖ Increased quality of life for local people;
- ❖ Activities for children and young people after school and in school holidays;
- ❖ Encouraging health lifestyle and well being;
- ❖ Increased parenting skills;
- ❖ Increased dispensable income within local community;
- ❖ Enabling more people back to work, training or education;
- ❖ Raised self esteem and confidence for parents and children;
- ❖ Enabling people to play a more active role within the community;
- ❖ Joint working with volunteer, community and public sector organisations.

Desk Research

1) National Strategic Context

SHCA child care services have developed within a government agenda which sought to:

- ❖ Provide support to disadvantaged parents;
- ❖ Enable parents to return to or move into work quicker and earlier;
- ❖ Contribute to reduce worklessness and improve skills levels;
- ❖ Provide volunteering and training opportunities for the local community;
- ❖ Empowering local people and engaging communities in local development;
- ❖ Improve outcomes for children and young people, particularly those living in deprived areas;
- ❖ Reduce child poverty;

- ❖ Place a duty upon local authorities to provide adequate and affordable childcare.

SHCA has and will continue to meet a range of outcomes from the following national strategies:

- Every Child Matters
- Building the Big Society
- Strategy for Volunteering Infrastructure 2004–2014

Refer to Appendix 1 for more details

2) Local Strategic Context

SHCA has and will continue to meet a range of outcomes from the following local strategies:

- Barnsley Children and Young People's Trust
- Barnsley Volunteering Strategy 2010-2020
- Barnsley's Sustainable Community Strategy (2008 - 2020)
- Local Strategic Partnership

Refer to Appendix 1 for more details

3) Local Demographics

SHCA is based in Dearne North Ward. For data analysis purposes, we have used statistics based at the ward level, as individuals from around the ward use SHCA services. However, it is to be borne in mind that there are numerous neighbourhoods within the top 10% most deprived neighbourhoods in the country.

Household Composition

There are 4,665 households in the North Dearne Ward which have a wide demographic. The second largest households were married couples with dependent children (15%) followed by married couples with no children (13%). The next largest households featured in the ward statistics reflect that lone parents with dependent children where the next largest households (10%) cohabiting couples with dependent children (6%) and other households with dependent children was (2%). ***This demonstrates that 25% of all households in the ward have dependent children. The 2007 estimates reflected that 24% of all residents were aged between 0-15 – demonstrating a strong need in the area for early years, afterschool and holiday provision.***

Source: Neighbourhood Statistics 2007 Mid Year Estimates.

Refer to Appendix 2 for further information

Barriers to Employment

Access to affordable childcare is one of the primary barriers to employment for parents. Often the cost of childcare makes employment (particularly in entry level jobs), prohibitive and has been recognised by the UK government, Joseph Rowntree Foundation and One Parent Families/Gingerbread as a significant contributor to the benefits trap. However, the clear reduction in benefit claims, amongst those with dependent children, suggests that provision within Thurnscoe is working well to address this issue. There are three core childcare services in the Dearne for under 5 year olds, which include the Embankment Centre (Sure Start Centre), Hilltoppers and SHCA. In relation to holiday care and after school provision there are other organisations that provide these services and include Hickelton Youth Project who caters for children aged 8-18 and are also a not for profit organisation. Hickleton Youth project started as an outreach project of SHCA and is now an independent organisation in their own right.

	0-4+	5-7	8-11	12-18
Embankment	Full day childcare and Nursery funded places or sessions	-	-	-
Hilltoppers	Full day childcare and Nursery funded places or sessions	-	-	-
Station House	Sesional playgroup (2-5 years)	After school and holiday childcare	After school and holiday childcare	-
Hicklton Youth club	-	-	After school and holiday childcare Youth club sessions	Youth club sessions

4) Average Income, Benifit Payments and Child Care Costs

Cost of Childcare

In order to develop a robust analysis of the social return on investment, we have conducted research into the cost of childcare in Thurnscoe, as well as the cost to the exchequer in terms of out of work benefit payments to parents and tax credit provision. Later in this document the cost to the Exchequer of meeting these benefit claims will be compared to the cost of funding childcare so that an individual can go to work, in order to assess the value of SHCA work.

Local non-subsidised childcare costs: According to the Daycare Trust, the cost of a nursery place ranges between £126 and £375 per week. The typical cost of a full-time under-two's nursery place is £152. Due to OFSTED regulation of adult to child ratios, the younger the child the higher the ration, therefore the higher the cost.

SHCA provide full time care for children over 5 for a cost of £12.50 per day (8am – 6pm) during holiday club and £5 per session for after school club.

