
Council



St Edmundsbury
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Title of Report:	Report by Cllr Sara Mildmay-White Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Health and Communities	
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Portfolio includes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health and Wellbeing• Bury St Edmunds• Community Safety• Youth Provision/Children and Young People• Community Development• Third Sector/Localism• Equalities• CCTV• Emergency Planning	

1. Health and Wellbeing

- 1.1 Since September this year I have been the West Suffolk councils' representative on the Suffolk Health and Wellbeing Board, taking over from Cllr Warwick Hirst at Forest Heath. In October, Cllr Alan Murray took over as Chair of the Board. Cllr Murray is also the County Council Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Care, so this will help to ensure co-ordination between the councils and health authorities.

The Board has continued to work towards delivering its priorities which are: (i) every child in Suffolk has the best start in life; (ii) healthy environment; (iii) older people in Suffolk have a good quality of life and (iv) improving mental health and wellbeing. Key issues explored at the last Board meeting include the development of an integrated service pilot in Sudbury (GPs, social workers and other agencies working together); the bid for £50 million funding from the Better Care fund; and an overview of the recently published Suffolk Public Health report. This report finds, amongst other issues, that 20% of children are obese by age four, and 30% by age 10 and 11. This obesity adds to long term complications, such as type two diabetes. As councils we must ensure that our children have an understanding of the importance of an active and healthy lifestyle.

- 1.2 In November the first West Suffolk Health and Wellbeing Forum took place. This forum has operated in Forest Heath for more than 10 years and has been extended to include St Edmundsbury. The forum meets three times a year and will rotate around Forest Heath and St Edmundsbury bringing together a wealth of health knowledge and experience across the two areas. It will be continuing to work towards ensuring that good quality health and social care services are provided in the area. At the Forum it was agreed that the forum would concentrate on a theme each meeting; Obesity, Mental Health, Dementia and Falls prevention, have all been identified as potential topics for the future. Live Well Suffolk and Suffolk Family Carers gave informative presentations on their services and Cllr David Bimson gave an update of Care UK and the closing of Mildenhall lodge, which has led to the delay of the opening of the Cleves Place, Haverhill, which has been postponed for three months to March 2015.
- 1.3 A new grant scheme encouraging people to get active and enjoy Suffolk's natural environment was announced by Suffolk's Public Health team. 'Getting Suffolk Moving' is a £100,000 budget to which the county's voluntary groups and community organisations can apply to fund projects to promote walking, gardening, volunteering, swimming and anything else that boosts physical activity in the outdoors. The scheme is open to bids via Suffolk Community Foundation, of up to £5,000, but larger amounts may be considered where projects can demonstrate exceptional contributions to increase daily activity. This closes on the 2 February 2015 and councillors are encouraged to raise awareness of this scheme amongst community and voluntary groups.
- 1.4 I attended the Council of Governors of West Suffolk Hospital Trust meeting on 13 November 2014. This was the first meeting for the new Chief Executive, Steven Dunn. The Secretary of State for Health, Jeremy Hunt, has launched a new patient safety programme. There will be a network of 15 Patient Safety Collaboratives to focus on improving safety and empowering patients, carers and staff. Their remit will be to highlight, challenge and implement local improvements in patient care. Each collaborative will be funded for the next five years by NHS England.

Locally, WSHT has a new £2.1 million project to further improve the MRI service for patients including the installation of a second machine and refurbishment of the existing scanner. Demand for MRI scans has risen by more than 60% over the past 5 years and the department are now scanning more than 10,000 patients every year.

This month WSHT welcomed 20 registered nurses from Portugal and active nurse recruitment continues. There are two documents I would recommend councillors to read if interested in health issues;

- NHS Five Year Forward View
- Director of Public Health, Suffolk County Council annual report: Start here: an early years compendium for Suffolk

2. Community Centre Transfers

2.1 Westbury Community Centre

The transfer continues to progress toward the completion date of April 2015. Staff are working hard with the Trustees of the organisation to ensure that the centre is in the best possible position for the future.

2.2 Newbury Community Centre

In the New Year a Feasibility Study will be commissioned that will consider the various options on the site that is available for redevelopment. I look forward to bringing further news on this exciting project as it develops.

2.3 Chalkstone Community Centre

The River of Life Church is currently in negotiations regarding the transfer of the Chalkstone Community Centre in Haverhill. The consultation with local residents of Chalkstone estate, existing customers, community groups and local members will take place in December. It is anticipated that the centre will be transferred by the summer 2015.

3. **Youth development**

3.1 Since my last portfolio holder report, we have seen the 16th BurySOUND event. BurySOUND is East Anglia's most well known battle of the bands competition, endeavouring every year to uncover and promote some of the best up and coming young bands. Twelve bands played over three heats at the Hunter Club, Bury St Edmunds and the judges five favourites went through to the final held at the Apex. The final of BurySOUND was attended by over 300 people at the Apex and received some positive national radio coverage this year. All of the artists were said to have performed exceptionally well, with this year's winners being The Virtues rock band from West Suffolk.

3.2 The On the Spot Outreach service in Haverhill continues to operate delivered by our partners, Suffolk YMCA. The service is continually achieving high numbers; up to 60 young people per night especially on Friday evening.

4. **Community Safety**

4.1 Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 - Reform of Anti-social Behaviour powers

The Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 came into force in October 2014. The Act has streamlined existing tools and powers to make them easier to use and has extended the statutory partners who are able to enforce them. It also includes two new measures which are designed to provide victims and communities a say in the way anti-social behaviour is dealt with:

- The 'community trigger' provides the victim the ability to demand action, starting with a review of their case, where the locally defined threshold is met.
- The 'community remedy' provides victims a say in the out of court punishment of perpetrators for low level crime and anti-social-behaviour. This remedy is only available to the Police.

The community trigger provides victims and communities the right to request a review of their case and bring agencies together to take a joined up, problem solving approach to find a solution. Anyone who feels that they are affected by anti-social behaviour will be able to use the community trigger to request a review of their case if they feel that agencies have not taken action in respect of their complaint.

The legislation allows for a locally defined threshold which cases will need to meet in order to activate the trigger. There has been wide consultation across Suffolk with other districts and boroughs, the Police and the Police and Crime Commissioner, in order to determine a common trigger across Suffolk.

The community trigger can be requested if:

- an individual (or community) has reported an antisocial behaviour issue or concern to the council, Police and/or registered housing provider (social landlord) on three separate occasions relating to that same ASB issue and or concern;
- in the last six months and an individual or community requests a review of that process;
- the issue or concern affects more than five households or business premises.

More information regarding the community trigger is available at:

http://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/community/crime_and_safety/antisocialbehaviourandnuisance.cfm

- 4.2 In my previous report to Full Council I noted that the Western Suffolk Community Safety Partnership requested to hear directly from the community about the community safety issues which concern them and are prepared to help to address. At its meeting in October, two community projects from Forest Heath were nominated, one was accepted for support and the other was signposted as to where they could get support. In both these cases members of the community were concerned with aspects of safety and wanted to own and solve the issue. Elected members are central to this new way of working; as community leaders you are in an excellent position to hear exactly what the community safety concerns are in your areas and how the community can assist in resolving them.

5. **Neighbourhood working and locality budgets**

- 5.1 As at the end of November, 68 applications had been supported with £33,183.68 allocated to a wide range of community activities. The average payment currently stands at £488 per project with nearly 30% of the allocated annual budget of £112,500.00 being committed so far this year.