

## Community Capacity Building and Engagement Portfolio Report

### 1. Health and Wellbeing

Much of the work of the team is captured in the Delivery Programme under the programme known as *Embedding Health and Wellbeing in all our Policies*.

This programme has 3 key elements:

- *Embedding health and wellbeing within service design, commissioning and delivery*
- *Mentally Healthy communities*
- *Place based working*

Information on these can be found on Connect (<https://suffolknet.sharepoint.com/sites/BMSDCDemo/communitycapacitybuildingandengagement/embeddinghealthandwellbeinginallourpolicies/SitePages/Home.aspx>)

#### Key highlights/issues over the last 3 months as follows:

- Work to develop a new Joint Leisure, Sport and Physical Activity Strategy and a Leisure Facilities Strategy is progressing well. Drafts of both documents will be discussed by Members at the Leisure Task and Finish Panel on Friday 17 March. All the information on this project can be accessed on Connect at <https://suffolknet.sharepoint.com/sites/connect/EnvironmentAndProjects/SitePages/Leisure%20Sport%20&%20Physical%20Activity.aspx>
- Following our response to the consultation last year the NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups in our area have decided to retender the **health outreach service for Marginalised and Vulnerable Adults** across the county. This is a very welcome development as the CCGs had originally been proposing to reduce the service to cover the Ipswich area only; meaning no provision in Babergh and Mid Suffolk. Two multiagency workshops have taken place to ensure that this new MVA service is as joined-up as possible with all the other public services in Suffolk that provide support for these vulnerable groups including our own homelessness prevention and financial inclusion teams – and we have been fully engaged in that process.
- Following a recent report to the Health and Wellbeing Board from Suffolk's district and borough Council, the Policy and Strategy (health and wellbeing) team have developed a proposal to introduce **Health Impact Assessments**. A health impact assessment (HIA) helps ensure that health and wellbeing are being properly considered in any new policy, programme or project particularly, in the district council context, in planning policies and development proposals. HIAs can be done at any stage in the development process, but are best done at the earliest stage possible. The process looks at the positive and negative impacts of a development as well as assessing the indirect implications for the wider community. The aim is to identify the main impacts and prompt discussion about the best ways of dealing with them to maximise the benefits and avoid any potential adverse impacts. This is achieved through evidence-based analysis of potential health and wellbeing impacts on different population groups, using research and community engagement.

The Assistant Director Communities and Public Access (Jonathan Free) is currently engaging the wider Leadership Team to determine how to proceed with this proposal with a view to piloting a HIA process later in the year.

- The Policy and Strategy (Health and Wellbeing) team have worked collaboratively with Supported Living (Housing) services to develop a business case for piloting a new way of working with our customers by establishing an **Early Help Delivery Team (EHDT)** within BDC and MSDC. Early Help aims to build upon the sterling work of the council's Financial Inclusion and Homeless prevention teams in support of the Suffolk Poverty strategy. The creation of an Early Help Delivery team within Supported Living would support our ambition to be more agile and is in line with the design principle of a smaller, smarter, swifter organisation. It also fits within our wider Public Access transformation by complementing our approach to managing demand through channel shift by providing more joined-up support for those unable to self-serve. The main role of the team would be to "triage" people (assess their level and urgency of need) and then offer the appropriate early help – this will require liaison both with other services internally and a range of external agencies including local Voluntary and Community organisations such as the CABs. The ambition is that the service would be tenure neutral and offered on the basis of need. The proposal is referenced in the draft HRA business plan but as yet no decision has been taken by Housing management as to whether or not to move forward with this proposal.
- Following the publication of *Suffolk Minds Matter* in February, the Council's Health and Wellbeing Board representative (Cllr Diana Kearsley) and Programme Office representative (Jonathan Seed) recently participated in a system workshop on Mental Health which had been convened by the Director of Public Health. The outcomes from the workshop will be used to review the Board's current mental health programme and shape the future approach to mental health in the county. These outcomes help to inform Mid Suffolk's own programme 'Mentally Healthy Communities' which will focus on raising organizational awareness of mental health issues and what services and support are available locally for people living with mental health conditions and their families. The Council continues to provide officer support and a small grant to cover administration costs to the Mid Suffolk VASP (our local Mental Health forum).
- The roll out of the Integrated Neighbourhood Teams across Suffolk is progressing well. INTs bring together community health and social care providers with other local statutory and voluntary sector services in a locality to help people to maintain healthy, independent lives. Mid Suffolk is covered by the Stowmarket, Eye & North West and Bury Rural Localities, each has a regular monthly partnership meeting attended by local practitioners. At present we are focussed on ensuring there is a district council voice on each INT and exploring the opportunities presented by this new locality based model of public service delivery. These include: ensuring our supported living (housing) services are recognised as part of an integrated service offer in each locality, the potential for co-location of some services/support, joining-up our efforts to build community capacity with others and ensuring health and care practitioners are informed about, and have confidence in referring patients to, what is available locally in the community (e.g. befriending schemes).

