



East Suffolk
Community
Partnerships
Bringing ideas to life

Community Partnership Board

Monday, 7 December 2020 at 6.00pm

Venue: Remote Meeting via Zoom

The meeting will be facilitated using the Zoom video conferencing system and broadcast for the public to view via the East Suffolk Council YouTube channel at <https://youtu.be/6Rd1KqjNy7s>

		Pages
1	Apologies for Absence To receive apologies for absence, if any.	
2	Minutes To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the Community Partnership Board meeting held on 7 September 2020.	1 - 11
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8	Future Work Plan Steve Gallant	

9	Dates of Next Meetings The following Mondays are being proposed: 1 March, 7 June, 6 September and 6 December 2021.	
10	Any Other Business	

Unconfirmed



Minutes of a Meeting of the **Community Partnership Board** held via Zoom
on Monday, 7 September 2020 at 6.00pm

Members of the Community Partnership Board present:

Steve Gallant (Chairman of the Community Partnership Board and Leader of East Suffolk Council),
Chris Abraham (Chief Executive of Community Action Suffolk (CAS)),
Paul Ashdown (Chairman of the Lowestoft and Northern Parishes Community Partnership),
Chris Blundell (Chairman of the Kesgrave, Rushmere St Andrew, Martlesham, Carlford and Fynn Valley Community Partnership),
Jenny Ceresa (Chairman of the Carlton Colville, Kessingland, Southwold and Villages Community Partnership),
Judy Cloke (Chairman of the Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and Villages Community Partnership),
Tony Cooper (Chairman of the Aldeburgh, Leiston, Saxmundham and Villages Community Partnership),
Kerry Cutler (Superintendent and Southern Area Commander for Suffolk Constabulary),
Louise Hardwick (NHS Ipswich and East Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group),
Susan Harvey (Member of the Greenprint Forum),
Mark Jepson (Chairman of the Felixstowe Peninsula Community Partnership),
Michael Ladd (Suffolk County Councillor for the Kessingland and Southwold Division),
Tom McGarry (Head of Stakeholder Engagement for EDF Energy),
Carol Poulter (Chairman of the Framlingham, Wickham Market and Villages Community Partnership),
Russ Rainger (Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SALC))
Stephen Singleton (Chief Executive for the Suffolk Community Foundation),
Letitia Smith (East Suffolk Council Cabinet Member for Communities, Leisure and Tourism),

Others present:

Andy Cuthbertson (Communities and VSC Lead for Suffolk County Council),
Matt Makin (Democratic Services Officer, East Suffolk Council),
Luke Bennett (Partnerships Manager, East Suffolk Council),
Nick Khan (Strategic Director, East Suffolk Council),
Ben Porter (Funding Manager, East Suffolk Council),
Nicole Rickard (Head of Communities, East Suffolk Council and NHS Norfolk & Waveney / Ipswich & East Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Groups), and
Nicola Wotton (Deputy Democratic Services Manager, East Suffolk Council).

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Tim Passmore (Police and Crime Commissioner for Suffolk), Lisa Perkins (Vice Chairman of the Community Partnership

Board and Realisation Director for British Telecom), Paul Sharp (Superintendent and East Suffolk Policing Commander), Paul West (Cabinet Member for Ipswich, Communities and Waste, Suffolk County Council), and Roger Wright (Chief Executive, Britten Pears Arts).

Apologies for lateness were received from Kerry Cutler (Superintendent and Southern Area Commander for Suffolk Constabulary), as she was dealing with a serious incident which had occurred earlier in the day.

N.B. Kerry Cutler joined the meeting at 6.47pm.

Steve Gallant reminded everyone that the meeting was being broadcast live to the other Members of the Council, via the East Suffolk Council YouTube channel, however the recording was not available for the public to view.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Steve Gallant presented the Minutes from the last meeting of the Board, which was held on 23 June 2020 and, by consensus, those present confirmed that the minutes were a true record.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes from the Board Meeting held on 23 June 2020 be approved as a true record.

3. Feedback from the Task and Finish Group

Steve Gallant invited Stephen Singleton to give an update on the work of the Task and Finish Group.

Stephen Singleton reminded those present that the Board had previously agreed that it would focus upon the following 3 priorities:

- Social Isolation and Loneliness
- Sustaining Community Hubs and Community Resilience
- Supporting the most Vulnerable Communities and People.

The Task and Finish Group was comprised of Stephen Singleton (Chair), Chris Abraham, Mark Jepson, Michael Ladd, Tom McGarry, Lisa Perkins, Letitia Smith and Louise Hardwick.

The Task and Finish Group met on 4 August 2020 and those present focussed upon the context, challenges and what was already happening in East Suffolk to address these issues. They then agreed some specific actions against each theme. It was noted that for four of these actions, Outcome Proposals had been created, which requested

investment by the Board from its 2020/21 funding allocation of £300,000. The Outcome Proposals were attached as appendices to the report, for completeness.

After due consideration, a number of actions were created, for the consideration of and approval by the Board. They are as follows:

Priority 1: Social Isolation and Loneliness

Action 1 – Councillor Smith introduced the proposal to invest £50,000 additional funding in the Hidden Needs grant programme aimed at tackling Social isolation and Loneliness in identified hot spot areas. (See Appendix One for the Outcome Proposal 1 relating to this action).

Action 2 – Louise Hardwick introduced the proposal to fund 25 additional Grandpads (or BT equivalent) to enable people with limited resources and no IT equipment/Wi-Fi to get connected (particularly in the north of the District) – cost £25,000. (See Appendix Two for the Outcome Proposal 2 relating to this action).

Action 3 - Hold a focus group with our Community response groups to identify what interventions have worked best to support those who are isolated and lonely and expand/sustain these groups (no direct cost but links to Action 5).

Action 4 – Consider how the funding proposal from Student Life for a Mental Health First Aid programme in schools fits with existing initiatives in each CCG area e.g. a new Clinical Psychology model being piloted in the west and the VCS Vision and Voice approach in the east, to ensure that there was no risk of duplication and confusion in schools.

Priority 2: Sustaining Community Hubs/Community Resilience

Action 5 – Councillor Smith introduced the proposal to invest £100,000 of funding in a new East Suffolk VCSE Bounce Back Fund. Focus on four themes:

- helping local VCSE organisations and community groups to survive and thrive in a new context e.g. funding for infrastructure (e.g. a phone tree or CRM system for a new Good Neighbour Scheme), promotion, adaptation, or other costs
- helping local community buildings to reopen and resume enabling community activities safely e.g. for signage, PPE, disposable plates, and cutlery
- helping youth organisations, groups, and clubs to adapt their activities and continue to support the mental and physical health and wellbeing of young people
- helping organisations who involve volunteers to thrive and grow in line with the volunteering strategy and campaign. (See Appendix Three for the Outcome Proposal 3 relating to this action).

Action 6 – Chris Abraham introduced the proposal to allocate £5,000 of funding for a specific East Suffolk Volunteering Campaign (linked to, and building upon, the Suffolk campaign) to help people to get into volunteering as a pathway back into work, retain new Covid-19 volunteers by offering them additional volunteering opportunities and support existing volunteers to continue in a new context. District-wide campaign but with a specific focus on areas such as Lowestoft where volunteer numbers are low. (See Appendix Four for the Outcome Proposal 4 relating to this action).

Priority 3: Supporting the most vulnerable people and communities

Action 6 - Work with the key Covid-19 response groups in East Suffolk to develop a place focussed approach to Hardship and Food Poverty and scope out any additional resources required.

Action 7 – Task and Finish Group to meet again between the September and December Board meetings in order to develop proposals around this theme for the December Board meeting. It was felt that further work is needed to understand current/planned initiatives and, specifically, any gaps in East Suffolk. The Group was keen to explore supporting people to retrain and develop new skills, stimulating Apprenticeships, equalities impacts and money management support and felt that actions may well need to be place specific as some areas of the District are likely to be impacted more than others.

Action 8 – the Group considered a proposal from the ESC Economic Development Team to encourage people, particularly those shielding and most vulnerable to feel safe in using their town centres again (total cost £19,000) through a Shop Local Safely campaign. Whilst supportive of the principle of opening up town centres again, particularly to vulnerable people, it was felt that there was a lot of material already out there and this may duplicate other initiatives e.g. Safe Places and the LEP two-day campaign. It was agreed to work with the Team to scope this out further and bring a proposal back to the Task and Finish Group when it meets to consider vulnerability.

It was noted that the total amount of funding to be allocated was £180,853 and that the Task and Finish Group were due to meet again in October.

Louise Hardwick mentioned that an additional £25,000 of funding from the CCG would be available to purchase some additional grandpads, which was extremely positive. It was noted that the grandpads which had already been issued had been very well received and had proved to be very popular. They enabled older people who had not used the internet before to attend virtual medical appointments, online shopping and to keep in touch with friends and family. The grandpads were simple, secure and did not need wifi or broadband.

Councillor Blundell commented that he was very interested in the grandpads and was keen to learn more. Louise Hardwick confirmed that they were easy to use, with large icons and a demonstration could be provided if requested. Steve Gallant commented that grandpads could be bought on the open market and were currently leased on a short term contract. It was hoped that people would enjoy the benefits of the grandpads and would become more technologically able, so that they would want to progress and buy their own equipment, once they had gained confidence on how to use them. The grandpads could then be returned to the Council and then be re-issued to someone else. Louise Hardwick commented that there was 24/7 help available, should people have trouble using the grandpads and they had proven to be really beneficial. Andy Cuthburton commented that he felt it was the online skills that were the problem in getting older people online, not a lack of kit. He was very pleased that there was 24/7 support available.

Councillor Cloke queried if there was any means testing or criteria for being lent a grandpad? Nicole Rickard clarified that there was no means testing, however criteria would be introduced to make sure that recipients were permanent residents in the

District in future. It was noted that a demonstration of the grandpads could be provided for the Board members. Nick Khan added that some statistics on the grandpads usage could be provided outside of the meeting, if needed and there had been significant demand for the grandpads, once it was known that they were available on loan.

Councillor Ashdown asked if the grandpads would work in areas with poor signal? It was reported that grandpads would work in most areas. They used a sim card to get signal and there had been no issues or concerns so far. It was noted that the IT team could help if any grandpad users needed assistance with boosters etc due to poor signal.

Clarification was provided that should any Councillors know of any constituents who would benefit from a grandpad, they should inform their Communities Officers and they would be able to assist.

There being no further questions, those present confirmed their support for the proposals and it was unanimously

RESOLVED

- a) That the Board approves the proposed funding allocation set out below and in more detail in the Outcome Proposals attached as Appendices 1-4 to the report:

Hidden Needs Grants Programme	£50,000
Purchase of additional Grandpads	£25,000
East Suffolk VCSE 'Bounce Back' Fund	£100,000
East Suffolk Volunteering Campaign	£5,853
TOTAL	£180,853

- b) That the Task and Finish Group should meet again prior to its December meeting, with a particular focus on Theme 3 'Vulnerable People and Places' in order to develop outcome proposals for consideration at the next Board meeting.

N.B. Superintendent Kerry Cutler arrived during the discussion on this item at 6.47 pm.

4. Transport

Steve Gallant reminded that Transport had been identified as one of two key priorities for the East Suffolk Community Partnerships and Community Partnership Board (alongside Social Isolation and Loneliness). The Community Partnerships have identified many dimensions to the transport priority – for example connectivity, green vehicles, walking and cycling, community transport and alternative forms of transport provision.

At its meeting in March the Board had agreed that transport would be one of its priorities and proposed that an East Suffolk transport workshop/hothouse event be held in May/June to further define the issue, clarify the priorities, and identify specific gaps in provision). £75,000 of the 2019/20 Community Partnership Board budget was also allocated to start to address this priority based on projects and priorities emerging from the hothouse session.

When the Board met in June this had not progressed due to the focus on the Covid-19 response and the restrictions on large face to face gatherings which obviously made a 'hothouse' session impossible. The Board recommended that the funding be returned to be reallocated for other more pressing business to be discussed at that meeting – and that the Board revisit the transport priority again soon.

Since then the Community Partnerships had reconvened after the initial focus on the Covid-19 response and the partnerships that have met so far have reviewed and re-confirmed their priorities. Transport issues remain a priority and key element of the discussions in many of the partnerships, particularly given the links to other key areas of activity e.g. isolation, health and wellbeing and youth activities and there is a keenness amongst their memberships for the Board make progress on addressing this.

It was also clear that we need some expertise in East Suffolk to work with the Board to focus on the specific dimensions of transport where the Board/local partners can have most impact, identify potential projects and help local organisations and groups to develop these.

The decision to hold the hothouse session has been reviewed:

Constraints:

- Government restrictions on events / social contact due to Covid-19
- Uncertainty over timescales for easing restrictions
- Possibility of sudden local or national lockdowns again in the future

Therefore, the option to 'stay the Same' and organise an event at Adastral park within the next 12 months has been discounted.

Options:

- Replace with a virtual hothouse by organising a large, high profile 'real time' event that can manage large number of delegates, incorporates a main stage / plenary for speakers and delegates and allows breakouts. Although this is possible, it will require significant time and resources to organise and would lead to further delay in identifying how the Board can begin to address this priority.
- Organise smaller, more targeted virtual event(s) to address some of the more burning issues raised by the Community Partnerships. These could be organised more readily and would begin to get things moving. Representatives from individual Community Partnerships which have Transport as a priority could then participate in these discussions.

Steve Gallant then expanded upon the recommendations contained within the report on Transport for this meeting.

First Recommendation: It was noted that an initial meeting had been held with ESC officers, the Head of Passenger Transport and the Rural Transport Manager from SCC to scope what they can do for the Community Partnership Forum, which was due to take place from 2 – 6 November 2020.

It was suggested that 2 virtual sessions on the Wednesday, 4 November, which had been allocated to Transport, could be based on the key messages that came out of the Community Partnership workshops at the end of 2019:

- i) Rural transport: presentation of the data / current provision / potential gaps followed by two or three examples of more local projects (for example the proposed trial EV taxi bus service between Framlingham and C Ashe)
- ii) Active & sustainable Transport: Overview of the changing national policy landscape towards walking / cycling and a picture of what is happening/planned in East Suffolk as a result.