Local Child Care Costs

Age Group	Cost
0-5 years	£130 per week
5-11 years	£125 per week

Organisations and clubs that only accept children aged 8 years plus do not have to be OFSTED registered and can operate with lower staff ratios. This greatly affects the cost of delivering the service. SHCA is the only provider of childcare services for children aged 5-8 years, thus providing a unique service for this community. Without this service parents and carers would have a gap in service provision, which would had an adverse affect. Local research indicates that parents having confidence that children aged 0-19 can access childcare influences their decision when to start employment following the birth of their child.

Benefit Payments

- ❖ A lone parent under the age of 18 claiming benefits receive £51.85 per week compared to a lone parent over the age of 18 who receives £65.45 per week.
- ❖ The average household income in Thurnscoe is £23,000;
- ❖ Tax Credit allowances on a household income of £23,000 with 2 children working under 30 hours and requiring £150 a week childcare costs (part-time): £10,700;
- ❖ For individuals not working and claiming benefits but who have 2 children, the tax credit allowance is £5,150.

Distance Travelled to Work

Works mainly at or from home (Persons)	7%
Less than 2km (Persons)	23%
2km to less than 5km (Persons)	13%
5km to less than 10km (Persons)	16%
10km to less than 20km (Persons)	23%
Households with no car or van	42%

(Source: Census 2001)

This demonstrates that 43% of employed residents work within a 5km radius of their home, and 39% work premises over 5km away. Coupled with this, a significant proportion of local residents do not have access to a car or a van, meaning that there is increased competition for local jobs. Public transport in the area is limited and local people therefore find it difficult to travel to work outside of the Dearne. Thurscoe used to be a mining area and has since suffered with high rates of long term unemployment, paid employment opportunities in the local geographical area are limited and this acts as a barrier for local people seeking employment. SHCA provides a local facility for parents that are in employment, training or education which provides a vital service for parents enabling them to peruse paid employment. Additionally SHCA provides a safe and reliable pick up services from the local schools.

Not only does SHCA enable parents to work by providing affordable and flexible childcare but the organisation also provides employment, and volunteering opportunities to local people that want to gain further experience, advance skills, and give something back to the community. They are locally based and provide excellent opportunities for hard to reach individuals that are at risk of exclusion due to a range of prevention barriers. Each applicant has a specifically designed program to meet there needs. This includes hours of work, training and short, medium and long term goals. Following their induction volunteers receive ongoing supervision and appraisals to ensure that they achieve their aims.

In addition to volunteers SHCA also offers work experience placements. These range from school placements, work ready programs up to degree students.

Projects Aims and Outputs

Analysis of SHCA attendance between September 2008 and March 2010 shows the following:

1. Toddler group is open for 1 session per week for parents and carers to bring their children for socialisation and peer support.
2. Play-group 15 place setting – 31 children from 29 families. 7 of whom come from lone parents. Typically there is a waiting list for this service demonstrating a local demand for the service. Playgroup open 4 sessions per week term time only for children aged 2+ for two hour sessions.
3. After-school club 16 place setting – 41 children from 36 families. 7 of whom come from lone parents and 6 come from chaotic home backgrounds. Typically SHCA after-school club has a current occupancy rate of 90-100%. After school club runs 5 nights a week collecting from local school for children aged 5+.
4. Holiday club 16 place setting– 49 children from 38 families. 13 of whom are lone parents, 7 who have chaotic lifestyles. Typically SH Holiday-club has a current occupancy rate of 65%.
5. SHCA has engaged with 12 individuals from hard to reach groups and provided them with training, confidence building and support, as a result 7 still volunteer for the Association and 3 have moved into sustainable and rewarding employment.
6. SHCA hosted 2 school placements, 1 work ready placement and 1 university placement

SHCA recently received an inspection from Ofsted in which they received an improved rating to “good”, in particular, the inspectors recognised:

“The provision demonstrates a very positive attitude towards continued improvement”.

“Staff know their children very well, and take into account the children’s interests and abilities when planning activities. The ethos of the setting is to concentrate on the personal, social, and emotional development of children and this is done very effectively”.

“The systems for observations, assessments and planning have recently become more formalised and though they are in their early stages, they are clearly linked to the six areas of learning and identify children’s next steps”.

“The children are encouraged to eat healthily, and are learning good hygiene practice. For example, they participate in activities about healthy eating and help themselves to fresh water and fruit throughout the session. They wash their hands after using the toilet, and following craft activities. The children are encouraged to clean their nose and dispose of the tissue afterwards, and are learning about the importance of cleaning their teeth”.

Stakeholder Review

In order to gain a qualitative understanding of the impact Station House Community Association's work has had in the community; we undertook a range of beneficiary and partner interviews. Below is a summary of their responses:

Barnsley Development Agency (BDA)

A partnership of key organisations involved with the economic development and regeneration of the Barnsley area.

