



St Edmundsbury  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

# E129

## Council 30 September 2013

### CABINET MEMBER REPORT TO FULL COUNCIL

#### ***Report by Cllr Sara Mildmay-White Deputy Leader***

**Portfolio includes:**

- Health and Wellbeing
- Sport

#### **1. *Health and Wellbeing***

- 1.1 I am coming to the end of my year as the West Suffolk representative on the Health and Wellbeing Board and Forest Heath District Councillor Hirst will take up that role for the year starting 1 September 2013. For the first part of my year the focus was on preparing for the 1 April 2013 move from meeting in shadow form to become a full statutory board. An important part of those preparations was the preparation of the Suffolk Health and Wellbeing Strategy which sets out the aspirations of the Board. The Strategy was formally adopted at the June Board meeting. Now comes the important practical work of translating the strategy into an action plan which will deliver real change. Each District Council representative has acted as the lead for the preparation of the action plan for one of the themes. I have been working with an officer from Suffolk County Council on the action plan to deliver the 'Ageing Well' theme. I have taken the opportunity to ensure that there is a focus on preventative work and addressing the social isolation of older people, something which the whole community can contribute to.
- 1.2 With Councillor Hirst, I also convened a meeting with the West Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board to understand where the Council can best focus its efforts to help deliver the strategy. Physical activity came through as an obvious area in which districts already make a significant contribution, and where we could seek to make more impact – whether this is formal physical activity or the use of open space for leisure and recreation. I was also interested to learn that next year the CCG will have a transformation fund of over £2m and am keen that officers identify schemes which could be developed in order to bid for some of this funding.

- 1.3 I was pleased to hear of the success of a recent Diabetes Awareness event held at Tesco in Haverhill on 23 August 2013 with staff from Diabetes UK and the East of England Ambulance Service. The event gave shoppers the opportunity to have health screening for Type2 Diabetes and high blood pressure. 27 people were screened and four were given an onward referral to their GP. As well as those taking the opportunity to be screened, many others were given a leaflet advising on how to spot the symptoms of the disease and what steps they can take now to reduce the chance of contracting it. Matthew Hancock MP came along and took the simple test and commented on what a good idea it was to take this service out in to the community.

## **2. Sport**

### **2.1 Victory Ground Facilities Project**

- 2.1.1 The new Victory Ground facilities are making excellent progress. These facilities, funded by South Lee School and the English Cricket Board, grant aided by the Council and made possible by the Community Asset transfer of the Victory Ground, will be completed this winter. The excellent new facilities will be available for community use with particular emphasis on encouraging club use.

### **2.2 Haverhill All Weather Pitch refurbishment and upgrade**

- 2.2.1 We will be upgrading the well-used artificial surface at Haverhill Leisure Centre in spring 2014. This is part of our asset management programme and is being funded from with existing budgets.
- 2.2.2 Further information about the Bury Community Football Project will be reported in due course.

## **3. Abbeycroft Leisure**

### **3.1 Summer Holiday Camps**

- 3.1.1 This summer saw the most successful school holiday operated by Abbeycroft Leisure generating a total of 3,326 attendances across the borough at a variety of venues including Bury St Edmunds Leisure Centre, Haverhill Leisure Centre, West Stow, and East Town Park in Haverhill. This was an increase of 28.41% from last year.
- 3.1.2 Children took part in a wide array of sport and activities, including new sessions with the climbing wall, Explore Outdoor sessions, trips to Frankie and Benny's for a pizza making workshop, and archery.
- 3.1.3 The feedback from customers attending has been very positive including a letter written to the Bury Free Press from one parent about how pleased she was with the service.