Each session could end with a discussion about how we could work through the CPs to support / add to what is planned.

Second recommendation: Steve Gallant took the opportunity to clarify “commissioning some expertise”. He felt that those who were commissioned must have a tight focus on delivering tangible outcomes on the ground at a community level – not more strategy development, as this was already undertaken by SCC and others. For example, by identifying community transport gaps and challenges across East Suffolk and developing projects to deliver what needs to be done to fill them. This could include a campaign to recruit drivers / support to negotiate training and insurance issues etc.

This work could be achieved either by a 12 – 18 month temporary post, based within one of the partner organisations and funded through the CPB budget – or alternatively by buying some consultant time.

Third recommendation: Steve Gallant reported that no figure had been put on this yet, however, if the Board allocated all of the funding requested at this meeting, then they would have allocated a total of £250k to the priority around Social Isolation and Loneliness and nothing yet to transport. This would leave approx. £190k remaining for this Financial Year.

Councillor Ashdown commented that rural bus services had been greatly reduced and this had contributed to isolation. He stated that his local Rugby Club used their mini bus to take elderly people shopping and they used volunteer drivers. He queried whether this could be done elsewhere in the District? Steve Gallant stated that localised initiatives could be successful, however many initiatives struggled with funding and were not sustainable. Councillor Blundell reported that in his experience, a major problem was insurance for the mini bus drivers and who was responsible overall for the vehicle. Volunteers may also be a little unreliable on occasion.

Luke Bennett updated the Board on behalf of Carol Poulter (who had dropped out of the meeting) on the Rural Mobility Fund, which was providing transport using electric vehicles. A trial was currently being developed for the Wickham Market, Campsea Ash area. He reported that if it was successful, it could be launched in other areas too. Carol had offered to bring an outcome proposal to a future Board meeting and those present confirmed they would be interested in this.

There being no further questions, those present confirmed their support for the recommendations contained within the report. Luke Bennett confirmed that it would be helpful to get Board Members input into the job description and person specification for the 12 – 18 month temporary post in recommendation 2, unless consultants time was used instead. The Board then

RESOLVED

- (a) That, in order to avoid further delay, the plans for a hothouse would be put on hold and focus would be on a more targeted approach. For example, focus on ensuring that the Transport priority is given substantive focus during the Community Partnership Virtual Forum in November.
- (b) That the Board would either commission some expertise to work with the Board to identify potential 'quick win' transport projects and help local organisations and groups to develop these, or a temporary 12 – 18 month post would be created for this role instead.
- (c) That the Board be prepared to allocate funding from the 2020/21 Community Partnership Board budget to this priority, ringfenced to support local project development and delivery.
- (d) That a Member led Task Group be convened to work up solutions and report back to the Board at its next meeting.

5. Community Partnerships Annual Forum 2020: Arrangements and Board Member Participation

Steve Gallant reported that Community Partnership Forum was an opportunity to celebrate the early wins and the impact of the Community Partnership Board and the 8 Community Partnerships. It was also an opportunity to share knowledge and expertise in the Suffolk System and beyond to work together for the benefit of communities and businesses in East Suffolk.

Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, it was not possible for large numbers of people to meet in person, therefore it had been decided that it would be best to host a week-long programme of virtual events using different formats, so that people can select which sessions are relevant to them. Delegates would be able to join as many sessions as they wish across the week.

Luke Bennett then provided an update on the sessions that would be provided during the week-long Forum:

Monday – The Launch event would be introduced by Steve Gallant and the following webinar would involve Dominic Campbell from FutureGov, a high profile speaker who would cover service redesign, digital transformation, response to Covid-19 and there would be an interactive Q and A session.

Tuesday – Facilitated virtual workshops focussing on Priority 1 – How East Suffolk is coming together to tackle social isolation and loneliness.

Wednesday – Facilitated virtual workshops focussing on Priority 2 – Transport in East Suffolk.

Thursday – Webinars on the Smart Towns Initiative and a further session on bringing technology/community/horizon scanning.

Friday – Looking to the Future and the impact of Covid-19 and other drivers for change going forwards, involving a presentation and Q and A session.

Councillor Ashdown queried the length of the individual sessions. It was reported that each session varied in length, and they were between 40 minutes to 2.5 hours. Detailed information would be provided on the individual sessions, when booking places online.

It was confirmed that Luke Bennett would send out 'save the date' information for the Community Partnership Forum, so that diaries did not otherwise get filled up.

Steve Gallant stressed that it was important for Board members to be visible at the event so asked that they make themselves available to attend at least one session if possible.

RESOLVED

That the Board was happy with arrangement for the Community Partnership Forum and that Board members would make every effort to attend.

6. Community Partnership Activity

The Board then received a short presentation from Steve Gallant, which gave a recap on the creation of the Community Partnerships and an update on their progress to date.

It was noted that the Community Partnerships had met at least once prior to the first lockdown in 2020 and all would have met again by mid-September 2020. Many Community Partnerships had set up Task and Finish Groups to promote collaboration and to develop outcome proposals. Those present were pleased to note that £102,811.64 had been allocated / proposed for community projects and activities so far. A further £177,188.36 remained to be allocated before April 2021. The Board were also pleased by the wide range of projects that had been proposed across the District.

The Community Partnership Chairs were then invited so give a short update on their Community Partnerships:

Councillor Ashdown – He reported that his CP were focussing upon reducing obesity and were looking at working with pre-schools to positively influence children from a very young age.

Councillor Cooper – He reported that his CP were focussing upon Social Isolation and Loneliness and a Task and Finish Group had been set up to lead on this.

Councillor Blundell – He reported that his CP had not yet finalised the projects that they would support, however there were lots of different ideas and projects to be considered at the next meeting. He was pleased that so many positive suggestions had been received.

Councillor Cloke – She reported that her CP had been keen to support the initiatives put in place to help people during lockdown. The CP had received a number of proposals for consideration which were all of a high standard, it would be difficult to choose which ones to support.

N.B. Russ Rainger left the meeting during the consideration of this item at 7.34 pm.

RESOLVED

That the update on Community Partnership Activity be received.

7. Future Work Plan

Steve Gallant and Luke Bennett updated those present that the Board's Task and Finish Group had recommended that it should meet again to develop proposals around vulnerability linked to the Economic Recovery following the lockdown.

It was suggested that the Task and Finish Group would look at equalities, money management, skills development and apprenticeships. All those present were agreeable to that suggestion.

RESOLVED

That the Task and Finish Group would meet again to look at vulnerability linked to the Economic Recovery following lockdown.

8. Any Other Business

Community Partnership Board meetings on YouTube

Steve Gallant reported that the Community Partnership Board meetings which were being held remotely via Zoom and streamed to YouTube, were currently only able to be seen by East Suffolk Councillors, the meetings were not currently viewable by the general public. He wondered whether it would be preferable to have the Board meetings on YouTube, for everyone to view? The Board had currently allocated £180,000 to good projects this evening and it was important to share the good work that was taking place.

Kerry Cutler commented that the Police felt that Zoom was not a good platform to use, due to various security issues. The Police and several other outside organisations were not able to use Zoom because of this and would only be able to dial in to join Zoom meetings. It was reported that the Council may soon have MS Teams installed and it was possible that the Teams platform could be used for Board meetings in due course.

Councillor Blundell raised concerns that other people, who were not on the Board, may wish to contribute to the meetings. Clarification was provided that only Board members would be able to participate in the meetings, the public would be able to view the meeting only, via YouTube, they could not participate.

Councillor Cloke queried if there were any cost implications with Steve Gallants proposal and it was confirmed that there was not.

There was then a consensus among all those present, that future meetings of the Community Partnership Board would be able to be viewed by the public, on YouTube.

RESOLVED

That future meetings of the Community Partnership Board would be available to view by the public, on YouTube.

There being no further items to be raised under any other business, Steve Gallant thanked everyone for attending and participating in this meeting.

The meeting concluded at 7.43 pm

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Chairman



East Suffolk Community Partnership Board. Monday 7th December 2020

Report by Nick Khan on behalf of the Transport Task Group.

1. Recap:

The Community Partnerships have identified many dimensions to the transport priority which can largely be categorised in three main issues:

- Rural Transport (and access to services)
- Community Transport
- Active and sustainable travel

The Community Partnerships reviewed their priorities in light of the Covid-19 response and transport issues remain a priority and / or a key element of the discussions in many of the partnerships, particularly given the links to other key areas of activity e.g. isolation, health and wellbeing, employment and training opportunities, and youth activities. There is a strong desire amongst their memberships to address these challenges.

At its meeting in September the Board agreed to:

- Establish a Task Group to work up solutions.
- Give the Transport priority substantive focus during the Community Partnership Annual Forum in November.
- Consider commissioning some expertise to work with the Board to identify potential 'quick win' transport projects and help local organisations and groups to develop these.
- be prepared to allocate funding from the 2020/21 Community Partnership Board budget to this priority ringfenced to support local project development and delivery.

This report and associated outcome proposals will update the Board on progress.

2. National / Regional / local Context:

Rural transport, community transport and active travel represent significant strategic challenges, with many of the symptoms experienced at local level arising from national delivery models and funding that don't work as well for residents in non-metropolitan parts of the UK.

Rural and Community Transport:

As much of East Suffolk is rural, combined with geographic limitations through the location of rivers, this presents some issues for access to services by public transport. For much of the district the A12 provides a key north/south route and a link for the market towns and villages in the district. The resilience of the road, in the face of issues such as flooding, is therefore a critical issue in that it can result in communities being further isolated.

There is an East Suffolk railway line running through the district providing direct access to several market towns and several other villages. The line currently has limitations to the level of service that can be provided. However, there is an opportunity to encourage greater use of the service and scope to improve integrated transport links at the East Suffolk Line Stations.

Throughout the wider district access to services by public transport can be difficult, particularly in the more remote parts of the district. Conditions are better in the market towns where several commercially viable bus services operate. Opportunities exist to build on the innovative demand responsive public transport arrangements set up to service this area.

Active Travel:

Post-COVID-19, the potential role of active travel has increased, as capacity and public attitudes to using public transport have declined. However, the private car is not always a viable option, and the Government set out its ambition to boost active travel in [Gear Change](#), alongside £2bn investment. Their target is for half of all journeys in towns and cities to be made by active travel by 2030. However, Gear Change poses challenges for our region. It favours urban locations, with a focus on funding only those projects that would give transformational infrastructure delivery.

Our region faces significant competition from elsewhere in the UK in securing significant investment. We have seen over the last 5-10 years across the UK that challenges in delivering active travel generally occur at the local level, with opposition from businesses and residents. Winning hearts and minds of local partners and communities is key to success. Across the UK, the DfT's first round of Emergency Active Travel Funds gave very little time for consultation to take place with residents – leading to business backlash on reallocation of road-space.

Collaboration is key. Localities need to work together on designing and developing successful approaches, with a clear and evidenced plan, incorporating wider measures, as well as widespread support from a range of local partners.

3. Influencing the agenda:

The following important national/regional/county transport links have already been made via the work of the Transport Task Group:

The Public Transport Consortium promote passenger transport issues on behalf of non-metropolitan authorities, supporting effective local decisions on public transport for the benefit of local citizens. As a special interest group of the Local Government Association (LGA), the Consortium represents the public transport interests of shire counties and unitary authorities in England and Wales, and can directly lobby central government, raising awareness of emerging policy issues.

The Transport East Partnership, comprising local authorities and other partners, will be investigating – at a sub-national level - how we support investment and better delivery models for rural/coastal/active transport. They have commissioned Jacobs to help develop this thinking through their Transport Strategy, with funding from the DfT, over the next 6 months.

Part of this work is to understand strategic outcomes we are trying to achieve in the East, and communicate priorities to government, e.g.:

- Supporting economic growth

- Reducing carbon emissions
- Improving access to services and improving social inclusion

...and then what could be improved at a national / sub-national level, to complement the work at local level.

Districts and other partners will be key to this and invited to input. As part of this, they would like to understand in more detail the symptoms that arise at a local level, and those solutions that will support wider outcomes, as well as the roles and responsibilities at different tiers of government to create change and deliver the outcomes.

Suffolk County Council: The local transport plan sets out Suffolk County Council’s long-term transport strategy. The strategy for the rural areas within Suffolk is based around the following five themes.

- Better accessibility to employment, education, and services.
- Encouraging planning policies to reduce the need to travel
- Maintaining the transport network and improving its connectivity, resilience, and reliability
- Reducing the impact of transport on communities
- Support the county council’s ambition of improving broadband access throughout Suffolk

Underpinning the strategy is the recognition of the need to strengthen communities so that they are better placed to address some local problems themselves and should be supported to take responsibility for tackling transport issues that directly affect them.

Importantly, together with the representatives of our local parishes, communities and businesses also represented on the Group, the Task Group has the potential to develop into a very effective forum for problem solving Transport issues in East Suffolk

4. Progress:

Transport Task Group formed, and first meeting held 26.10.20.