The BDA's activities are split into 3 main areas of support which are lead by the following teams:

Inward Investment & Development Team – Provide a comprehensive, proactive integrated package of support to indigenous companies and inward investors.

Remaking Barnsley Team - Project manages the £370 million transformation of the urban centre into a 21st Century Market town.

Social Enterprise Barnsley - The community economic development function of the service target hard to reach communities to help people back into employment via the encouragement of training and volunteering opportunities.

- ❖ Station House is a safe environment where individuals can come to volunteer to gain experience and build self esteem.
- ❖ There are limited placements in the area for people to volunteer whilst gaining experience/ qualifications.
- ❖ Station House has a positive effect on our work – as they help people to move forward into paid employment.

“Station House provides childcare placements and support individuals through NVQ qualification. Station House also helps them build confidence; aspirations and can provide them with a reference” (Lisa Lill – Employment Advisor).

Highgate Primary School

- ❖ One of the core benefits which is appealing to service providers is that Station House pick up the children from the local schools.
- ❖ Limited after school care available in the local area.
- ❖ An area missing in the Dearne is holiday care provision which is highly sought after by parents.
- ❖ By joint working with Station House it enables the dissimilation of resources, sharing good practice and also allows both organisations to strengthen services.

“Without Station House the school couldn’t provide after school provision – without them we could not offer that facility” (Sue Williams – Head Teacher).

The Hill Primary School

- ❖ Station House continues to meet the need of local parents and children;
- ❖ They are a quality service provider;
- ❖ Improvements could be made to holiday provision – making activities relevant to children and linking with local schools to use facilities to increase capacity and have access to facilities.;
- ❖ All partners have positive things to say about Station House particularly regarding the professionalism and support to individual families.

“Tremendous facility – issues of funding always uneasy for an organisation like Station House but without them there is no one else to provide these services in the area. They are in the heart of the village – and should continue to be at heart of the community and remain that way. No schools or other services in the area could provide this service” (Sarah Creighton – Head Teacher).

Early Childhood Services (Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council)

The aim of the Early Childhood Service (ECS) is to work with children, families, early years and childcare settings and partner organisations to help ensure that every child is supported to achieve his or her potential. By working together this means every child and young person should be able to:

- Enjoy good physical and emotional health;
 - Be protected from harm;
 - Achieve the highest possible standards, enjoy their learning and develop a broad range of skills for their adult lives;
 - Participate effectively in their community and be valued for their contribution;
 - Be well prepared for work and aspire to achieve their potential in life.
 - Station House has above average occupancy and is assisting with the meeting of the duty to provide childcare;
-
- ❖ Over the past year the setting has worked positively with the service, signing up to the new Quality Improvement Partnership agreement and they have regularly attended the Out of School Forum meetings;
 - ❖ Early Childhood Services advocates a continuous cycle of quality improvement through self evaluation. As members of the Quality Improvement Partnership the setting have already embraced this ethos therefore will, with support from the Development Officer and Consultant, be identifying and improving the services they deliver as part of a yearly cycle;
 - ❖ SHCA has already improved the outdoor area with assistance from the Early Years Capital Grant;
 - ❖ SHCA provides different services the Embankment Children's Centre, but both organisations need to hold open dialogue and work together to best meet the needs of local families.

“Within the area families do face socio economic disadvantages. The setting provides care to parents who wish to stay at home, as well as supporting parents back into work or to access training. The setting also provides employment for those working within the preschool and Out of School Care (OOSC) as well as and volunteering opportunities”

Summary of Parent Interviews

We interviewed 20 parents who were using SHCA services. Parents were a mix of those who were in work and those who were unemployed. Each parent's child attended SHCA at least once a week. Below is a summary of why those interviewed found SHCA to be beneficial:

- ❖ Provides children with a good start and prepares them and their parents for the transition to school;
- ❖ Provides children with somewhere to go during the holidays and offers them something to do which is constructive;
- ❖ The setting is safe and friendly, and parents feel comfortable leaving their children there whilst they are at school;
- ❖ The children enjoy it and have the opportunity to make friends and develop socially and emotionally;
- ❖ None of the parents could identify areas for improvement in service delivery;
- ❖ When asked about the impact if Station House Community Association's services were no longer available, all parents agreed that it would be a significant loss to the community and the ability for local residents to go to work, and for local children to grow and develop personally and socially.