Discussion in Eye has focussed upon the option for better utilising Hartismere Hospital both as a potential site for colocation of staff from across the various agencies that make up the INT and as a hub for wider community activity in the locality. The Communities Team continue to support the Eye Partnership.

- The mini-walking festival in Stowmarket was launched at MEAL on Monday 6 March. *Let's Walk Stowmarket* will be held in the town between 6 March and 28 April. The Communities team have worked with partners to develop the walks which are designed to be fun and interactive. Bookings are through the local Tourist Information Centres (TICs) and the events will be supplemented by printed route cards so that people can revisit the walks and do them again and again. In terms of legacy, there will be a photographic exhibition of the festival at the MEAL and 'Stepping Out in Suffolk' (health walks) will provide an exit route for those looking to continue walking within a structured programme of support.
- The Policy and Strategy (Health and Wellbeing) team recently hosted a countywide workshop of the Being Well in the Wild (BWITW) partnership – to determine the future direction of this programme. BWITW has already successfully delivered a number of campaigns/projects to encourage greater use of Suffolk's natural environment and green spaces for health and mental wellbeing most notably the Fab 40 adventures <https://www.fab40suffolk.co.uk/> For further information on BWITW please contact Jonathan Seed or Emma Dixon (SCC)
- And finally, on 29 April, Communities and Public Realm staff will be partnering with 'Everyone Active' (our leisure operator) and the local community to hold a Family Fun event including a 'green gym' at Pikes Meadow.

## 2. News from the Grants Team.

Summary update on the work we are undertaking within the Communities Team on developing opportunities to utilise external funding to support the wide range of activity in our Mid Suffolk localities.

The BIG Lottery Awards figures below demonstrate the number of awards and total grant sum awarded during 2015-2016 to our communities. This breaks down to 11 Awards for Mid Suffolk with a value of just over £ 90,000.

### Big Lottery – Awards for All grants by Local Authority area (Suffolk)

1 April 2015 – 31 March 2016

LA area	Total Number of grants made	Total grant value
Babergh and Mid Suffolk	21	£172,785
Suffolk Coastal and Waveney	19	£157,895
Ipswich	17	£142,541
St Edmundsbury and Forest Heath	16	£135,163
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>£608,384</b>

- Awards for All grants £200-£10,000

Below are the figures to give an overview of a small snapshot of other funding secured. These are as follows:

The Geoffrey Burton Charitable Trust	2014-2015	£ 4,550
	2015-2016	£11,000
Suffolk Historic Churches	2014-2015	£ 38,000
	2015-2016	£ 87,829
Suffolk Community Foundation	2014-2015	£ 147,271
	2015-2016	£ 173,377

For further information, contact Sue Clements and Gillian Hilder.