Task Group membership	
Carl Ashton	Suffolk County Council, Transport Policy & Development Manager
Luke Bennett	East Suffolk Council, Partnerships Manager
Norman Brooks	East Suffolk Council, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Transport
Nick Khan	East Suffolk Council, Strategic Director
Tom McGarry	EDF, Head of Stakeholder Engagement, Sizewell C Nuclear Development
Sarah Mortimer	Community Action Suffolk, Senior Manager Community Engagement
Alexander Nicoll	Suffolk County Council, Deputy Cabinet Member for Transport & Chair of the Local Government Association Public Transport Consortium
Russ Rainger	SALC, Vice Chairman of the Joint East Suffolk Area Forum
Andrew Summers	Transport East, Strategic Director
Tracy Vobe	Suffolk County Council, Head of Passenger Transport

The following sessions were held at the annual forum on the Wednesday, 4 November

Connecting Our Rural Communities	
<p>This session will include a snapshot of the current rural transport set up in East Suffolk, together with current thinking on its future. Participants will get an overview of passenger data and journey purposes along with examples of the specific challenges to operating transport services in East Suffolk – and hear examples of new and innovative ideas to address them. The session will conclude with a discussion to build on the outcomes of recent stakeholder engagement undertaken by Suffolk County Council to help shape future rural transport services in Suffolk.</p>	<p>Facilitated by: Nick Khan, East Suffolk Council Cllr Alexander Nicoll, Chair of the Local Government Association Public Transport Consortium Andrew Summers, Transport East Susan Davey and Kirsty Marjoram, Suffolk County Council</p>

Making Travel More Active and Sustainable	
<p>This session will reflect current thinking about the modal shift underway towards active and sustainable travel alternatives. This will include an overview of the changing national policy landscape towards walking and cycling and a picture of what’s happening or planned in East Suffolk as a result (with input from local stakeholders). The session will conclude with a discussion to help inform the local debate and how we could work through the Community Partnerships to support and add to what’s planned.</p>	<p>Facilitated by: Nick Khan, East Suffolk Council Andrew Summers, Transport East Carl Ashton & Paul Horne, Suffolk County Council Anthony Taylor & Jason Beck, East Suffolk Council</p>

5. Outcomes:

The initial outcomes from the Transport Task Group are:

Focus: The work programme and outcome proposals should reflect where the Community Partnership Board can add most value in the following areas:

- Active and Sustainable Travel
- Community transport solutions
- Rural Transport

Considerations:

- There is a lot of cross over between the various transport priorities so they will not be addressed in isolation to each other.
- There is already work planned or underway across Suffolk to address these priorities so the work of the Community Partnership Board will not be done in isolation to these other initiatives.

- Some of the right people to address the priorities already sit on the Board but the Task Group has co-opted other individuals where their key skills or knowledge are needed.
- There is data to support this work already available (Suffolk County Council / Transport East) and there is already a high level of understanding amongst key partners of how the system needs to respond.
- This is a large and complex topic, so a very focussed approach is needed to get results.
- Some issues can be addressed at a community level and in relatively short timescales, whilst other will require system level change and will take longer to achieve.

The Task Group concluded that a twin track approach is appropriate:

Short Term:

- i) Identify, develop and seed/match fund pilots and trial projects to test 'proof of concept' and assess their viability to be scaled up across the area.
- ii) Develop a 3-year transport work programme to be overseen by the Task Group and backed up by:
 - A programme manager
 - A programme delivery budget, focused on short-term deliverables as they become identified

Medium – Long term:

- i) Undertake a study of Transport and travel issues & gaps in East Suffolk to provide rigorous data and intelligence on which to base future work.
- ii) Work with strategic partners to redesign parts of the system, and collectively lobby to influence for change.
- iii) Other long-term aspirations as they are identified through the programme.

The Task Group has already made the following progress against its short-term goals:

- i) The Task Group is supporting Suffolk County Council in its excellent work to trial an innovative new EV Taxi bus service between Framlingham, Wickham Market and Campsea Ashe Station in January next Year. The first of the two outcome proposals associated with the report is seeking support and funding from the Board for this initiative.
- ii) The Task Group is pleased to have received the generous offer by EDF to provide a member of their staff to carry out the role of programme manager for the Task Group on a part time basis. The second of the two outcome proposals associated with this report is seeking support and funding from the Board to build an effective programme around this new post.

- iii) Via the two sessions at the Annual Forum, and input from a number of the Community Partnership Chairs, the Task Group has made progress to identify the local transport and travel issues that are important to our communities that can be the focus of support and 'quick win' solutions.

Longer term, examples of initiatives being supported are i) the substantial Quiet Lanes initiative now underway (funded by the former East Suffolk Partnership and Suffolk County Council) and The East Suffolk Cycling & Walking Strategy which is currently being consulted on by East Suffolk Council. We expect both initiatives to identify local priorities and projects that can be followed up on.

The Task Group has also made good progress in identifying the key factors that will form the scope of the Transport and Travel Study in the new year.

6. Conclusion and recommendations:

The task Group has made good progress by:

- i) Attracting the right people, who have agreed to continue to meet as the programme steering group should the Board wish them to.
- ii) Organising the right level of support to make sure it can deliver on behalf of the Board and the Community Partnerships (the associated programme proposal)
- iii) Identifying a key short-term outcome for the Board to support (The associated EV Taxi Bus proposal)

The Board is recommended to:

- i) Agree that the Task Group takes the role of the Transport Programme Steering Group to problem solve the transport priority on its behalf.
- ii) Considers its support for each of the two outcome proposals associated with this report:
 - i) KATCH EV Taxi bus trial £40k
 - ii) East Suffolk Travel and Transport improvement Programme £80k

Initial Outcome Proposal to the East Suffolk Community Partnership Board - FY2020/21

(Stage 1 Proposal)

1. Key outcome(s)
<p>A one-year pilot testing the viability of a sustainable transport solution trialling two 8-seater wheelchair accessible electric passenger vehicles operating as shared taxis (registered as Taxi-buses serving fixed stopping points, charging passengers in line with local bus fares and bookable via an App or telephone).</p> <p>The service will be available on demand 7 Days a week 06.30 to 22.30 Monday through to Saturday and 09.00 to 19.00 on Sundays.</p> <p>The objective of the pilot is to build confidence amongst rural communities towards the concept of taxi sharing to improve transport connectivity for rural communities.</p> <p>The Pilot is viable for trialling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Electric vehicles (mileage/range) b) Booking via an App c) Evaluating usage by young people

2. How has the need been identified?
<p>Suffolk County Council Passenger Transport Officers supported public Rural Transport Conversations across the county during March 2019. The workshops identified keys themes:</p> <p>People want to get “out and about” – they do not want services coming to them. Being able to get “out and about” is a sign of a healthy and well-balanced life.</p> <p>Reduce rural isolation.</p> <p>What transport is out there? People are not always aware of what is already on their doorstep.</p> <p>People want to know about all the transport options available to them.</p> <p>People want flexibility and choice. People want to get to the larger supermarkets, leisure centres and cinemas.</p> <p>People like the “extra care” that some transport operators provide, and some people are willing to pay extra for this extra service.</p> <p><u>People are willing to share transport and share taxis.</u></p> <p>Suffolk County identified an opportunity to partner with rural taxi operators to trial the viability of shared taxis operating as taxi-buses.</p> <p>Surveys on local transport needs carried out by Framlingham Town Council identified a demand</p>

for access to the Rail Station at Campsea Ashe. This route is suited to trialling electric vehicles on a DRT taxi-bus service.

The eight Community Partnership workshops in October/November 2019 identified Transport as a shared priority. The workshops identified many dimensions to the transport priority – for example connectivity, green vehicles, community transport and alternative forms of transport provision

3. Who will benefit from the outcomes?

Residents of Campsea Ashe, Framlingham and Wickham Market for connections to bus and rail services for onward travel.

Residents needing access to education, medical facilities, social activities, or work.

Visitors and tourists to the area.

All age demographics.

4. How will the outcomes(s) be sustained after the funding period (if appropriate)?

The subsidy for the Pilot will reduce as capacity increases. The 8-seater vehicles will have a zero subsidy at a capacity of over 4 passengers. Rural communities will need to build up confidence towards the concept of sharing taxis, this will be supported by the low-cost bus fare and the environmental solution of travelling by electric vehicle.

5. Name of Project/activity that will deliver the outcome(s)

Katch



6. Brief description of the project / activity that will deliver the outcome(s).

Environment

The Council will support this one-year transport pilot through the provision of two Renault ZE electric 8-seater wheelchair accessible vehicles. This is in line with the Suffolk County Council pledge to work towards making the county of Suffolk carbon neutral by 2030. Working with other organisations and communities to aim for a carbon neutral Suffolk at the earliest opportunity. To reinforce the strong Greenest County ambition.

Developing and supporting Suffolk Taxi operators

The Council recognises the essential role of taxis in the delivery of rural transport solutions. This pilot is designed to capacity build the business of taxi operators to support their sustainability through the shared taxi-bus model. The development of taxi-bus services will widely improve rural transport connection opportunities for any age demographic.

Promoting new modes of rural transport

The objective of the pilot is to build confidence amongst rural communities towards the concept of taxi sharing whilst paying bus fare rates. This will initially require fare subsidies whilst the service builds. When a capacity of four passengers to a maximum of eight sharing is achieved the taxi-bus service can continue as a standalone service. This will support the development of countywide subsidy free and sustainable rural taxi-bus services.

Project / activity START DATE (01/2021):

END DATE (01/2022):

7. Who is involved?

Who is involved in developing this outcome proposal?

Suffolk County Council

Who will deliver the project/activity?

Cars Smart - taxis

East Suffolk Community Partnerships Board
Member supporting the project: Paul West

Project / activity lead:

Name: Susan Davey

Organisation: Suffolk County Council

Telephone: 01473 265061

Email: susan.davey@suffolk.gov.uk

8. Give information about match funding here:

Source of match funding:	Funding confirmed?	Amount (£)
Framlingham, Wickham Market and Villages Community Partnership	N	£3,000
Suffolk County Council	Y	£62,000

Total project / activity cost	£105,000
Total of confirmed match funding	£62,000
Total amount of Strategic funding required	£40,000

9. Identify where the Community Partnership Board Strategic Budget will be spent:

Description of activity or item (by who and by when where appropriate)	Cost (£)
Bus fare subsidies	£40,000

10. How will the project / activity be monitored, and outcomes reported (including project risks)?

The service operator will maintain adequate records and monitoring systems to measure the effectiveness of the service and provide monitoring and evaluation data agreed with Suffolk County Council.

The Operator will be required to claim fares subsidies through submitting passenger data along with invoices in line with the Suffolk County Council Passenger Transport monitoring periods. Monitoring data will include:

- Number of Single journeys and fares taken
- Number of Return journeys and fares taken
- Multi occupancy journeys (how many passengers on any one journey)
- Number of wheelchair users
- Passenger miles
- Dead miles
- Pick up / Drop off points

- Peak demand periods
- Journeys not met

The fares subsidy available for the full one-year pilot is currently set at £40,000. The Council and the Operator will monitor data and claims to ensure the service remains within budget and sustainable.

During the trial period the Transport Task Group will be updated regularly to help assess the potential for this innovative new transport model to be rolled out in other areas.

Performance will also be reported on a quarterly basis to the Community Partnership Board in the usual way.

Community Partnership Board Member Declaration:

I confirm that I support this proposal:

Name: Paul West

Date: 24/11/20

Initial Outcome Proposal to the East Suffolk Community Partnership Board - FY2020/21

(Stage 1 Proposal)

1. Key outcome(s)
<p>i) Within 3 months to have developed a 3-year transport and travel work programme that gives a clear focus on how the Community Partnership Board will have impact.</p> <p>ii) Within 6 months to have identified and commissioned short-term deliverables that solve transport and travel challenges in East Suffolk Communities.</p> <p>ii) Within 6 months to have studied transport and travel issues & gaps in East Suffolk to provide rigorous data and intelligence on which to base future work.</p>
2. How has the need been identified?
<p>The eight Community Partnership workshops in October/November 2019 identified two clear priorities for East Suffolk - Social Isolation & Loneliness and Transport. The workshops identified many dimensions to the transport priority – for example connectivity, green vehicles, walking and cycling, community transport and alternative forms of transport provision.</p> <p>Since those workshops further work has been carried out with Suffolk County Council and East Suffolk Council to identify what transport and access to services data and modelling information is available for East Suffolk. The rural transport, and active and sustainable travel session at the Community Partnership Forum in November 2020 added a rich source of local intelligence on what matters to our communities in terms of transport solutions, access to services and barriers to cycling and walking.</p>
3. Who will benefit from the outcomes?
<p>All residents of East Suffolk, in particular: Young people who can access training and employment more easily. Older people who can access activities and services that are important to them. Those already cycling / or begin cycling because of improvements delivered Those who already walk / or begin walking as a result if improvements delivered</p>
4. How will the outcomes(s) be sustained after the funding period (if appropriate)?
<p>This is the first stage of a three-year programme of work that will identify support and funding as they become available. However, it is envisaged that the Board will be asked to support further elements of the programme as they progress. The key focus on the programme will be on problem solving to provide sustainable solution to transport issues that do not require continual grant funding.</p>
5. Name of Project/activity that will deliver the outcome(s)
<p>East Suffolk Travel and Transport improvement Programme</p>
6. Brief description of the project / activity that will deliver the outcome(s).
<p>What is clear is that this complex area will need a significant amount of focussed work to support the Board to make informed choices about how it can best use its influence and resources to achieve the most impact. This programme will deliver that by utilising a programme steering group and programme manager to i) pull together the available local data on transport</p>

and travel and ii) actively seek and have conversations with community stakeholders about what is important to them regarding transport and travel in their area (working through the eight Community Partnerships). This work will be used to identify short term 'quick win' projects that can then be delivered with the help of this funding.

The three key elements for success are the steering group / programme manager / delivery budget. Without all three this programme will not achieve its potential to deliver real improvements on the ground in our communities in the short term.

Project / activity START DATE 01/21 END DATE 07/21

7. Who is involved?

Who is involved in developing this outcome proposal?