"I am not sure if anywhere else in the area provides holiday care for this age group so people would be lost without it". (Holiday Club Parent)

"It's a God send – they will do anything to accommodate you and because I am self employed I need flexible hours. I know they are looked after there, they do activities and keep them occupied and they enjoy going." (After School Club Parent)

"There is nowhere else I would take him – Station House is part of the kid's lives and my life". (Play Group Parent)

"A lot of people rely on it – not many people are in my position as my son's dad is his full time carer but many people would be lost without it and wouldn't be able to work". (Play Group Parent)

"I would be lost without it and he enjoys going. The service is flexible, you don't have to have set days, pay to hold a child's place or get charges if they don't attend. My son is always happy there and they are really approachable". (Holiday Club and After School Care Parent)

"Without Station House, I wouldn't be able to attend university". (Holiday Club and After School Care Parent)

“I used to be a housewife so it was scary leaving them but it’s safe at Station House and staff are friendly – it’s enabled me to go to university and pursue a career. The holiday club takes them out on trips, walks, adventure, and parks (you only pay a little towards it). I always recommend Station House and they are always very accommodating”. (Holiday Club and After School Care Parent)

“Without Station House, I wouldn’t be able to go to work – that’s the reality”. (Holiday Club and After School Care Parent)

Summary of Volunteer Interviews

“Station House has given me a chance to learn new skills and get a qualification in childcare”.

“I volunteer a couple of days per week as it gets me out of the house and helping other people”.

“Volunteering at Station House has increased my confidence and I have also made some great friends”.

“Station House is a real part of the community; I know all the local children and have a great time volunteering”.

“I started as a volunteer at Station House and have since go on to gain paid employment”.

“They are a link between the top and bottom end of the village, linking both of the schools together”.

“All the staff at Station House are great, they have supported me a lot whilst being a volunteer which has increased my social skills and chances of gaining paid work”.

“My voluntary role at Station House gives me a purpose – I love giving time to my community and feel we are making a significant difference”.

“After being a house wife and mom for many years I had lost my confidence and didn’t know my direction in life, Station House helped me increase my self esteem whilst giving me a positive purpose to contribute to”.

“I love being a volunteer at Station House – I just wish I had more spare time to give”.

Social Return on Investment Calculations

During the time period of this evaluation, the cost of delivering SHCA activities has been £142,460.23. This equates to a unit cost per child of: £1,177.35 over 15 months = £78.49 per month spent on each child accessing Station House Community Association's activities.

During the time period of this evaluation, September 2008 – March 2010, 60 individuals have been able to go to work, as a result of being able to access SHCA services. Of these:

- ❖ 20 were lone parents and claiming Income Support
- ❖ 55 were part of a couple in which only 1 adult was working, with no benefit claims
- ❖ Annual tax per person on average salary of £23,000, tax is £3,305.00 and National Insurance per person is around £1,901.35 per year.
- ❖ Average spending per household is £17,020 leaving an average disposable income of £773.65 per household per year.
- ❖ The cost of state education per child aged between 3 -19 was £ 4,860 per year.

Cost of Investment

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total Cost
Cost of Investment	£142,460.23	£146,734.04	£151,136.06	£155,670.14	£161,896.95	£757,897.42

(Figures include 3% inflation rises)

The cost of investment represents the expenditure each year for the costs to run the project.

Social Return on Investment

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
Benefits	£587,147.	£634,261.	£651,367.	£668,470.	£685,216.	£3,226,464.
	75	75	75	75	75	60
Discounted Value	<u>£587,147.</u> 75 (1.035)	<u>£634,261.</u> 75 (1.035) ²	<u>£651,367.</u> 75 (1.035) ³	<u>£668,470.</u> 75 (1.035) ⁴	<u>£685,216.</u> 75 (1.035) ⁵	-
Present Value	£2,906,346.70					-

(Figures include 3% inflation rises)

- ❖ NPV = [Present value of benefits] - [Value of investments]
- ❖ NPV = £2,906,346.70 – £757,897.42
- ❖ NPV = £2,148,449.30

The net present value (NPV) of a time series of cash flows, both incoming and outgoing, is defined as the sum of the present values (PVs) of the individual cash flows. NPV is a central tool in discounted cash flow (DCF) analysis, and is a standard method for using the time value of money to appraise long-term projects. NPV is an indicator of how much value an investment or project adds to the firm.

Or in simple terms

- ❖ **The Benefit** – Has taken into account all of the savings to the state due to SHCA service enabling parents to gain employment. This includes tax and national insurance contributions from working parents alongside the saving in benefits. Also included on the benefits is the increased disposable income of local people due to more people gaining employment. SHCA provide quality childcare and education, the calculations therefore encompass the costs to the LEA for education per child. An additional benefit we have calculated is the saving to the state from a reduced number of benefit claimants from the children who will also continue on into employment.
- ❖ **Net Present Value** - The value in today's currency of money that is expected in the future minus the investment required to generate the activity.