On Saturday 13 March Sue Clements, Gillian Hilder, Cllr Lavinia Hadingham and Cllr Julie Flatman attended the opening of the newly extended and refurbished Metfield Village Hall, with our help they secured lottery funding and Mid Suffolk District Council has also awarded a Community Capital Grant of £23,203.

The official opening of the new Westhorpe Village Hall – 25 March

Many members have also seen the success of the grant team's work in their own wards on a variety of projects including village halls, community shops and play areas.

### **3. Supporting our younger generation**

'The Mix based in Stowmarket is a young people's charity focused on providing support, advice, guidance and activities for anyone young person in school year 7 to year 12, and for people with additional needs up to the age of 24. The Mix is a newly emerging charity, just over two and half years old, and we are currently supporting the Open Access Evening Offer for 3 nights per week through the Mid Suffolk Revenue Grant Programme. Our support also includes helping the charity with business planning, developing their income generation aspirations and the commercial arm of their work.' For further information, contact Sue Clements.

### **4. Mid Suffolk – Health & Wellbeing, Sport and Physical Activity achievements:**

- Men's Tour – Mid Suffolk – links to local cycling club – part funded by MSDC
- Women's Tour – set up of Women on Wheels project at Debenham
- New Age Kurling – set up with Activ Lives
- Bowls – set up with Activ Lives
- Stowmarket Year of Walking Event – Mini walking festival set up with Everyone Active/MSDC launched 6 March
- Friends of Pikes Meadow event – working with Public Realm colleagues to put on an event for the housing estate to promote walking/cycling and use of the outdoor green gym
- Chair Based Exercise/Otago – set up in sheltered housing schemes in Mid Suffolk – with Age UK partnership and Mid Suffolk Funding
- Fit Villages projects in Mid Suffolk x 14 – set up with local parishes/clubs and Suffolk Sport – various activities including Tai Chi, Pilates, Yoga, Dance, Bowls, Nordic walking

- Great Run Local – Needham Lakes – set up with local volunteers/athletics coach and funding from SCC and MSDC – now the most successful event of its type in the UK!
- Workplace Challenge – Mid Suffolk – various staff incentives including setting up corporate memberships for staff at Needham Gym and Fitness and Everyone active free swimming
- Stowmarket Dementia Action Alliance – new Livewell class at Mid Suffolk Leisure Centre for those living with dementia and their carers – set up with Stow DAA/MSLC
- Health Walks programme – dedicated walks in Mid Suffolk area – working with Onelife Suffolk and Thornham Walks and local walk leaders/volunteers
- Public Realm holiday activities – set up with countryside with rangers
- Debenham Leisure Centre – Children’s holiday activities – donation of sports equipment
- Stradbroke Pool - Children’s holiday activities – donation of sports equipment
- Mid Suffolk Leisure Centre - Children’s holiday activities – donation of sports equipment

## **5. Other Activities**

- Suffolk Walking Festival – supporting the annual event – providing one walk in both districts as part of the event at Alton Water and Needham Lake.
- Being Well in the Wild Project – support to event with Emma Dixon at SCC – Suffolk Fab 40 project
- Working on looking at what physical activity initiatives are happening in and around our villages/towns – looking to produce an online directory of activities and link to a database. There is a lot happening that we don’t necessarily get to hear about but can and does have an impact on the local areas. This document will be useful to local partners i.e. Suffolk Sport Active well campaign for mapping purposes/VASP
- Funding/Grant support for local clubs to expand facilities – Suffolk Sport Fit villages projects have often led to additional funding for villages to improve facilities which assist with the sustainability of the activities.
- Supporting Public Health pilot in Stowmarket with Liam Hughes/Becky Coombs and Stow Health Centre – support by providing directory of activities locally for exit routes/signposting
- Sportivate projects – Boxing, wall climbing, water polo
- Get Back into – Netball
- Support offered to sports clubs to help them make use of their facilities in down times and daytime use for local activities to take place to encourage physical activity.

Julie Flatman