Community Action Suffolk
East Suffolk Council
EDF
SALC
Suffolk County Council
Transport East

Who will deliver the project/activity?
Transport Task Group (on behalf of the Board)

Project / activity lead:

Name: Nick Khan

Organisation: East Suffolk Council

Telephone:

Email:

Name of East Suffolk Community Partnerships Board Member supporting the project:
Tom McGarry

8. Give information about match funding here:

Source of match funding:	Funding confirmed?	Amount (£)
EDF in kind support by providing the programme manager for 15 hours a week to this project from 1 February 2021	Y	20k
Aim to attract match funding / volunteer time of at least 10% CPB funding amount for individual project from the local area	N	8k

Total project / activity cost	£ 108k
Total of confirmed match funding	£ 20k
Total amount of Strategic funding required	£ 80k

9. Identify where the Community Partnership Board Strategic Budget will be spent:

Description of activity or item (by who and by when where appropriate)	Cost (£)
The whole amount will be spent on delivering short term 'quick win' transport and travel projects in partnership with either local community organisations or the relevant Community Partnership for that area.	80k

10. How will the project / activity be monitored, and outcomes reported (including project risks)?

Programme Steering group will require regular performance information. Quarterly return to the Community Partnership Board via the agreed performance management system in place for CPB funding.

Community Partnership Board Member Declaration:

I confirm that I support this proposal
Name: Tom McGarry
Date: 26.11.20



East Suffolk Community Partnership Board. Monday 7th December 2020

Report by Steve Gallant on the Outcomes of “Bringing Ideas to Life”

East Suffolk Community Partnership Annual Forum 2020

5 Day Virtual Programme 2-6th November 2020.

1. Recap:

1.1 Forum Purpose:

- For the Community Partnership Board to demonstrate its leadership by hosting a high-profile event in East Suffolk for representatives from our communities, voluntary organisations, community groups, public services, and businesses, focussing on the strategic priorities identified by the Board and individual Community Partnerships ((Social Isolation and Transport & Travel).
- To celebrate early wins and demonstrate the impact of the Community Partnership Board and Community Partnerships.
- To enable the eight Community Partnerships to i) highlight the impact they are having within their communities and ii) problem solve shared challenges.
- To share knowledge and expertise in the Suffolk System and beyond to work together for the benefit of our communities and businesses in East Suffolk.

1.2 Forum offer (to delegates):

- Networking opportunities across a range of different sessions.
- To get up to speed on what is happening and what is on the horizon in East Suffolk.
- Opportunity to collaborate and improve life for everyone who lives and works in East Suffolk.
- A platform to promote their organisation or business to a wide audience.

1.3 Constraints:

Due to Government restrictions on events / social contact due to Covid-19 the decision was made to cancel a one-day conference and organise a programme of virtual events over the course of a week. The full programme can be viewed here: [HERE](#)

2. Resources

2.1 The critical resources that made the event happen were:

- support from individuals from a wide range of different organisations willing to offer resources and support to make it a success.
- Partnership Manager time to pull the content together.
- £3,325 Board funding to commission EELGA to provide event support.
- Good will of the keynote speakers and facilitators, most of whom did not charge for their time.

3. How did we do?

3.1 Forum in numbers:

- Hosted 10 separate sessions (and an 11th additional Fringe Event)
- Participated in a total of 16.5 hours of presentations and discussion
- Welcomed a total of 208 delegates
- 593 individual bookings over the 10 sessions, as most people attended more than one.

4. Outcomes:

4.1 Monday: “Bringing ideas to life” Launch Event

Steve Gallant promoted the Community Partnerships by bringing participants up to speed on their priorities and their impact over the last 12 months. A new promotional video featuring four of the Community Partnership Chairs, together with Steve Gallant and Letitia Smith, was also given its first public viewing. You can view the video [HERE](#)

The keynote speaker, Dominic Campbell (CEO of FutureGov), set the scene for the week with a thought provoking and at times challenging exploration of how we need to constantly question ourselves about i) what it is we are looking to achieve in our communities and our organisations, and ii) how we organise ourselves, our communities, and our organisations to do it. His presentation was made more relevant by his reflections on the impact of COVID 19 and the response of our communities to the challenges it has posed.

4.2 Tuesday: Tackling Social Isolation and Loneliness in East Suffolk

A packed day of four sessions that included a blend of experts in their field, together with our own successful local community-led projects. This proved to be both a challenging and inspirational day where participants learned lots about the importance of staying socially connected and how we can best approach the task by working together at a very local community level. The learning and ideas from this day were captured and will be fed into the work of the Social Isolation and Loneliness Task Group.

4.3 Wednesday: Travel and Transport in East Suffolk

Another excellent day with two sessions that focused on two of the most important issues for our Community Partnerships – rural transport and active and sustainable travel. Participants were updated on what the data is saying about travel and transport in East Suffolk – together with the rapidly changing national transport priorities. They then participated in positive discussions about how we can all work together from a regional to a local level to make a better future for travel and transport in East Suffolk. The learning from this day, including the ideas for potential local community initiatives, were captured, and will be fed into the work of the Transport Task Group.

4.4 Thursday: Focus on Technology

It was important for us to reflect the rapid advances in technology and increasing use of data currently underway somewhere in the programme. This is because they are increasingly disrupting

traditional ways of doing business and offering us challenging and exciting opportunities for our local communities. We started with an excellent session on a home-grown East Suffolk Programme – our Smart Towns Programme. This is an exciting development and it stimulated lots of interest and discussion which was captured by the Smart Towns Programme Manager. In the afternoon we were taken on a whirlwind tour of BT Adastral Park to see examples of cutting-edge technology that being developed right here in East Suffolk. Delegates were invited to follow up directly with the facilitators if they wanted to know more about any of the tech solution they had demonstrated.

4.5 Friday: “Looking to the Future in East Suffolk” Closing Event

This session gave Steve Gallant the opportunity to review the week before reinforcing positive messages about the Community Partnerships.

This was followed by a presentation about the potential impacts of Covid-19 on East Suffolk people and places by Nicole Rickard, Head of Communities, East Suffolk Council and NHS Norfolk & Waveney / Ipswich & East Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Groups. The presentation was structured around the following themes:

- Population and Deprivation
- Health and Wellbeing
- Employment and Economy
- Housing and Welfare Support
- Communities and Inequality

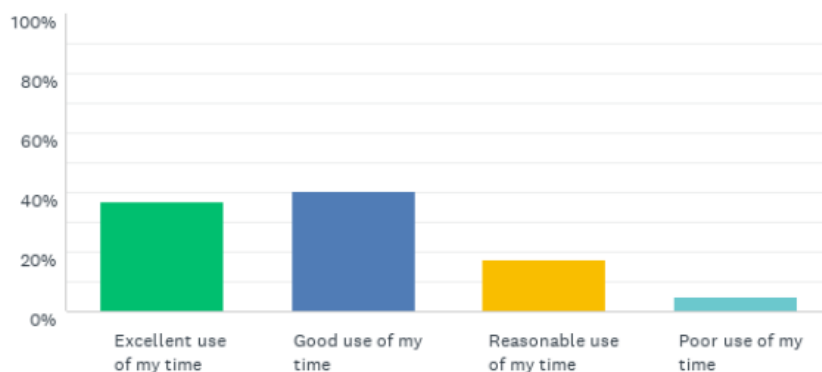
Participants were then given the opportunity to ask questions about the issues raised in the presentation and discuss potential solutions. The outcomes will be fed into the work of the Board.

Eight of the sessions were recorded and can be viewed again at the Annual Forum playlist on the East Suffolk YouTube channel [HERE](#)

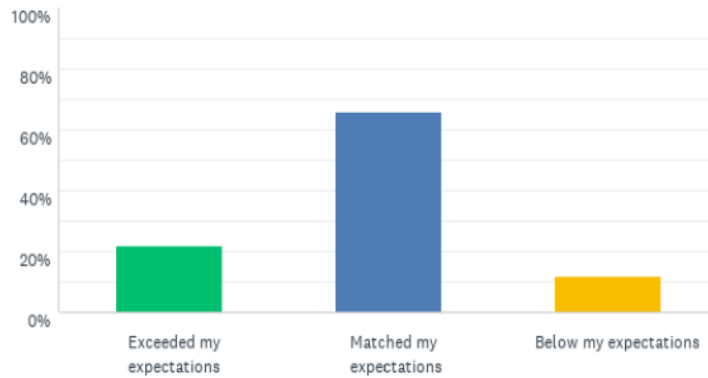
5. Delegate feedback:

A survey was created on SurveyMonkey and a link sent to every delegate. The total number of responses was 62 and the results of that survey are shown below:

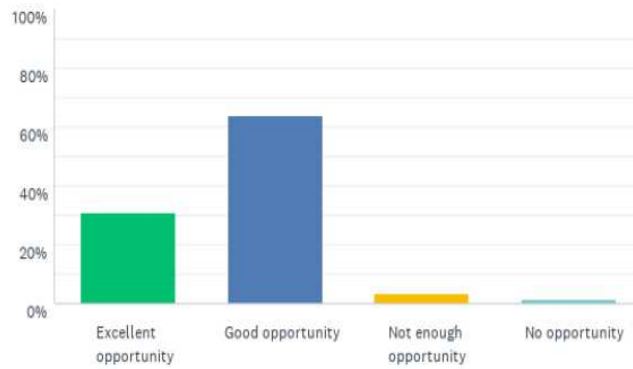
Q1 Was attending the forum a worthwhile use of your time?



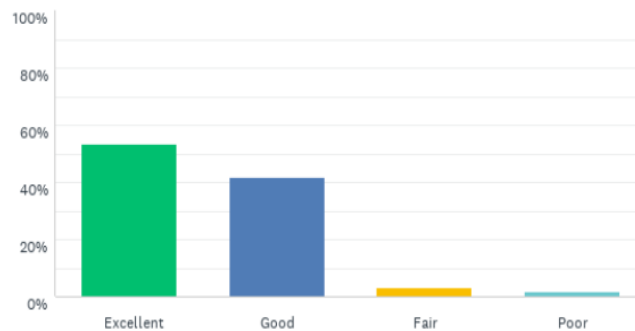
Q2 Did the Forum match your expectation from the pre-published information?



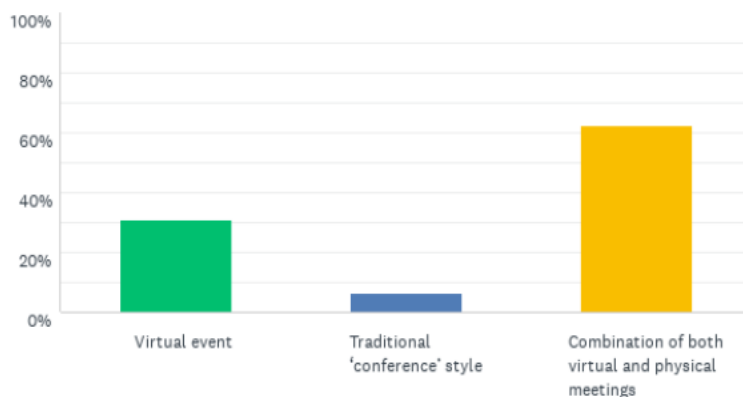
Q3 Did you get enough opportunity to ask questions and participate in the discussions?



Q4 Overall, how would you rate the organisation of the event (website info, booking system, joining instructions, support)?



Q5 What format would you prefer for Community Partnership events in the future?



Respondents were also given the option to comment, which were largely positive. Three themes emerged:

- There was both *support* for a week-long event (because it gave people the opportunity to attend multiple sessions), but also *disappointment* because they were “...all good sessions...” and it was just impossible to spend all week attending them.
- The idea of a fringe event was popular.
- Pre-session briefing notes / or more bullet point 'triggers' for conversations.

6. Conclusion

The Board is asked to consider the contents of this report and give some thought to:

- The impact of the event set against its original purpose
- The Lessons learned that will help inform future events
- Initial ideas for how we may want to proceed for the Annual Forum 2021 (Virtual / physical conference / hybrid event etc)



East Suffolk Community Partnership Board

Update on Social Isolation and Loneliness Projects

December 7, 2020

Introduction and Background

1. The Community Partnership Board had total funding of £150,000 to allocate in 2019/20 and has £300,000 to allocate in 2020/21. To date, a total of £135,000 has been allocated to projects aimed at tackling Social Isolation and Loneliness. In addition, £100,000 was allocated by the Board at its meeting in September for the Bounce Back Fund which, although it emanated from the Covid Impacts Task and Finish Group, has strong links to the Isolation and Loneliness theme in that it is intended to enable VCSE groups, including youth groups and community buildings, to recommence their activities safely and securely.
2. This report provides a brief update on the four projects funded by the Board to support the reduction of Isolation and Loneliness in East Suffolk – Hidden Needs Grant Programme, Small Grants (Covid Community Fund), Grandpads and the VCSE Bounce Back Fund.