- ❖ **Discount Rate** - The interest rate used to discount future costs and benefits to a present value.

Due to the complex nature and timescale of measuring the financial benefit of the volunteers and placement activities these figures are based solely on the childcare services.

Therefore every £1 invested into Station House Community Association, £3.83 social investment was created.

The Cost to the Exchequer of these individuals not being in work would be:

- ❖ 20 were lone parents and claiming Income Support = 20 individuals claiming Income Support at a rate of £65.45 per week + £5150 provided through tax credits per week = £8553.40
- ❖ 55 were part of a couple in which the household income was £23,000 and not paying.

The benefit trap often acts as a barrier preventing parents from gaining paid employment. If both parents work within a two parent household then some lower earning families can be entailed to working tax credits however if only one parent works then this impacts on the benefits including the amount payable per week, housing benefit and council tax. In many cases this leads to both parents giving up work and claiming benefits as they are financially better off.

In addition, research by: EMICA, shows that there are additional long-term benefits from both parents being in work, which prevent negative outcomes amongst families:

- Improved diet;
- Health Improvements;
- Increased household income;
- Improved social and emotional well-being;
- Higher attainment levels at school.

If all of the children of working parents went on to work themselves after school, at current rates, we would see a saving to the Exchequer of: £202,215 each year. This does not take into the account, the amount boosted to the economy as a result of increased productivity, higher consumer spending and reduced burden on the health service as a result of the improved health, fitness and well-being which having enough money to live on, can bring.

Analysis and Conclusions

Our conclusions are as follows:

- ❖ SHCA provides a value for money service which is appreciated by parents, schools and partners alike;
- ❖ Our research shows that the economy may be heading towards a double dip recession and that the impact of deprivation, together with significant public spending cuts, will impact on ordinary people - SHCA is instrumental in ensuring that, amongst its target groups, the consequences of this are reduced through the social return on investment of its services;
- ❖ The community of Thurnscoe needs SHCA and wants it to continue its provision;
- ❖ A strong need identified for affordable quality local childcare provision;
- ❖ SHCA provide a unique service in the area as they cater for a wide age range;
- ❖ Work with local service providers to ensure no duplication where there is not demand and to also fill gaps in services where there is a clear identified demand;
- ❖ Continue joint working to ensure a greater quality of provisions in the area;
- ❖ The organisation needs to continue to meet the outcomes of local and national strategies to provide added value through their services;
- ❖ Completion of the impact map and a full assessment of the true SROI for all elements of Station House services:
- ❖ There is broad based support amongst stakeholders and mainstream agencies for the organisation;
- ❖ It is important to the community and local services that the organisation is allowed and supported to continue its work;
- ❖ Gain access to funding pots for volunteers and work experience placements;
- ❖ A strong SROI for the evaluation time period which provides SHCA with a platform to continue services that have clear outputs;
- ❖ In order to increase the SROI during this difficult climate, the organisation needs to continue to provide a quality service in line with people's needs and requirements.

Using and Sharing Results from the Evaluation

The results from the SHCA project evaluation can be disseminated via a range of methods. EMICA would suggest that the organisation share the outcomes of the evaluation with all relevant stakeholders including volunteers, staff, beneficiaries, trustees, parents, wider community, local organisations, local authority and past/potential funders. The sharing of these results will be conducted through an open day where key stakeholders will be invited to come to SHCA for a presentation and talk about the service and its achievements.

There are many other ways the results of the project evaluation can be shared – see suggestions below:

- SHCA website (Upload document and provide summary);
- Press Releases;
- Send out to previous and potential funders;
- Send to Barnsley local authority;
- Send out to partners (local schools etc);
- Summarise in newsletter and send to parents and partners.

Appendix

Appendix 1

Every Child Matters

Every Child Matters is a national approach to the well-being of children and young people from birth to age 19. The Government's aim is for every child, whatever their background or their circumstances, to have the support they need to:

- ❖ Be healthy;
- ❖ Stay safe;
- ❖ Enjoy and achieve;
- ❖ Make a positive contribution;
- ❖ Achieve economic well-being.

SHCA ensures that these outcomes are at the forefront of services to achieve increased outcomes for local children and young people.

Barnsley Children and Young People's Trust

Barnsley Children and Young People's Trust was established in 2009, replacing the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership (LSP).

Key priorities for the Trust are:

- ❖ Identifying children and young people at risk of failure or harm and intervening early to make sure they are safe and can thrive;
- ❖ Narrowing the gap – especially in educational attainment – between vulnerable children and young people such as those in care, and others, whilst also improving the lives of all children;
- ❖ Reducing Child Poverty.

