

Key outcomes of the East Suffolk Community Partnership Board meeting held 7 December 2020.

1. Recap:

All eight Community Partnerships are represented on The Community Partnership Board by their respective Chairs.

The Board is currently focussed on these issues across East Suffolk:

- Transport
- Social Isolation and Loneliness
- Covid Impacts

The Community Partnership Board meeting agendas / papers / minutes can be viewed [HERE](#)

2. Progress on Transport Priority

A Transport Task Group had met on 26.10.20 to focus on i) Active and Sustainable Travel ii) Community Transport solutions ii) Rural Transport

The Task group recommend a twin track approach to the Transport Priority:

Short Term:

- Develop short-term 'quick win' deliverables.
- 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.

Medium – Long term:

- Study transport and travel issues & gaps in East Suffolk to provide rigorous data and intelligence on which to base future work.
- Work with strategic partners to redesign parts of the system, and collectively lobby to influence for change.

The Board agreed to this approach, and the Task Group has now taken the role of the Transport Programme Steering Group to help problem solve the transport priority. The three key elements for success are:

- i) The steering group – now scheduled to meet 27.01.21
- ii) A programme manager – who will start 01.02.21 (following an offer by EDF to provide a member of their staff to carry out the role for the Task Group)
- iii) A delivery budget – **the Board allocated £80k from its 2020/21 budget to fund this.**

The Travel and Transport improvement Programme proposal can be viewed [HERE](#)

The Board also agreed to support Suffolk County Council to trial an innovative new “Katch” EV Taxi bus service between Framlingham, Wickham Market and Campsea Ashe Station from January next Year. **The Board allocated 40k** from its budget towards this trial.

The Katch proposal can be viewed [HERE](#)

The full report from the Transport Task Group can be viewed [HERE](#)

3. Update on Social Isolation and Loneliness Priority

To date, a total of £135,000 had 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.

The Board received a brief update on the four projects funded by them 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.

The full report, with details of projects that have received grant funding to end November 2020 can be viewed [HERE](#)

4. Covid Impacts Task and Finish Group Report

The Covid impacts Task and Finish Group had met again on 13th October 2020 to focus specifically on 'Vulnerable People and Places'. Having received a report from that group highlighting a range of potential needs and existing solutions, the Board agreed to:

- endorse the package of projects identified by the Covid Impacts Task and Finish Group to respond to the issue of 'Vulnerable People and Places'.
- mandate the Task and Finish Group and partner organisations to develop these projects and report back to the March Board meeting
- **allocate up to £20,000 towards the EAST (Everyone Active, Supported, Together) Box project** 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 full report from the Covid impacts Task Group can be viewed [HERE](#)

The proposal for the EAST (Everyone Active, Supported Together) Boxes can be viewed [HERE](#)

Luke Bennett, Partnerships Manager. 17.12.2020