Hidden Needs Grants Programme

3. A total of £90,000 has been made available through the Board for the Hidden Needs Grants Programme - £40,000 from the 2019/20 budget and a further £50,000 from the 2020/21 budget. This has been added to £60,264 that was left from the first Phase of Hidden Needs Grants (funded by the East Suffolk Partnership) to provide a total funding pot of just over £150,000.
4. The Guidance Notes and Application form for the programme can be found at <https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/community/community-grants-and-funding/hidden-needs-grant-programme/>.
5. Applications must focus on one or more geographical hidden needs ‘hot spots’ identified on revised Hidden Needs maps available on the Council’s website, and discussed with staff from the County or District Councils or CAS before submission to try and ensure that projects fit the ambitions of the fund and the groups do not waste time and resource developing projects that may not be eligible.
6. The projects funded through the two rounds held so far in Phase 2 of the Hidden Needs Grant Programme are as follows:

Round 1

Wednesday's Child - £9,950

Hour Community, Framlingham – (up to) £7,500

Halesworth Volunteer Centre - £10,000

Seagull Theatre, Pakefield - £9,320

Total for Round 1 = £36,770

Round 2

Rural Coffee Caravan - £3,750

Pathway Care Farm - £5,500

Gatehouse – (up to) £4,500

Greenlight Trust - £6,960

Swell Music - £7,400

Boost - £5,000

Halesworth Volunteer Centre - £10,000

Re-engage - £3,500

Total for Round 2 = £46,610

7. The balance of funding remaining for Round 3, which closes on January 15th, is therefore **£66,620**.

Social Isolation and Loneliness Small Grant Fund

8. The Board allocated a sum of £20,000 at its meeting on March 16th 2020 for small grants to reduce social isolation and loneliness. However, the following week, the first national lock down commenced and therefore it was agreed by the Chair of the Community Partnership Board to roll this funding into a new East Suffolk Covid-19 Community Response Fund – see <https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/community/community-grants-and-funding/coronavirus-covid-19-community-funds/>
9. The total funding pot for the Covid Community Fund was over £140,000 and this was used to make grants of up to £2,500 to groups supporting those in their community who are vulnerable due to Covid-19. Groups could apply for up to three grants during the period between March and October.
10. The Fund has been re-promoted to all the main community response groups in East Suffolk during the current lockdown, but the upper limit reduced to £1,000 to enable the remaining funding to benefit more groups.
11. The Funding Team turned round all funding bids within 48 hours and £139,257.36 of this funding has been allocated to date to 70 different groups, as shown in the table below by Community Partnership area:

Community Partnership	Groups Funded	Amount
Aldeburgh, Leiston and Saxmundham	Aldeburgh Good Neighbour Scheme	£2,500
	Aldeburgh Town Council	£2,500
	Citizens Advice Leiston & Saxmundham x 2	£2,500 / £2,500

	Leiston Good Neighbour Scheme IP17 Good Neighbour Scheme Young People Taking Action	£2,500 £2,565 £200 / £1,000
Beccles, Bungay and Halesworth	Beccles During Covid-19 x 2 Bungay Town Council x 2 Halesworth Volunteer Centre Pear Tree Fund	£2,500 / £1,000 £2,500 / £2,500 £3,000 £742 / £1,654
Carlton Colville, Kessingland and Southwold	Southwold Town Council Southgen Reydon Town Council The Attic PRU	£1,500 £2,500 £1,500 £90
Felixstowe Peninsular	Explorers at Felixstowe Salvation Army Levington and Stratton Hall PC Walton Parish Nursing	£480 £152 £1,000
Framlingham and Wickham Market	Great Glemham PC Hour Community/Framlingham TC x 2 Station House - Campsea Ashe Yoxford Covid-19 Support Earl Soham Community Coronavirus Response Group	£500 £3,500 / £2,500 / £2,000 £2,500 £250 £1,000
Kesgrave and Martlesham	Café 66 Kesgrave Emergency Support Kesgrave High School	£2,500 £103 £500
Lowestoft and Northern Parishes	Access Community Trust – Sam’s Café Allsorts Support Service Afghanistan & Central Asian Association Baby Basics Lowestoft Coming Together Waveney Corton Parish Council Feed Waveney Community Lowestoft Food Bank Supporting Lowestoft Women Like Me Waveney Enterprise Craft Workshop St Peter & St John, Kirkley Parish Church Council	£2,000 / £3,000 £1,000 £975 £500 £1,000 £500 £1,200 £2,500 £1,000 £300 £1,820 £1,515.72
Melton, Woodbridge and Deben Peninsular	Bromeswell PC Melton Good Neighbour Scheme Oyster Inn, Butley Rendlesham Good Neighbour Scheme Teapot Project Transition Woodbridge Village Voices magazine x 2 Woodbridge Emergency Response Group	£120 £895 £2,500 £600 £2,312/£947.36/£1,535.68/£1,000 £265 £1,100 / £1,100 £1,500
East Suffolk wide	Age UK Suffolk Active Lives Alzheimer’s Society Angels and Rainbows Clic Sargent Aspect Living Foundation Disability Advice North East Suffolk Equal Lives Faceshields for NHS Green Light Trust	£2,500 / £2,500 £2,500 £2,000 £480 £2,500 £2,500 £500 £2,500 £2,500 £2,500 / £1,500

Headway Suffolk	£1,000
Home Start	£1,500
Inspire Suffolk	£1,000
Liquid 11 (GNS phone tree)	£2,500
Papworth Trust	£2,600
Parents and Children Together (PACT)	£500
Royal Mencap Society	£2,500
Rural Coffee Caravan	£2,500
SPOT Wellbeing	£250
Suffolk Sight	£1,700
The Voice Cloud	£1,900 / £1,900
Suffolk Coalition of Disabled People (SCODP)	£2,000
Ability Net	£1,000
Disability Advice Service (East Suffolk)	£2,500
Key Link Counsellors	£200

Grandpads

12. 27% of the East Suffolk population is over 65 (the England average is 18%) and there are almost 44,000 residents aged 70+ in East Suffolk. Increasing numbers of older people are experiencing loneliness and needing support, particularly following the advent of the Covid-19 pandemic and, as more and more services and social/support activities move online, a significant proportion of these older people are becoming digitally excluded.
13. East Suffolk Council piloted Grandpads, an innovative product from a company called Techsilver – find out more at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jOFhPCL-Ugl&feature=youtu.be> – during the first Covid-19 lockdown.
14. A Grandpad is a simplified tablet designed for the older user. It has bigger buttons and speakers, an ergonomic charging cradle, pre-loaded content (e.g. music and local weather), an easy to navigate operating system, and a 24/7 personal help facility. Because the contacts on the Grandpad are managed by a Family Administrator, the user cannot receive spam emails/calls – only content from those on their approved list of contacts, providing reassurance to both the individual and their family.
15. East Suffolk Council made Grandpads available on loan to 25 users who are over 65, lonely and who don't have access to a PC/tablet/laptop and Wi-Fi, or who do but don't have the skills to use it. They were allocated to people identified through our Home But Not Alone helpline, community response groups or social prescribing workers as being lonely and in urgent need of support.
16. Increased connectivity to family, friends and services offers countless benefits in terms of improved mental and physical health and therefore, potentially, reduced use of GP and other health support services. Whilst the initial aim is to help users to connect with their family and friends via video calls, photo sharing and online socials, we also want to encourage people to be ambitious and maximise the opportunities that the Grandpad offers by accessing services as well as social support.

17. The Grandpads are loaned to the recipient and they can return it at any point so that it can be passed on to a new user if they, as several have already done, get on so well with it that they buy a laptop or tablet themselves
18. We are delighted that Ipswich and East Suffolk CCG have agreed to sponsor an additional 50 Grandpads for their area and the Community Partnership Board agreed to sponsor a further 25 at its September meeting. This brings the total number of Grandpads in East Suffolk to 100, with outstanding funding bids into the Interreg Connected Communities Programme and the LGA Digital Connections Programme which, if successful, would enable us to purchase more Grandpads in the near future.

VCSE Bounce Back Fund

19. At its meeting in September, the Board agreed to a recommendation from the Covid Impacts Task and Finish Group to set up a fund specifically to help Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) organisations to recover quickly from the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic. It offers grants of between £250 and £5,000.
20. The aim of the fund is to enable VCSE organisations to resume their previous activities safely and/or to support them to transition to new ways of working. All VCSE groups are eligible to apply, as long as the funding requested is for equipment, adaptations or staffing to enable an existing activity to resume safely or to enable a new activity/service to be developed/launched, but priority is given to community buildings, organisations/projects supporting young people and VCSE organisations that involve volunteers. Further information about the fund can be found at: <https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/community/community-grants-and-funding/east-suffolk-communities-bounce-back-fund/>
21. Applications are considered on a weekly basis by a panel including Community Action Suffolk, Suffolk Community Foundation and East Suffolk Council and the list of projects support to date up to 20th November 2020 is shown below:

Organisation Name	Funding Awarded
Beccles Sea Cadets	£5,000
Re-Utilise	£1,000
Halesworth Rifle Hall	£3,178
Bungay Black Dog Judo	£4,870
New Cut Arts, Halesworth	£4,150
Seagull Theatre, Pakefield	£4,900
The Art Station, Saxmundham	£3,864
Parham Village Hall	£2,988
ActivLives	£4,521
Inspire Suffolk	£3,927
1st Acton & Waldringfield Scout group	£230

Riding for the Disabled (Woodbridge & District Group)	£2,065
Gunton Baptist Church	£300
Bentwaters Aviation Society	£1,694
Leiston, Saxmundham & District Citizens Advice	£2,857
Apollo Youth Centre	£897
Team Waveney Swimming club	£1,344
Being Well in Suffolk	£2,075
Blythburgh Village Hall	£607
Lowestoft Sea Cadets	£2,461
Saxmundham Town Market Hall Trust Committee	£2,500
Middleton Cum Fordley Parish Council	£500
Siren	£1,645
Westleton Village Hall	£3,000

22. This leaves **£39,427.53** of the original £100,000 remaining in the Bounce Back Fund.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Board note progress in relation to the three projects that support delivery of the Social Isolation and Loneliness priority, namely Hidden Needs, Covid Community Funds and Grandpads, and spend to date from the Bounce Back Fund which delivers against both the Covid Impacts and Isolation and Loneliness priorities.

Nicole Rickard, Head of Communities, East Suffolk Council

Nicole.rickard@eastsoffolk.gov.uk



East Suffolk Community Partnership Board
Covid Impacts Task and Finish Group Report
December 7, 2020

Introduction and Background

1. At its meeting on 7th September 2020, the Community Partnership Board received a report from the Covid impacts Task and Finish Group, based on discussions at the first Task and Finish group meeting on 4th August 2020. The Board agreed the recommendations of the Group and approved £181,000 of funding from its 2020/21 budget against four projects:

Hidden Needs Grants Programme	£50,000
Purchase of additional Grandpads	£25,000
East Suffolk VCSE 'Bounce Back' Fund	£100,000
East Suffolk Volunteering Campaign	£5,853
TOTAL	£180,853

2. These four projects deliver against two of the three priority themes agreed by the Community Partnership Board at its meeting in June which focussed on the impacts of Covid-19 in East Suffolk, namely Theme 1: Social Isolation and Loneliness (which is also one of the two overall Community Partnership priorities) and Theme 2: Sustaining Community Hubs and Community Resilience (which is directly related to both the Covid response and recovery).
3. The Board agreed that the Task and Finish Group should meet again, prior to the next Board meeting, to focus specifically on Theme 3: 'Vulnerable People and Places' and develop outcome proposals for consideration at that next meeting. The second meeting of the Task and Finish Group took place on 13th October 2020.
4. In addition to the £181,000 allocated through this Task and Finish Group, the Transport Task and Finish Group will require a proportion of the £194,147 still available in 2020/21.

Priority 3: Supporting the most vulnerable people and communities

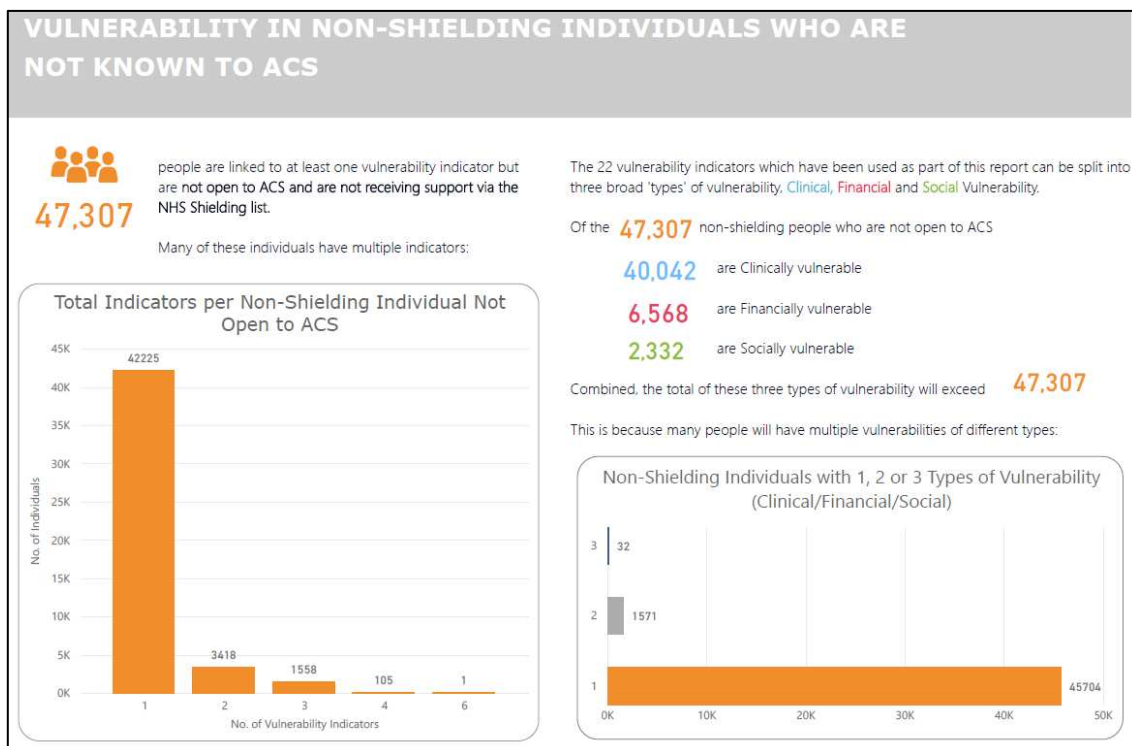
5. At its first meeting, the Task and Finish Group considered a report on all three priority themes. At its second meeting, the Task and Finish Group focused specifically on the 'Supporting the most vulnerable people and communities' theme and considered and supplemented the information set out below.

Suffolk Vulnerability Mapping

6. Mapping has been undertaken by the Suffolk Office of Data Analytics (SODA) to identify people with multiple vulnerabilities in three categories (clinical, social, and financial). As the slide below shows, 66,556 people (47,560 households) were identified in East Suffolk as having one or more vulnerability indicator and 58,817 were clinically vulnerable (including the 14,126 on the Clinically Extremely Vulnerable – CEV - list), 6,722 were financially vulnerable and 8,703 were socially vulnerable.