SHCA supports this by providing registered childcare provision for local families that works in line with the Barnsley Children and Young People's Trust key priorities. At SHCA we work with children to bring out the best in every child by play, education, care and a healthy diet. We work closely with local schools and support a range of social, disabled, learning difficulties. The childcare service enables parents to work which in turn will reduce deprivation and poverty among these families.

Source: <http://www.barnsley.gov.uk>

Barnsley Volunteering Strategy 2010-2020

One Barnsley's vision for Barnsley is to create an environment where every one of its citizens can contribute towards, and benefit from, making Barnsley a better place to live and work; where volunteering is an integral element of this and is valued and recognised across all sectors as an expression of empowerment and a force for

change; and where everyone who wants to volunteer can do so readily. In recognition of this, the vision for this Volunteering Strategy is: Barnsley has a strong and sustainable volunteering culture with 50% of Barnsley's citizens involved in volunteering at least once a year by 2020. This Volunteering Strategy has some key long-term objectives based around the four following areas of volunteering – individuals, organisations, communities, and volunteering support services. Station House provides quality and sustainable volunteering opportunities for local people and will meet the following outcomes of the Barnsley Volunteering Strategy (2010-2020):

1. To enable every individual to have the opportunity to volunteer and to benefit from the experience;
2. To make volunteering more visible and valued in the community;
3. Strengthen citizen engagement and participation.

Source:http://www.vabarnsley.org.uk/pdf/general_info/98DraftBarnsleyVolunteeringStrategy.pdf

SHCA supports this by providing sustainable voluntary and work experience placements for local people. This assists in the increase of placements with the Dearne whilst assisting more people to play an active and leading role within the community.

Barnsley's Sustainable Community Strategy (2008 - 2020)

This Volunteering Strategy will contribute significantly to the delivery of Barnsley's Sustainable Community Strategy (2008 - 2020) and Station House will contribute specifically to the following outputs:

1. Barnsley offers varied and exciting cultural opportunities to all;
2. Barnsley is recognised for its community spirit and diversity;
3. Enabling adults to have healthy and fulfilling lives;
4. Barnsley children and young people – aiming high, enjoying life and seizing opportunity;
5. 21st century environments for 21st century learning, enterprise, skills and services.

Source:http://www.vabarnsley.org.uk/pdf/general_info/98DraftBarnsleyVolunteeringStrategy.pdf

SHCA supports this by conducting day trips out for children to a range of educational, cultural and fun learning experiences. At SHCA we work to create a happy, confident and educational experience where children can come and enjoy which provides them with opportunities to interact with other children. SHCA are proactive in the delivery of services and advancement of skills and we encourage this attitude among the children and parents.

Local Strategic Partnership

This strategy will also impact on the work of the Borough's Local Strategic Partnership, One Barnsley, and will make a significant contribution to achieving the N16 (increase in volunteering) in the Local Area Agreement.

Source: http://www.vabarnsley.org.uk/pdf/general_info/98DraftBarnsleyVolunteeringStrategy.pdf

SHCA supports this by providing quality and sustainable volunteering and work experience placements for local people who require further opportunities, for advancement, social or community reasons.

Building the Big Society

The new Conservative - Liberal Democrat Government has come together with a driving ambition to build the Big Society: to put more power and opportunity into people's hands. They want to give citizens, communities and local government the power and information they need to come together, solve the problems they face and build the Britain they want. SHCA will support this vision by achieving the following outcomes:

1. SHCA will continue to play a active role within the local community;
2. We will encourage local people to take a active role within the community;
3. The organisation will provide a number of volunteering and development opportunities for local people increasing individuals skills and life chances;
4. SHCA will play a leading role in encouraging charitable giving and philanthropy.

Source: <http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/media/407789/building-big-society.pdf>

Strategy for Volunteering Infrastructure 2004–2014

Strategy for Volunteering Infrastructure 2004–2014 is a national plan to increase volunteering across the UK. Volunteering England, in consultation with the voluntary and community sector, has developed a ten-year vision and strategy for the volunteering infrastructure in England. This publication sets out that vision and strategy, together with proposals for the new core functions that the infrastructure should perform locally, regionally and nationally.

This volunteering infrastructure will:

- ❖ Increase the quality and quantity of volunteering;
- ❖ Provide a comprehensive understanding of volunteering in all its expressions, and be known and recognised for this expertise;
- ❖ Be publicly recognised with a physically identifiable local presence;

- ❖ Be respected for its person-focused approach to social issues, and to this end will support volunteering in all its diversity.

SHCA provides a range of volunteering opportunities to engage local people from within the community. The volunteering opportunities are designed to meet individual needs, motivation for volunteering range from simply contribution to the local community to gaining work ready qualifications and experience. For SHCA the volunteer element of the services is equally as important as the childcare services, they are interlinked and neither can survive without the other.

