

Communities

Assistant Director Tom Barker

The Communities Service Area includes: Safe Communities (including community safety, anti-social behaviour, safeguarding and the Community Safety Partnership)

Strong Communities (including grants, external funding, community development, and community rights)

Healthy Communities and Policy (including health and wellbeing, health interventions and preventative activity)

	April - June 2018	July - September 2018	October - December 2018	January - March 2019
Main Achievements	<p>Mental Health work has included a successful Mental Health Awareness and Dementia Fortnight in the workplace with many activities in partnership with SCC and HR. 11 staff members now trained as Mental Health First Aiders.</p> <p>The Communities team recently completed a full Section 11 Audit which required the Councils' to evidence how well we are meeting our statutory obligations in relation to safeguarding, duty of care, and promoting the welfare of Children and Vulnerable Adults. The audit takes account of the level of Corporate commitment toward safeguarding and how the Councils' ensure that safeguarding measures are implicit in our procurement processes and embedded into our policies. The Audit was validated by a Panel of members from the Local Safeguarding Children's Board. The Panel confirmed that Babergh and Mid Suffolk Councils provided strong evidence of compliance and agreed we demonstrated a high standard of service.</p>	<p>1. The Health and Wellbeing team formed a working group with staff from Ipswich Borough Council and Suffolk County Council to collaboratively organize and deliver a range of health and wellbeing promoting activities for Workplace Health Week held between 10 & 14 September. In addition we also held a Prostate Cancer Day on 12 September to raise awareness of the condition, helping to raise £250 for the East Suffolk Prostate Cancer Support Group (this covers the Babergh and Mid Suffolk area). The event involved a talk by a Macmillan nurse, information on diagnosis and the opportunity for staff to contribute to a local charity by wearing a sports top of their choice.</p> <p>2. A total of 96 women and girls took part in this year's Sudbury Women on Wheels event. This event promotes cycling for recreation and as an alternative mode of transport. It has enabled participants to have the confidence to take part and in some cases join local cycling clubs.</p>	<p>1. The inaugural 'Stars of Babergh & Mid Suffolk' Community and Business Awards Event was held at St Mary's Church in Hadleigh on Thursday 18 October. Over 150 entries were received for 11 categories and Babergh had a total of 12 overall winners.</p> <p>2. 57 Members of Staff have received Child Safeguarding Training and 48 Members of Staff have received Adult Safeguarding Training during October and November.</p> <p>3. £3,652 has been secured through the Awards for All BIG Lottery Programme for Voluntary & Community Sector Organisations across Babergh from October through to December supporting 5 individual organisations. This is an independent external funding stream opportunity, our officers provide advice.</p> <p>4. The Babergh Grant Programme has awarded £ 151.90 to the Acton Good Neighbour Scheme and £ 1,000 to the Bildeston Parish Council.</p>	

<p>Main Achievements continued</p>	<p>The Health and Wellbeing Team have officially launched a new three-year joint project with Suffolk Sport.</p>	<p>3. The Make, Do & Friends Project has commenced. Suffolk Artlink in partnership with the Rural Coffee Caravan and Dance East and supported by the Communities team are delivering a high-quality outreach programme led by artists. The programme has secured Arts Council funding for two years and has been designed for and co-produced with older people, particularly those who are rurally isolated or lonely.</p> <p>4. Lavenham is the most recent village to form a local Dementia Action Alliance and supported by the Health and Wellbeing team held a successful launch event on 18 July. It is actively supported by the Parish Council and the local East of England Co-Op.</p> <p>5. Grants – a capital grant of £25,000 has been offered to the Stevenson Centre in Great Cornard (overall project £89,000). Section 106 funding of £16,000 has been provided to projects including the purchase of new open space in Cockfield, play equipment in Lawshall and fencing at Layham</p>	<p>5. As part of the Active Wellbeing programme for older residents a Loneliness and Social Isolation training event was held in Long Melford with 11 participants taking part.</p> <p>6. A new project supporting older people in Hadleigh (including those living with dementia) to improve their wellbeing through music-making has held four taster sessions across 4 older people care settings in Hadleigh engaging over 90 older residents .</p> <p>7. Working in partnership with Public health, the Health and Wellbeing team convened a Parental Mental Health Workshop on 18 October for stakeholder organisations in the Babergh and Mid Suffolk area. The team has also supported Lavenham to develop and launch their Dementia Action Alliance (DAA).</p>	
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<p>Impact on communities/ the way we work</p>	<p>Active Wellbeing is a bespoke approach to help people living in rural communities who are physically inactive, into more active lifestyles. The programme will also support the development of new activities, where they are needed, to help older people to become and stay, active. Active Wellbeing will initially work with GP surgeries in Long Melford and Lavenham.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.The Prostate Cancer Awareness event was well received by staff and feedback received demonstrated a positive impact. 2. As a result of the Women on Wheels events there has been an increase in the membership of local cycling clubs in Sudbury, Hadleigh and Boxford both of which now have a women’s section. More women cycling helps support our wider aim of helping more people to stay active. Some women and girls have also joined Sudbury and District Triathlon Club. 3. Community engagement for the Make, Do & Friends project started in September. It is working with older people including those living with dementia, and it is helping to reduce rural isolation and loneliness . 4. By developing a network of local dementia friends and engaging with local businesses, Lavenham Dementia Action Alliance is already making a positive impact. 5.The Council’s grant aid programme supports services and projects that benefit our communities and align with our strategic priorities. 	<p>The active wellbeing programme is supporting increasing numbers of older residents to improve their wellbeing by becoming active and reducing social isolation and loneliness.</p>	
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