7. 47,307 of these 66,556 individuals, as shown on the slide below, were not being supported by Adult Care Services (ACS) or on the NHS shielding list – 32 had indicators across all three categories (clinical, social, and financial) – and are therefore a priority cohort for future support:

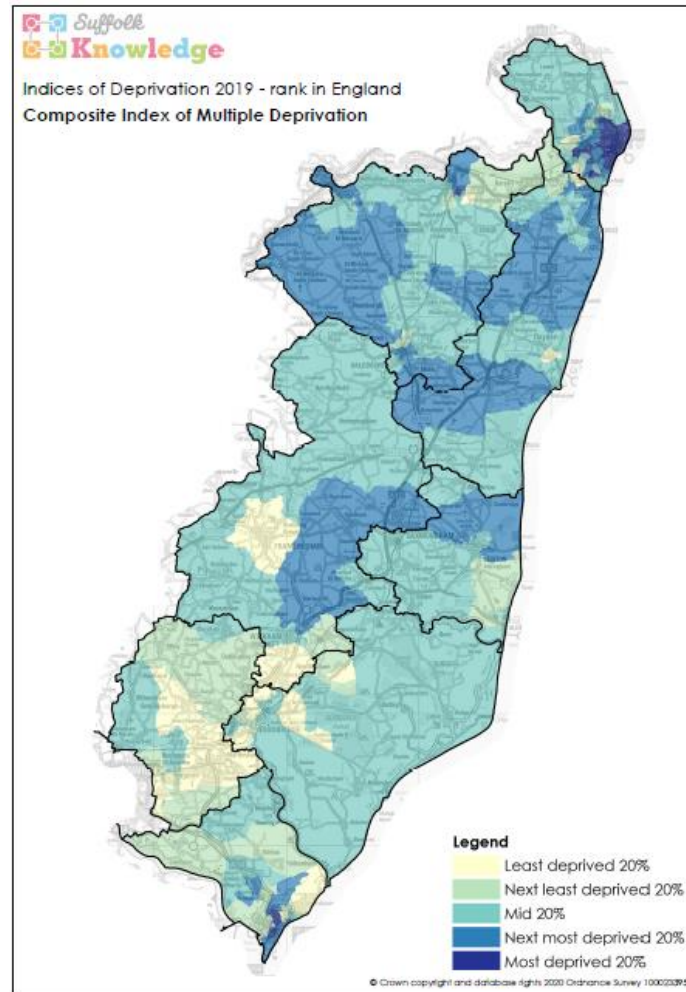


8. 2,026 people in East Suffolk have four or more vulnerability indicators, of these 1047 were Clinically Extremely Vulnerable and 979 were not.
9. We know that people in East Suffolk who were financially, clinically and/or or socially vulnerable prior to Covid-19 are likely to become more so. The Collaborative Communities Board, at the end of shielding on the 31st July, identified three key types of vulnerability:
 - a. Shielded/clinically extremely vulnerable people (14,126 in East Suffolk) who may struggle to adapt to going out in the community again
 - b. Those who are newly financially vulnerable (see below)
 - c. Those who were vulnerable before Covid-19, often sitting just below service thresholds and bouncing between services
10. Those who are newly vulnerable include the following groups in particular:
 - on zero hours contracts (immediate loss of income)
 - self-employed (many not eligible for Government help, likely to have committed outgoings higher than Universal Credit payment)
 - impacted by furloughing (including those eventually made redundant)
 - made redundant (particularly those made redundant in March/April who are likely to have exhausted any savings)
 - newly unemployed, exhausted savings and unable to reduce outgoings
 - claiming Universal Credit for the first time (may be delays in payments)
 - those at risk of eviction
 - those who were shielding to end of July but may have been unable to return to their role.

Financial/Economic Vulnerability

11. Low Income Family Tracker (LIFT) work in East Suffolk at the peak of Covid-19 identified cohorts of individuals and families who are more likely to slip into crisis during the pandemic (numbers in brackets indicate the number of families in East Suffolk within each category):
 - a. Couples with school age children eligible for free school meals with Council Tax arrears (40)
 - b. Couples with children under 5 with Council Tax arrears (26)
 - c. Lone parents with school age children eligible for free school meals with Council Tax arrears (13)
 - d. Lone parents with children under 5 with Council Tax arrears (46)
 - e. Self-employed households with children (22)
 - f. Households with low earnings - monthly gross earnings less than £512 (9)
12. We know that some communities – including those that are already deprived - are more likely to be impacted by Covid-19 e.g. in terms of social mobility, educational attainment, and economic resilience.

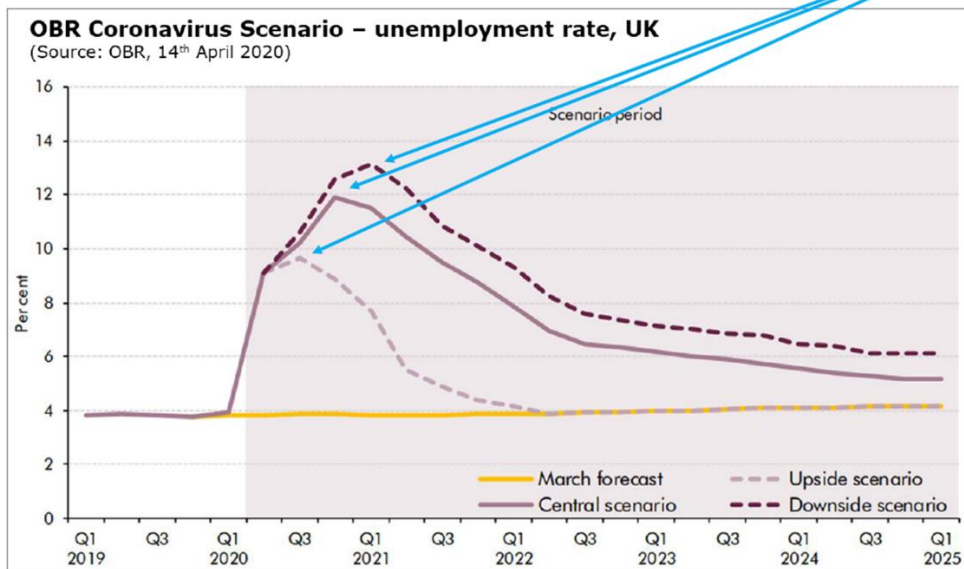
13. We are likely to see an increase in deprivation levels – some deprived communities could become even more deprived and the gap between deprived and affluent communities may grow – the map below shows multiple deprivation hot spots in East Suffolk in 2019:



14. It is estimated that there is a total of 9,998 low income families in East Suffolk and 6,797 children eligible for free school meals.
15. Ongoing increases in unemployment are expected over the coming months despite the furlough scheme being extended to March 2021, and these challenges are expected to last well into next year. The worst-case scenario is unemployment of over 13%. Nationally 1 in 3 firms have indicated that they are likely to decrease their workforce in the next three months.
16. These higher rates of unemployment could become embedded – employment deprivation was already higher in East Suffolk than the Suffolk average pre-Covid. Young people and those who are 50+ are disproportionately affected by unemployment.
17. East Suffolk has a high proportion of SME's, who are more vulnerable to the impacts of Covid-19 – sectors like hospitality have been hit particularly hard and high numbers of people in low skill, low wage jobs who could be forced out of these jobs as businesses close and others move down into this tier of the job market.

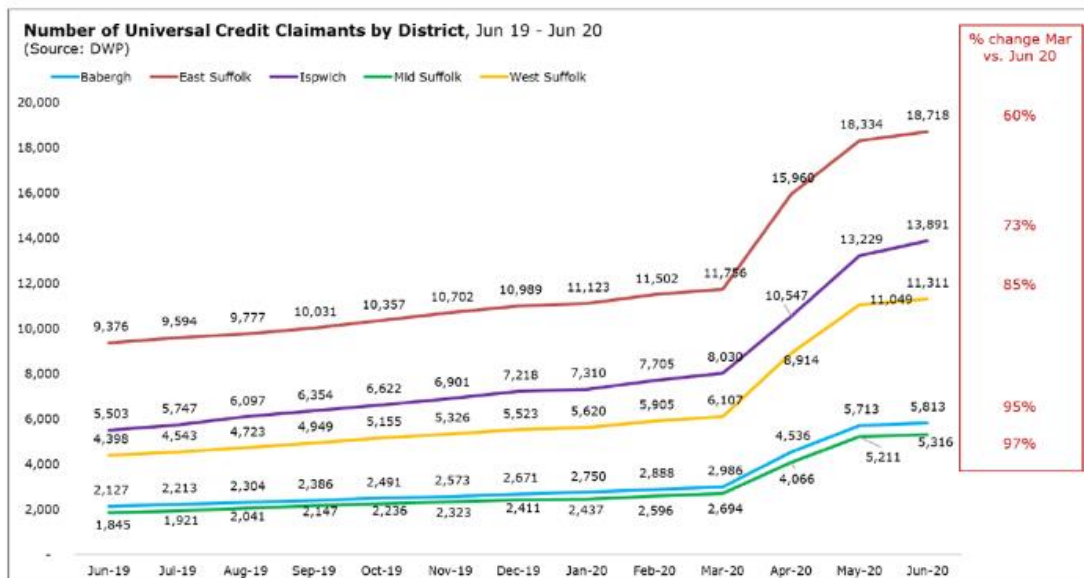
18. The average salary in England is £580 per week but the average East Suffolk salary is £151 less than this.
19. People may be forced to leave East Suffolk to find work – particularly young people and families. This would increase the proportion of dependents (young and retired people) compared to the working population – which is already at 1:1 in the District.

The Office of Budget Responsibility updated its Coronavirus Scenario (initial release March 2020), which models the impact of COVID-19 on the UK economy, on the 14th July. Based on their 3 scenarios **peak unemployment** rates across the UK will range between 9.7% (upside scenario) and 13.2% (downside scenario).



20. Unemployment and financial insecurity will, in turn, impact on housing security, leading to a change in the volume and type of demand for housing e.g. more people seeking rented accommodation.
21. Tenancy protection has now ended there is therefore likely to be an increase in the number of evictions and therefore people in urgent need of housing support.
22. We are already seeing impacts on mental health due to isolation/loneliness, financial hardship, and loss of employment – this will increase further (an 8.1% decline in Mental Health is predicted, particularly in young adults, women, and those with existing poor mental health).
23. A third of young people said that their mental health was worse following lockdown – that they had noticed a change in mood, thoughts, and feelings (Healthwatch survey)
24. There has been a huge increase in welfare support claims – Universal Credit claims increased by 69.4% between March and April 2020 (and 90% since April 2019), and lots of people are claiming benefits for the first time

Within Suffolk, the highest increases of UC claimants were in Mid Suffolk (97%) and Babergh (95%). While in absolute terms, East Suffolk and Ipswich continue to have the largest numbers of UC claimants.



25. There is likely to be more demand for support to meet basic life needs – shelter, food and fuel, which will lead to associated pressure on housing services, food banks, Citizens Advice etc – for example Lowestoft Food Bank had its busiest ever week in the first week in September.

26. Future lockdowns (national or local) would put additional pressure on community response services some of which started to struggle in July as volunteers returned to work

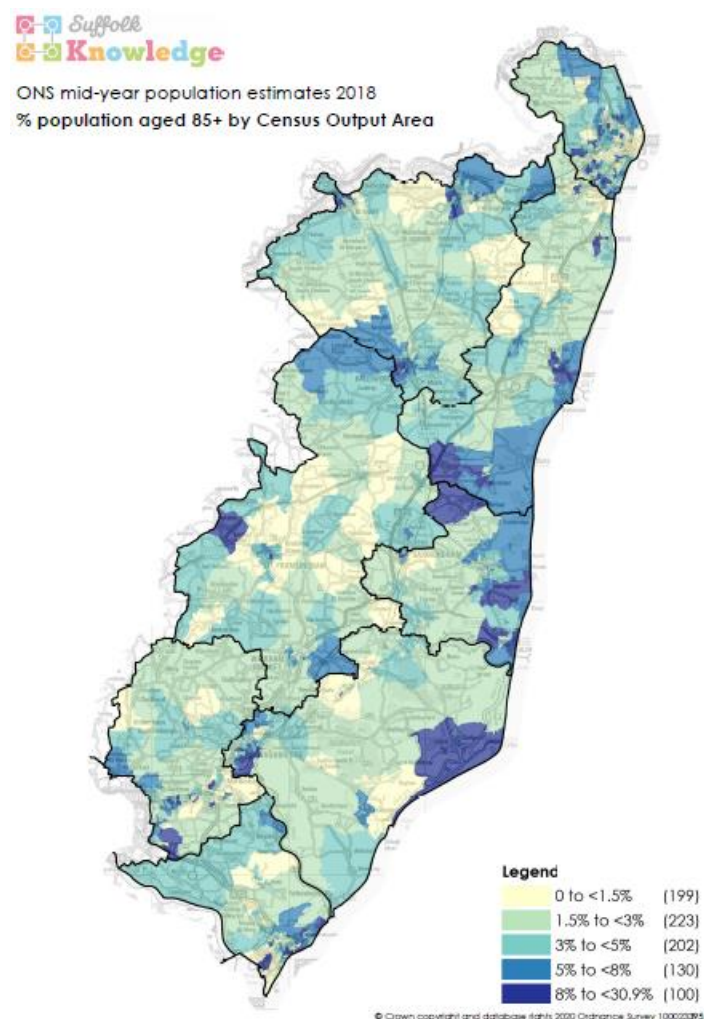
Clinical Vulnerability

27. 14,126 people were on the shielding list in East Suffolk when it paused on 31st July and just over 1,000 of these were in receipt of Government food parcels when shielding ceased at the end of June (from over 1,500 at peak).

28. Support for those who are shielding ended on 31st July (food and prescriptions) although priority online supermarket shopping and NHS responders were still available. Although full shielding has not been introduced under the second local lockdown, the Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) are advised to only leave the house to exercise and to attend medical appointments, not to access food or prescriptions.

29. Access to food is a local authority responsibility as the government is not providing free weekly food parcels. The Home But Not Alone line has now been stood back up and East Suffolk Council staff have already called those CEVs likely to most need support (just under 1,500 people from the overall list of over 14,000). This includes those who were receiving food parcels in July and those who have been added to the CEV list since then.