Appendix 2

Volunteering

- ❖ In 2008/09 71% of adults volunteered in some way with 47% volunteering at least once a month (*2008/09 DCLG Citizenship Survey*).
- ❖ In 2007/08 formal volunteers contributed an estimated £22.7 billion to the UK economy (*UK Civil Society Almanac*).
- ❖ The average number of hours spent volunteering per volunteer declined by 30% between 1997 and 2007 (*Helping Out, 2007*). Evidence also suggests that there is a trend towards more episodic volunteering (*The UK Civil Society Almanac 2009*).
- ❖ Rates of formal volunteering vary greatly by socio-economic classification. In 2007/08 those in higher/ lower managerial and professions were the most likely to formally volunteer (55%), with intermediate occupations/ small employers (43%), lower supervisory and technical/ semi-routine (36%), routine occupations (28%), never worked/long-term unemployed (30%) and full time students (47%) (*2007/08 DCLG Citizenship Survey*).
- ❖ Volunteers are involved in a range of sectors. In 2008/09 the most popular sectors for formal volunteers were: sport/exercise (53%), hobbies, recreation/arts/ social clubs (42%), religion (36%), children's education/schools (34%), youth children's activities (outside school) (32%), health, disability and social welfare (25%), local community or neighbourhood groups (24%), the environment, animals (20%) (*2008/09 DCLG Citizenship Survey*).
- ❖ 87% of employers think that volunteering can have a generally positive effect on career progression for people aged 16-25. However, nearly 30% felt that volunteering was irrelevant when considering a particular job application. A further 30% felt that volunteering was only relevant if linked directly to the field of work (*Youth Volunteering: Attitudes and Perceptions, 2008, v*).
- ❖ In 2007/08 over 2 million people in England volunteered through an employer supported volunteering scheme. A quarter (25%) of employees are offered a

scheme by their employer, with 43% of those offered a scheme taking part at least once in the last year (2008/09 DCLG Citizenship Survey).

Appendix 3

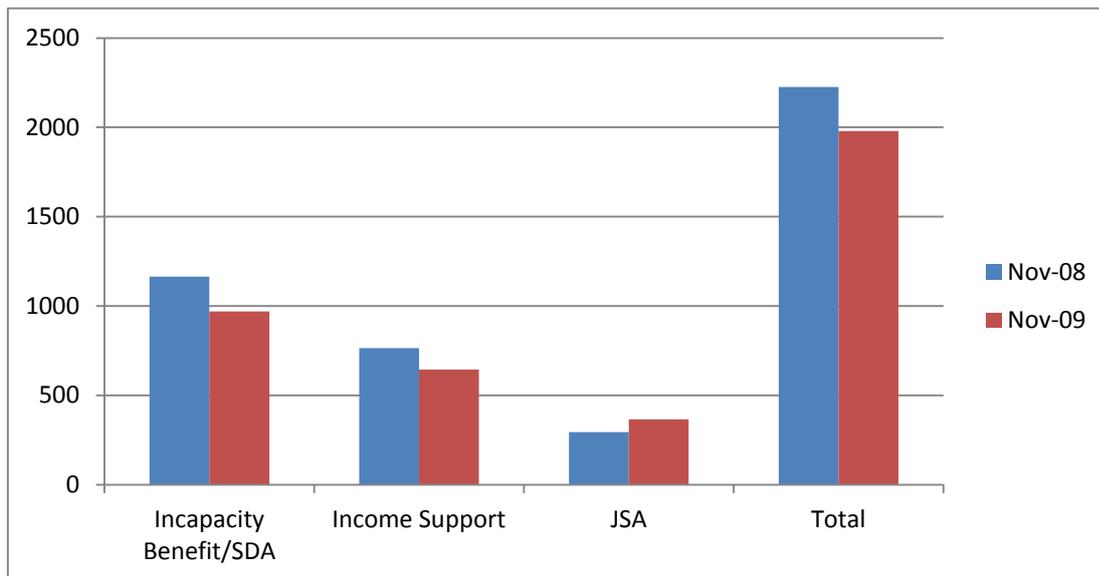
Household Composition

	Dearne North
All Households (Households)	4,665
One person: Pensioner (Households)	16%
One person: Other (Households)	15%
One family and no others: All pensioners (Households)	8%
One family and no others: Married couple households: No children (Households)	13%
One family and no others: Married couple households: With dependent children (Households)	15%
One family and no others: Married couple households: All children non-dependent (Households)	7%
One family and no others: Cohabiting couple households: No children (Households)	3%
One family and no others: Cohabiting couple households: With dependent children (Households)	6%
One family and no others: Cohabiting couple households: All children non-dependent (Households)	0.3%
One family and no others: Lone parent households: With dependent children (Households)	10%
One family and no others: Lone parent households: All children non-dependent (Households)	4%
Other households: With dependent children (Households)	2%
Other households: All student (Households)	0%
Other households: All pensioner (Households)	0.4%

