

# ALDENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

## Council Document

To review the Hertsmere Community Strategy

## AGENDA item 8

Full Council Meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024

### Background

Hertsmere Borough Council (HBC), through the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) of which APC represents the town and parish councils in the borough, set up the 'Our Community Strategy' for the borough in 2023.

The Hertsmere Together's Community Strategy aims to:

- provide a long-term vision for the future of Hertsmere
- provide a means of joining-up local services and improving partnership working
- reflect Hertsmere's needs and aspirations
- identify gaps in the provision of local services
- provide a means of tackling difficult issues
- provide a means of identifying resources to address the needs of Hertsmere

At its meeting in July 2024, the HBC reported on three challenges facing the borough. I attach the report for your information (appendix 1). This shows HBC progress on the following priorities.

### 1. Keeping our communities healthy and well

Priorities:

- Reduce Health Inequalities
- Provide support for those most vulnerable in Hertsmere
- Improve mental health and emotional wellbeing
- Enhance our environment and increase the use of green spaces

### 2. Keeping our communities safe

Priorities:

- Support and protect vulnerable victims of exploitation
- Identify and prevent serious violence, with a specific focus on knife crime and young people
- Prevent Violence Against Women and Girls
- Work in partnership to support and promote local services that provide a holistic approach to community wellbeing
- To reduce the harm caused by drugs within communities
- Increase feelings of safety and public confidence by reducing anti-social behaviour, provide early interventions and reassurance

messages

### 3. Building a resilient community.

Priorities:

- Support and empower people to have a good start in life and age well
- Develop volunteering, social enterprise and business opportunities
- Provide accessible opportunities for skills development and financial advice
- Ensure a healthy standard of living for all and prevent homelessness

All members of the LSP were asked to report on their progress under these headings.

### Recommendations

That APC respond as follows;

- a) APC have concentrated mainly on the first areas by providing good quality open space including;
  - Well maintained open space, including one Green Flag accredited park at Phillimore Rec
  - Improved Children's Play Area at Phillimore Rec with many new accessible equipment added.
  - Creation of wildflower meadows
  - Hanging baskets in the High Street, as well as planted flower beds and flowers at The Radlett Centre.
  - Hosting of events such as???
- b) On point b, APC have
  - Extended the hours of the outreach offer from Citizens Advice at the Radlett Centre to one day a week
  - Continued to support the Community Policing Team by providing a base for them at Phillimore Recreation Ground.
  - Promotion of community safety events through website, social media and on noticeboards.
- c) On point c, APC have
  - ongoing financial support community, voluntary groups and organisations to provide a range of community services for residents. We've also continued to support and promote a range of support services in the community.

### Reasons for recommendation

That APC send these updates to HBC.

Members are asked to consider this report.

Peter Evans (Council Manager)

<b>Challenge 1: Keeping our Community Healthy and Well</b>			
<b>Priority</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Q4 Updates</b>
Reduce health inequalities in Hertsmere	Raise awareness of the signs and symptoms of cancer. Encourage residents to take up screening invites.	Hertsmere Borough Council	HBC organised a successful Health and Cancer Awareness Event in Potters Bar in October 2023. The event was attended by over 150 residents.
			The project team onboarded Theobald Medical Centre to the project.
			By the end of Q3 just under 2000 women had been booked in for cervical screening and just under 300 women had been booked in for breast screening.
	Lead and develop the NHS Integrated Neighbourhood Teams. The Complex Mental Health work will target those with severe mental illness and learning disabilitiespatients who live within the three most deprived electoral wards (Bushey North, Oakmere and Cowley Hill) to attend and complete annual LD and SMI health checks – non-responders. A secondary outcome is to improve early cancer prevention as we know cancer outcomes are poor within this cohort.	Herts 5 and Potters Bar Primary Care Networks	Monthly working group meetings to review the project plan, data analysis, project implementation and outcomes.
	Work in partnership with the voluntary sector to raise awareness of key health conditions in the borough.	Communities 1 <sup>st</sup> / All	We have conducted Cancer, Respiratory and Hypertension/ Cardiovascular Awareness/Support for Wellbeing (MH) events with

			<b>800+ individuals in attendance. 180 blood pressure checks</b> carried out at the Cardiovascular event. <b>212 attendees</b> at our most recent event on Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February
	Support the development of the NHS Urgent Care Provision in the Borough.	Herts and West Essex Integrated Care Board	Funding is being made available to provide same day bookable urgent care hubs for primary care in Borehamwood and Potters Bar, from April 2024. This will allow patients to be seen closer to home in a timely manner.
	Support and promote local community events such as Back2Bowls, Computers and a Cuppa	LSP	Details of community events are included in newsletters and in regular communications from the Council.
Provide support for those most vulnerable in Hertsmere	Raise awareness of initiatives aimed at reducing social isolation	LSP	Partners have been signposting to community spaces in the winter months.
	Promote the local support services, such as the Community Hub, and associated outreach events, community car scheme and the shopper bus.	Communities 1 <sup>st</sup>	A range of in depth, face-to-face (staff & volunteers), online (website) and email (newsletters), engagement at regular pop up hubs takes place promoting access to these throughout every week. Word of mouth also