30. Through the Norfolk and Waveney CCG Eclipse Covid Protect scheme, ESC provided non-medical support for 100+ additional vulnerable people and this scheme is being reintroduced and will provide support for those Waveney digitally excluded and vulnerable CEV residents not already contacted by the Council.
31. Overall population health may deteriorate if fewer people continue to seek help with long term conditions – the older East Suffolk population is likely to be impacted more as they have more co-morbidities. For example, deconditioning and frailty are likely to increase due to lack of activity during ‘lockdown’– Felixstowe is already a frailty ‘hot spot’.
32. Life expectancy gaps may increase further between different parts of East Suffolk - the gap is already 10.9 years for males between Deben Ward and Kirkley Ward and 14.8 years for females between Kirton Ward and Kirkley Ward.
33. People may have sought escape from the restrictions through alcohol, cigarettes and possibly drugs and these habits could continue and become ingrained behaviours.
34. Almost 44,000 people in East Suffolk are aged 70 and over and almost 10,000 of these are over 85 and therefore likely to be more vulnerable both to Covid and to the changes in society and communities following Covid-19. The map below shows where there are concentrations of 85+ year olds in East Suffolk:



What is Already Happening in East Suffolk

- **Debt and Money Management** - a 'Money Matters' campaign, led by the ESC Communications Team in conjunction with the three Citizens Advice in East Suffolk, to encourage people to seek financial help as early as possible if they are worried about meeting their outgoings or emerging debt.

Money Matters | Managing Debt Together



- **Food Banks** - County Council funding (up to £250,000) was made available at the start of lockdown to support Food Banks in accessing food stocks and other resources. Community Action Suffolk recently completed a 6-week piece of work on behalf of the Collaborative Communities Board to map food banks and understand:
 - if existing food banks can meet current demand in their geographical area
 - if each food bank has a robust supply of food, to include ambient, chilled, and frozen
 - their ability to provide food parcels should Suffolk go into lockdown
 - to understand the number of times people have received support
 - clients supported by 'crisis type'
 - if they apply eligibility criteria in order for people to access the food bank,

The aim is also to develop a close working relationship with FareShare to understand ongoing costs, to enable existing food banks to continue operating during the Covid-19 crisis and resultant recession and to understand what, if any, support they need.

- A new single point of access, the **Suffolk Advice and Support Service (SASS)**, has been set up for those who are facing hardship because of Covid-19. Many people have been furloughed in Suffolk, some have already lost their jobs and it is extremely likely that many thousands more will do so into 2021, compounded by the potential for further lockdowns. There is an increasing need to take a holistic approach to each person's situation and identify a whole range of issues and solutions that are often inter-dependant. Much of it is centred around debt advice which requires specialist skills and knowledge to triage, assess and advise. The Collaborative Communities Board (CCB) has worked with the Citizen Advice Suffolk to establish a Helpline: 0800 068 3131, which operates Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm. People can leave a name and number outside of these hours and will receive a call back within 1 working day. The Suffolk Advice and Support Service – see

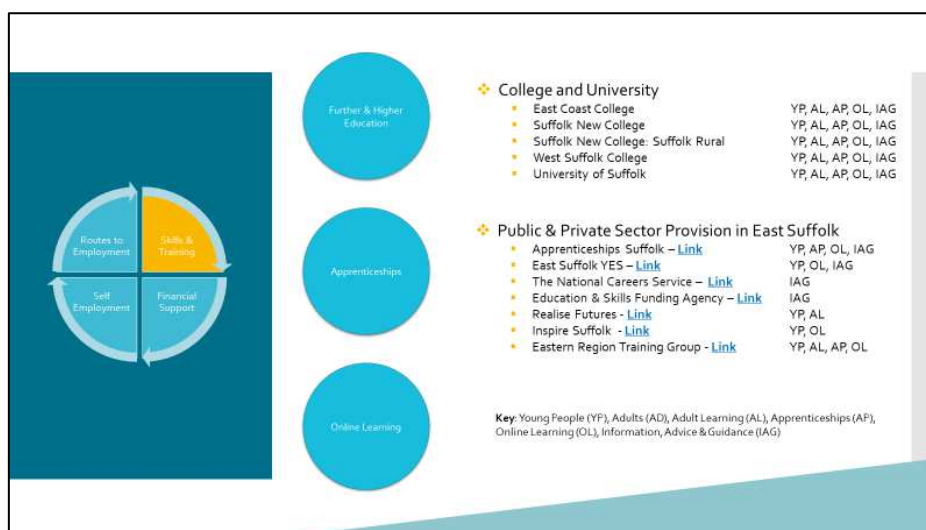
<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/suffolk-advice-and-support-service/> - brings together five essential areas of work:

- Single Point of Access
 - Local Welfare Assistance Scheme (see below)
 - Food banks
 - Suffolk InfoLink
 - The Warm Handover
- **Local Welfare Assistance Scheme** – LWAS aims to ensure that vulnerable people in Suffolk, who have no other way of meeting essential basic needs, can have those needs met. Assistance from the LWAS is on a cashless basis in the form of referrals for household items (furniture and white goods), fuel vouchers to enable gas and electricity card/key top-ups, and supermarket vouchers. To be considered for LWAS in Suffolk, someone must be:
 - Aged 16 or over and
 - A permanent resident in Suffolk (or in exceptional cases can establish that they will be resident in Suffolk within 28 days, such as people leaving a hostel or prison that is outside of the county) and
 - In need of immediate urgent support and/or
 - In need of essential basic household items such as furniture, white goods, or fuel top-ups to enable them to set up or maintain their home and
 - Have no other means of meeting the need(s) presented

There are a range of gateway organisations who can refer people into the LWAS scheme.

- **Employment Support** - the ESC Economic Development Team is leading a piece of work to bring together information about employment, training, and apprentices into one simple and easy to access on-line portal to make it easier for people to find the information that they need





- The **Kickstart Scheme** provides funding to create new job placements for 16-24-year olds on Universal Credit and at risk of long-term unemployment. Employers of all sizes can apply for funding which covers 100% of the National Minimum Wage (or National Living Wage depending on age) for 6 months plus NI contributions. An application should be for a minimum of 30 placements which can be spread in terms of start dates up to December 2021. If an employer cannot provide this many placements, they can work through a Kickstart Gateway organisation. Funding is also available for training and skills development.
- Youth Voice – Appendix A to the report summarises the results of a survey undertaken by ESC to assess the impact of Covid-19 on young people. This highlights that those who responded wanted:
 - more reassurance and updates on what is going on in the community and how things are going to change
 - more counsellors in school and on the internet to provide mental health support
 - future employment/unemployment support and advice.
 - 15% felt they don't require any future support.
- **Youth Employment Support** – with the imminent rise in youth unemployment and the damaging effects that Covid-19 has had on their future employment opportunities and confidence, Inspire Suffolk has launched their Youth Employment Service Website www.yessuffolk.co.uk. The website is packed full of supportive workshops, live job vacancies, 1-2-1 coaching, careers advice sessions and personalised training opportunities to help young people aged 16-24 move forward in work and life.



YES. YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

- The East Suffolk Youth Employment Service provides employment, education and training advice to young people aged 16-24 in East Suffolk.
- Current COVID-19 restrictions mean that anyone can register and meet virtually with an experienced Work Coach to discuss their career needs and aspirations. Local hubs are due to re-open from October.
- Following an initial assessment, an assigned Work Coach will develop a bespoke package of support that will help individuals understand their strengths and weaknesses, identify opportunities for progression, and navigate appropriate pathways into employment, education, and/or training.
- Contact ES YES:
 - Web: www.yessuffolk.co.uk
 - Telephone: 07590 983294
 - Email: info@yessuffolk.co.uk




ESYES is funded jointly by all Local Authorities across Suffolk

- The proposed next cohorts of **Low Income Family Tracker (LIFT)** work includes:
 - Single Pensioners living alone who are classified as 'In Crisis' (27)
 - Single pensioners living alone / 'At Risk' / aged 85+ (155)
 - Single Pensioners living alone who are disabled and classified as 'At Risk' (127)
- BT and other larger companies are sharing their Apprenticeship Levy's with other smaller companies and have a Work Ready Programme that could be replicated. There is potential to unlock volunteer capacity from places like Adastral Park, for example with food delivery and tech support and possible support with storage of food in currently unused buildings.

What else could the Community Partnership Board do?

The Task and Finish Group has developed a number of ideas for consideration by the Board. Because of the pressures on the 2020/21 budget, these have been split between short (before March 2021) and longer-term projects and it has also been indicated which age group within our community would benefit from each project:

Project	Short Term	Longer Term	Young People	Work Age	Older People
Skills development a) A package of projects to support the upskilling and reskilling of specific groups of people: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16-25-year olds (through the YES – see below) • Care Leavers • Older young people (late twenties) • Seasonal workers • Those whose furlough period is ending • Over 55's (link to the East Suffolk volunteering campaign and role of volunteering as a pathway back into work)		*	*	*	*
b) Develop a Kick-Start readiness programme for those young people who aren't quite ready for a 6-month work placement		*	*		

<p>Reducing Frailty</p> <p>c) Explore how to specifically support over 70's to remain active thus reducing deconditioning and frailty – links to the EAST Box project below. This would also help with the management of long-term conditions.</p> <p>d) Build on the BT tech trial for older/vulnerable people to explore how we can support people to be safe at home e.g. checking that they are moving, drinking, accessing the fridge etc.</p>		*			*
<p>Food Poverty</p> <p>e) Use the results of the CAS survey of food banks to understand gaps in East Suffolk and consider additional funding or other support to sustain food banks and food projects e.g. community fridges/pantries/food schemes</p> <p>f) Ensure that those who are newly vulnerable and in need of food bank support have access to Christmas food and treats</p>	*			*	*
<p>EAST (Everyone Active, Supported, Together) Box</p> <p>g) Develop winter activity packs for older people – similar to the Summer in a Box packs for vulnerable young people - to be distributed in January 2021 to 2,000 older, lonely residents (see Outcome Proposal).</p> <p>h) Introduce a 'Buddy Up' system so that each box recipient has a 'buddy' to help and encourage them to use the contents of the box.</p>	*				*
<p>Vulnerability Gaps</p> <p>i) Consider data from the Suffolk Advice Support Service and the Local Welfare Assistance Scheme for East Suffolk to understand what needs are not being met e.g. heating oil sand identify who is in most extreme need and what additional support they might need.</p>		*		*	*

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Board:

- a) consider and endorse the package of projects identified by the Covid Impacts Task and Finish Group to respond to the Vulnerable People and Places priority identified by the Board at its June meeting
- b) mandate the Task and Finish Group and partner organisations to develop these projects and report back to the March Board meeting
- c) allocate up to £20,000 towards the EAST Box project (any unspent funding would be returned to the budget) as per the outcome proposal attached to this report as Appendix 2

Nicole Rickard, Head of Communities, East Suffolk Council, on behalf of the Task and Finish Group

COVID-19 YOUNG PEOPLE'S SURVEY

East Suffolk Council and Youth Voice wanted to understand how the Coronavirus has affected young people across East Suffolk. Therefore, we decided to conduct a survey.

87 YOUNG PEOPLE responded and East Suffolk Council will use the collected data to help identify what support may be needed for young people during future waves of Covid-19 and the recovery process.

47% of respondents were aged 13-15. **68%** of responses were from Lowestoft residents with 20 Towns and Villages being represented in total.

BIGGEST CONCERNS DUE TO COVID-19...

- School and education, including GCSE's and falling behind in their studies.
- Risk of family and people they care about catching Covid-19.
- Not being able to see friends.
- How will life look post Covid-19.

HOW HAVE YOU BEEN HELPED DURING COVID-19?

- Schools have provided work packs, online learning, teacher phone calls and zoom catch ups
- **21%** have been supported through community initiatives or groups such as youth clubs, church groups, the Scouts, drama clubs and sports.

16%
have received
support through talking
to friends online

24%
said family have helped
them with schoolwork
and mental and
emotional support

21%
said they felt
they didn't
receive any support

Agenda Item 6

SUPPORT FOR THE FUTURE...

- Respondents discussed they would like more contact with their school including more Zoom lessons and better resources (internet for students who can't access it at home)
- More reassurance and updates of what is going on in the community and how things are going to change.
- Students would like more counsellors in school and on the internet to provide mental health support.
- Future unemployment support and advice.
- **15%** felt they don't require any future support.

POSITIVE IMPACTS...

- More time for themselves, getting to know themselves better, and appreciating what they have in life.
- Being more active and eating healthier.
- **26%** felt there was no positive impact for them.

23%
enjoyed spending
more time
with family

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO POST-COVID-19...

- **49%** are looking forward to seeing friends and family.
- **11%** said not having to worry mentally anymore about Covid-19.
- **23%** said continuing hobbies such as football, shopping, cinema and eating out.
- **17%** are looking forward to returning to school.

WHAT NEXT...

East Suffolk Council will share responses with our partners, including schools, Town and Parish Councils and youth service providers who will be encouraged to consider the findings when delivering services in the future which impact on young people. Students across East Suffolk will also be considering the findings from this survey during a multi-schools event in November this year to try and combat social isolation in communities. Funding from East Suffolk Council will assist in making some of the students ideas from this event become a reality.

Initial Outcome Proposal to the East Suffolk Community Partnership Board – FY 2020/21

(Stage 1 Proposal)

1. Key outcome(s)

- Reduced sense of loneliness and isolation for 2,000 residents aged 65+ over the winter period
- Increased sense of purpose and personal resilience
- Improved mental and physical health and wellbeing
- A greater understanding of which activities help older residents to cope with isolation and loneliness best
- More older people encouraged to use technical solutions, including using their East Suffolk Grandpad, to access activities, events and social support.

2. How has the need been identified?

Six of the eight Community Partnership workshops identified Social Isolation & Loneliness in their top three priorities, it was top overall in terms of combined number of votes and was also a clear priority at the East Suffolk Partnership Forum workshop in November 2019.