Appendix 4

Unemployment, Benefits and Worklessness

The unemployment rate in Barnsley (5.7%) is higher than England averages (5.4%) and therefore the employment rate is also much lower (70.5%) compared to the national average (74.4%). The 2007-2008 Benefit claimant statistics reflect that all three forms of benefits received are higher in the Dearne North Ward compared to the borough of Barnsley or the national averages. These statistics reflect the high levels of unemployment, that have impacted on parts of Thurnscoe over past generations and continues to rise still today. These statistics reflect a higher number of benefit claimants in the local Dearne compared to Barnsley averages and nation figures for all benefits. In 2009 28.6% of local people were receiving some form of key out of work benefits with the largest group in receipt of Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) and incapacity benefits (17.9%) compared to a national average of 7.1%). The second largest group is those claiming JSA 6.5% compared to the national average of 4%. The statistics for the Dearne reflect a high level of people on benefits and not in employment which is a core problem within the local area.



Sources: DWP: September 2008 - March 2010

The figures above demonstrate an 11% reduction in worklessness in Thurnscoe during the time period of this evaluation (September 08 – March 10). Of particular interest is the reduction in the number of people claiming Income Support, typically a benefit claimed by out of work families and lone parents. These figures represent a reduction in unemployment between the years 2008-2009, this was due to Future Jobs Fund which made a positive short term reduction.

Labour Market

	Barnsley	England
Economic activity rate	75.1	78.6
Employment rate	70.5	74.4
Unemployment rate	5.7	5.4

Source: Neighborhood Statistics (January 2007 - December 2007)

Benefits claimants as percentage of working age population

	The Dearne North	Barnsley	England
Any Key Working Age Benefit	38%	21%	14%
Jobseeker's Allowance	5%	3%	2%
Incapacity Benefits	20%	12%	-

Source: Neighbourhood Statistics (August 2007-2008)

Benefit Claimants

	Dearne Thurnscoe (numbers)	Dearne Thurnscoe (%)	Barnsley (%)	Great Britain (%)
Total claimants	2,095	33.0	22.9	15.9
Job seekers	410	6.5	5.2	4.0
ESA and incapacity benefits	1,140	17.9	11.6	7.1
Lone parents	235	3.7	2.2	1.9

Carers	155	2.4	1.7	1.1
Others on income related benefits	30	0.5	0.6	0.5
Disabled	115	1.8	1.4	1.0
Bereaved	10	0.2	0.3	0.2
Key out-of-work benefits [†]	1,815	28.6	19.5	13.5

Source: Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) 2009

Jobseeker's Allowance

The maximum weekly rates are:

Type of Person	Amount
Single people, aged under 25	£51.85
Single people, aged 25 or over	£65.45
Couples and civil partnerships (both aged 18 or over)	£102.75
Lone parent (aged under 18)	£51.85
Lone parent (aged 18 or over)	£65.45

Income Support

The maximum weekly rates are:

Type of Person	Weekly Amount
Single Person	
Aged 16 to 24	£51.85
Aged 25 or over	£65.45
Lone Parent	
Aged 16 to 17	£51.85
Aged 18 or over	£65.45

Couple	
With both people under 18	£51.85
With one person under 18 and the other aged 18 to 24	£51.85
With one person under 18 and the other aged 25 or over	£65.45
With both people aged 18 or over	£102.75

The payment of benefits is spiralling out of control. As we reveal today, housing benefits now cost taxpayers an astonishing £15 billion every year. A single family in Brent is living in accommodation costing £147,000 a year, with the entire sum paid from public funds. Housing benefit is just one example of Labour's failure to control welfare spending. The total handed out in benefits is predicted to grow to £165 billion this year, which is more than the Government rises in income tax (<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/comment/telegraph-view/5664780/Britain-is-caught-in-a-benefits-trap.html>).

Education

Every child in England has the right to a free state education. School has the potential to provide all children with opportunities to learn, make friends and participate in activities regardless of family income. The budget from 2005-2010 has been allocated below.

Funding per pupil aged 3-19 - REAL TERMS

	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Barnsley LA	4,150	4,300	4,470	4,480	4,680
Yorkshire and The Humber Region	4,260	4,390	4,550	4,610	4,780
England	4,340	4,470	4,640	4,690	4,860

Source: <http://www.education.gov.uk/>