			plays a strong role in directing people to these and the quality of service others have received has been driving new custom our way.
	Provide signposting, advice and referrals to vulnerable residents across the borough	LSP	HBC have been regularly sharing details about the financial support available for residents.
	Working across the system to ensure that those with learning disabilities are supported and can access appropriate services	LSP	Members of the LSP are involved in the INT project, which will seek to improve access to health services for those with LD.
Improve mental health and emotional wellbeing	Raise awareness of the Community Support Service, which supports those with complex needs	LSP	During Q3, the CSS saw 54 clients.
	Raise awareness of the services available at the Hertfordshire Family Centres	LSP	Members of the LSP regularly share information about activities taking place at Hertsmere's Family Centres.
	Raise awareness of peer-to-peer support groups	Communities 1 <sup>st</sup>	We have a well attended weekly group for men to meet for conversation, social and peer support taking place in Windsor Hall on Tuesdays. Regular Creative Cafes
Enhance our environments and increase the use of	Raise awareness of the Hertfordshire Health Walks	LSP	Details of Health Walks included in all newsletters. HBC have supported with

green space			the training of new volunteers.
	Promote our 8 Green Flag Award winning parks	LSP	Details have been included in all newsletters.
	Promote community events such as community gardening clubs and litter picks	Communities 1 <sup>st</sup>	Details have been included in newsletters by LSP Members. Details in regular newsletters and on social media. Specific promotion of gardening project at Aberford for Feel Good Week

**Challenge 2: Keeping our communities safe – COVERED BY CSP ACTION PLAN**

<b>Challenge 3: Building Resilient Community</b>			
<b>Priority</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Q3 Updates</b>
Support and empower people to have a good start in life and age well	Work in partnership to support and promote local services which provide a holistic approach to community wellbeing	LSP	Attend local partnership meetings so we do not create overlap and are able to promote each others activities and provide support for each other
	Promote, signpost and refer into Hertsmere's Healthy Hubs	Hertsmere Borough Council	Monthly Newsletter detailing HH activity including pop up clinics. Additional services added to the offer this quarter including, a Stop Smoking Clinic and NHS Health Checks from the Hub on Leeming Road.

			The Healthy Hub attended a number of partner events including the Family Centres Baby Fair, the Older Person's Advice, Learning and Safety event and the Our Health Matters Event.
	Working in partnership to promote age-friendly communities	LSP	HBC Officers are actively engaged with the development of Hertfordshire Dementia Friendly Communities/Accreditation.
			HBC organised a well attended Older Person's Advice Learning and Safety Event at Borehamwood and Elstree Synagogue
Develop volunteering, social enterprise and business opportunities	Support capacity building within the Voluntary and Community Sector, including training courses, Stronger Together Networks and VCS Membership.	Communities 1 <sup>st</sup> / Hertsmere Borough Council	Both training sessions and Meet The Funder (MTF) sessions have been offered monthly, including a MTF with The National Lottery for organisations working in Cowley Hill in Oct. Developed more Stronger Together Networks and they have been increased from quarterly to five times per year. Offering in person and online and virtual training sessions to Member organisations
	Support and promote the Centre for Voluntary Services and local volunteering opportunities	LSP	

Better Business – promoting partnership working between local businesses and the VCFSE sector.	Communities 1 <sup>st</sup>	Working with local business and schools. Arranged 2 Employer Supported Volunteering (ESV) events with local business (June and October) to support local charities.
Work in partnership to promote LEP projects funded by the UKSPF, including employment programmes and associated support	Hertsmere Borough Council/Wenta	<p>5 Local Enterprise Partnership projects are being delivered across the County as part of UKSPF, these projects support businesses and employers. 2 projects are due to start in April 2024, these projects are focused on employment support.</p> <p>Wenta are working with the LEP, Growth Hub, Visit Herts and Hertsmere council to deliver the UKSPF start up programme across Hertsmere.</p> <p>Wenta have attended a number of local business events to promote the partnerships and the support available to businesses. Wenta have also jointly run bespoke events in partnership with the Growth Hub and the LEP.</p>



			social media and through our newsletters.
	Raise awareness of the Supported Employment programme, which empowers and supports individuals with disabilities to find suitable employment opportunities.	Communities 1 <sup>st</sup>	Building stronger relationships with local Hertsmere partners to promote Able2Enable (Supported Employment and Supported Volunteering) and FutureFocus (Employment Support).
	Work in partnership to promote the financial advice and support offered by Citizens Advice	Citizens Advice/LSP	Meetings with the LSP working group to: - 1 Raise awareness of wrap around support available for residents to become work ready. 2 Develop a shared information resource of work-related support. 3. Advice on managing debt and financial capability.
Ensure a healthy standard of living for all and prevent homelessness	Work in partnership to support UKSPF projects such as Community Centre Development/Borehamwood Town Centre Package/Development of the Creative Strategy/Creative Business Network	Hertsmere Borough Council	Improvement works have been completed, the Town Centre Partnership launch event is due in March. An officer has been employed who will lead on this project and will also lead on the Creative Business Partnership.

	Raise awareness of the opportunity for self-employment for local residents	Wenta	<p>Wenta have delivered 35 1:1 sessions to the Hertsmere business community, increasing confidence, well being and quality of life.</p> <p>This quarter business starts and jobs created have increased by 75% from the last quarter. This has resulted in £625k of GVA.</p>
	Raise awareness of skills training opportunities for residents' businesses	Wenta	53 hours of skills training has been delivered across Hertsmere to the business community. This is increasing knowledge and confidence, empowering residents to take the leap into starting a business.
	Work in partnership with business to improve sustainability	Wenta	Wenta have engaged with 59 business to improve their sustainability. 6 of these clients are measuring their carbon footprints and taking steps to make reductions.
Provide accessible opportunities for skills development and financial advice	Support and promote services such as Step2Skills, Money Advice Unit and other county-wide services	LSP	
	Raise awareness of the Multiply Training offer, which provides free adult numeracy courses	Communities 1 <sup>st</sup>	Promoting Multiply throughout Hertsmere at our 14 Hubs and at various events including baby fairs and health events. As well as promoting to local groups on