In East Suffolk we have over 14,000 people in the Clinically Extremely Vulnerable Group and we know that many of these struggled with isolation, loneliness and being confined to the house during the shielding period between March and July 2020 and are struggling with the restrictions during lockdown two, particularly due to the short days and winter weather. There are lots of other vulnerable groups within the District, particularly amongst the older population who are less digitally connected. The East Suffolk Communities Team has been pro-actively calling those thought to be most vulnerable and have identified an increase in loneliness and a decline in mental health, particularly amongst those who live alone or who are struggling to care for someone that they live with.

3. Who will benefit from the outcomes?

As demand is expected to be high given that there are almost 44,000 people aged over 70 in East Suffolk, the Council is working with partners, including our Social Prescribing providers (Citizens Advice North East Suffolk, Access Community Trust, Shaw Trust and Suffolk Family Carers) and the Rural Coffee Caravan to identify those who best fit the following criteria:

1. Permanent resident of East Suffolk
2. Aged 65 or over
3. Living alone or caring for someone else in the household
4. Identified (either by themselves or by others) as isolated and/or lonely

If an individual meets all of these criteria then the decision to allocate an EAST Box will hinge on availability.

4. How will the outcomes(s) be sustained after the funding period (if appropriate)?

East Suffolk Council will evaluate the scheme to determine its success and whether residents would

benefit from the scheme being rolled out further and/or repeated if additional funding can be secured through a survey in the boxes.

5. Name of Project/activity that will deliver the outcome(s)

EAST (Everyone Active, Supported Together) Boxes

6. Brief description of the project / activity that will deliver the outcome(s).

Building on the success of the 'Summer in a Box' project led by Suffolk County Council aimed at vulnerable families over the school summer holiday this year, East Suffolk Council would like to work with a range of partners to trial EAST boxes aimed at older people who live alone (or care for someone in the household) and who are vulnerable due to social isolation and/or loneliness.

The contents of the EAST Boxes are themed – **Keeping Active, Active Minds and Eating Well**. Some examples of contents for each theme are as follows:

Keeping Active – Water bottle, resistance bands and activity cards (developed by Suffolk Public Health), hand warmer, 'Keeping Active in Winter' information.

Active Minds – could include a mixture of puzzle and crossword books, quizzes, colouring books, books/audio books, packs of cards and information about card games

Eating Well – recipe cards and ingredients (developed by pinkorange), food treats etc.

We will also include information about key local contacts and services e.g. Warmer Homes, Suffolk Advice and Support Service, befriending schemes etc.

We are working in partnership with a range of organisations, including One Life Suffolk, Norfolk and Suffolk Foundation Trust, SCC Public Health, Active Suffolk and Access Community Trust, to develop the contents of the boxes.

We are also in discussions with Adnams, Munchy Seeds, East of England Co-op and other local businesses about providing freebies to include as treats in the boxes.

Packing of the boxes is likely to be undertaken in partnership with Hollesley Prison. Distribution of the boxes will be managed by the Communities Team at East Suffolk Council in conjunction with the VCSE social prescribing provider organisations. We are initially allocating 200 boxes for each of the eight Community Partnership areas, which leaves 400 spare to be allocated in the more populated areas, based on demand.

During the trial period, East Suffolk Council is evaluating the scheme to determine its success. and whether residents will benefit from the scheme being rolled out further if additional funding can be secured.

Project / activity START DATE (mm/yy): 12//20

END DATE (mm/yy): 03/21

7. Who is involved?

Who is involved in developing this outcome proposal?

East Suffolk Council
Ipswich & East CCG

Project / activity lead:

Name: Nicole Rickard

Organisation: East Suffolk Council

Telephone: 01502 523606

Who will deliver the project/activity? East Suffolk Council and partners Name of East Suffolk Community Partnerships Board Member supporting the project: Letitia Smith	Email: nicole.rickard@eastsoffolk.gov.uk
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8. Give information about match funding here:		
Source of match funding:	Funding confirmed?	Amount (£)
Ipswich & East Suffolk CCG	yes	10,000

Total project / activity cost	£30,000
Total of confirmed match funding	£10,000
Total amount of Strategic funding required	£20,000

9. Identify where the Community Partnership Board Strategic Budget will be spent:	
Description of activity or item (by who and by when where appropriate)	Cost (£)
1. Development of 2,000 EAST Boxes, to include a mixture of contents, for lonely older East Suffolk residents	30,000

10. How will the project / activity be monitored, and outcomes reported (including project risks)?
<p>Project management is being undertaken by a delivery group consisting of Head of Communities, two Communities Officers and the Communities Apprentice and we are working in partnership with Suffolk County Council, Ipswich and East Suffolk CCG and VCSE organisations, including Community Action Suffolk who have proposed a Buddy scheme to encourage recipients to use the contents of the box to their full potential.</p> <p>Monitoring will be undertaken through a follow up survey with the recipients to see what they used from the list of contents in each box and what they found most useful/enjoyable/made the most difference. Where recipients have digital access, including through our own Grandpad scheme, we will encourage them to access additional online resources.</p>

Community Partnership Board Member Declaration:
<p>I confirm that I support this proposal:</p> <p>Name:</p> <p>Signature:</p> <p>Date:</p>

Please submit this proposal to the Funding Team at grants@eastsoffolk.gov.uk Hard copies can be submitted and returned to: Funding Team, East Suffolk Council, East Suffolk House, Station Road, Melton, Woodbridge, IP12 1RT.

Community Partnership Board 7th December 2020

Community Partnerships update (at 24 November 2020) by Letitia Smith



1. Budget:

- £10,000 per Partnership 2019-20 / £25,000 for 2020/21 (rolled into one fund for 2020-21)
- £280,000 total funding for all Community Partnerships to date
- £200,689 allocated / proposed for community projects and activities
- £79,311 remaining to be allocated before April 2021

2. Activity:

Community Partnership	CP Priorities (Having been reviewed considering Covid-19)	Working arrangement i) CP Meetings scheduled ii) Chair / Vice Chair iii) Task & Finish Groups / other activity	Impact / Spend [NB: due to exceptional circumstances caused by Lockdown all CP's that had underspend last FY have rolled into one fund to allocate by end FY 2020-21]
Aldeburgh, Leiston, Saxmundham and villages	Focus has shifted to the next 3 key priorities identified at the Community Partnership's Workshop in November 2019 (to reflect Covid-19 response): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education, Opportunities and Aspirations • Reduce social isolation and loneliness – particularly carers, older people, and men 40+ • Encourage and enable everyone to be more physically active and healthy 	i) MEETING DATES & PAPERS ii) Chair: Tony Cooper Vice Chair: TJ Haworth-Culf ii) TASK & FINISH GROUP(S): i) Reduce social isolation and loneliness, & ii) Education, opportunities, and aspirations [Priority 3 – encourage and enable everyone to be more physically active and healthy runs through both T&F groups].	1. £3,024: Economic Regeneration of Sax High Street 2. £5,000: Community Grant Scheme 3. £9,350: Community Art Project [Outcome proposal for the Leiston Dementia Project will be considered at extraordinary meeting of the CP 1/12/20] £17,626 remaining this financial year
Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and villages	Priorities reviewed and stay the same: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active and sustainable transport solutions / community transport • Reduce social isolation and loneliness • Improve wellbeing and enable people to live healthy lives 	i) MEETING DATES & PAPERS ii) Chair: Judy Cloke Vice Chair: Caroline Topping TASK & FINISH GROUP(S) A T&F group to form a Small Grants Scheme to allow groups/organisations from the whole CP area to apply for funding which could enable activities/projects to start up again or new initiatives to begin to meet local needs.	1. £3,250: Reclaiming Bungay's Old Cemetery 2. £3,250: Bringing a piece of land back into a community growing space in Beccles 3. £1,500: Open access Free school summer holiday activities for young people (9-16 years) (Delayed start till next year) 4. £10,000 to fund small grants scheme £17,000 remaining this financial year

<p>Carlton Colville, Kessingland, Southwold and villages</p>	<p>Priorities reviewed and stay the same:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active and sustainable transport provision, particularly rural • Reduce social isolation and loneliness • Facilities, activities, and employment for young people 	<p>i) MEETING DATES & PAPERS</p> <p>i) Chair: Jenny Ceresa Vice Chair: Michael Ladd</p> <p>TASK & FINISH GROUP(S): A T&F group has been set up to address the priority to reduce social isolation and loneliness.</p>	<p>1. £2,000: Community café at Carlton Colville Hub. 2. £2,000: Detached Youth with Carlton Colville Parish Council. 3. £1,750: The Loft Youth Centre 4. £2,000: Kessingland Parish Council new youth café 5. £2,250 Research into provision for young people across the patch. [on hold due to the Covid, Outcome Proposal has not been submitted / approved].</p> <p>CP meeting 18/11/20 endorsed proposals from T&F Group to fund projects to address social isolation and loneliness: 6. Sloppy Slippers 50 pairs = £800 7. Talking Benches £500 x 10 = £5,000 8. Voice of a Friend = £2325 9. Grants Scheme £15,000</p> <p>£1,875 remaining this financial year</p>
<p>Felixstowe Peninsula</p>	<p>Priorities reviewed and focus has shifted to reflect Covid-19 response.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackle social isolation and loneliness • Add: Improve physical and mental health and wellbeing • Education – aspirations, ambitions, and standards • NB: Community spaces and physical enhancements still a priority but will revisit again later to explore mechanisms to deliver on this. 	<p>i) MEETING DATES & PAPERS</p> <p>ii) Chair: Mark Jepson Vice Chair: Sharon Harkin</p> <p>TASK & FINISH GROUP(S) A T&F group set up to develop a small grant scheme.</p>	<p>1. £5,000: Basics Foodbank 2. £2,000: FACTS Community Transport 3. £1,000: Adult & Community Services Fuel Vouchers 4. £5,000: Felixstowe Academy Library Project 5. £5,000: Friends of Felixstowe Library Project 6. £2,000: Community Directory (Outcome Proposal yet to be submitted / approved) 7. £10,000: Small Grants Scheme</p> <p>£5,000 remaining this financial year</p>
<p>Framlingham, Wickham Market, and villages</p>	<p>Priorities reviewed and stay the same:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing opportunities for young people • Reduce social isolation and loneliness • Alternative, active, and sustainable transport provision 	<p>i) MEETING DATES & PAPERS</p> <p>ii) Chair: Carol Poulter Vice Chair: Maurice Cook</p> <p>TASK & FINISH GROUP(S) i) Developing Opportunities and Services for Young People with <u>follow up consultation event</u> & ii) Social Isolation and Loneliness</p>	<p>Project suggestions now considered by the CP. Members are preparing outcome proposal forms (to be completed by the 30th November), these will then be considered by the Chair and forwarded for signed off.</p> <p>Key proposals supported by the group (CP Members are preparing outcome proposals: 1. £2,800: Youth Outreach Work in Wickham Market 2. £3,000: Youth Outreach Work in Framlingham 3. £5,000: Extended youth services, at Pageant Field/the Con Club/FAYAP building, Thomas Mills</p>

			<p>4. £1,000: Travel support scheme for young people to access interview/work / training</p> <p>5. £3,500: Student Life research on youth provision and needs in the wider community</p> <p>6. £3,000: East Coast EV Taxi bus Pilot</p> <p>7. £15,000: Hour Community EV Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle</p> <p>8. Talking Bench project (to be costed)</p> <p>£1,200 remaining this financial year</p>
<p>Kesgrave, Rushmere St Andrew, Martlesham, Carlford and Fynn Valley</p>	<p>priorities reviewed and will stay the same:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce social isolation & loneliness • Environmental care and sustainable transport • Support people to age well • Traffic and road safety 	<p>i) MEETING DATES & PAPERS</p> <p>ii) Chair: Chris Blundell Vice Chair: Robert Whiting</p> <p>TASK & FINISH GROUP(S) A T&F Group set up to finalise the criteria and type of scheme to support through the Environmental Grant Scheme.</p>	<p>1. £9,040: Chinwag Kesgrave</p> <p>2. £1,000: Meet up Mondays</p> <p>3. £5,000: Mental Health First Aid</p> <p>4. £5,000: Environmental Grant Scheme</p> <p>5. £5,040: Wellbeing programmes to 65+</p> <p>6. £2,500: Talking benches</p> <p>7. £500 contribution to speed reduction project in Great Bealings</p> <p>£6,920 remaining this financial year</p>
<p>Lowestoft and northern parishes</p>	<p>Priorities reviewed and stay the same:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve mental health and wellbeing • Tackle childhood obesity • Reduce social isolation – all ages • 	<p>i) MEETING DATES & PAPERS</p> <p>ii) Chair: Paul Ashdown Vice Chair: Danny Steel</p> <p>TASK & FINISH GROUP(S): i) Mental Health: A group set up to brainstorm the first ideas ii) Childhood Obesity: An ongoing subgroup set up to develop and steer an 18 months programme of work.</p>	<p>1. £9,935: Voice of a friend</p> <p>2. £8,500: Young people obesity project</p> <p>3. £10,000: Small Grant Scheme (to be approved)</p> <p>£6,565 remaining this financial year</p>
<p>Melton, Woodbridge, and Deben Peninsula</p>	<p>Priorities reviewed and stay the same:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active and sustainable transport provision • Village Hub – bringing services to people • Youth Engagement, opportunities, and services 	<p>i) MEETING DATES & PAPERS</p> <p>ii) Chair: Chris Mapey Vice Chair: James Mallinder</p> <p>TASK & FINISH GROUP(S): i) Youth Engagement, & ii) Village Hubs, bringing services to people (survey and research completed)</p>	<p>1. £10,000: Hollesley Village Hall Project</p> <p>2. £10,000: Village Hubs Grant Scheme to help achieve the objectives of supporting Village Hubs and Bringing Services to People.</p> <p>3. £15,000: Youth Engagement Grant Scheme Funding for Youth Engagement Opportunities and Services.</p> <p>All funding allocated this financial year</p>