

Key outcomes of the East Suffolk Community Partnership Board meeting held 1 March 2021.

1. Recap:

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

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

2. One Year On - Annual Impact Review

A review of the impact of Community Partnerships was led by Steve Gallant, Chairman.

The presentation can be viewed [HERE](#)

Key points relating to the eight Community Partnerships (CP's):

- The Community Partnership model was based on and IN communities, envisaged as centred on dynamic workshops and meetings in community spaces (villages halls community centres etc) to allow people to come together and problem solve local issues in their own local area. COVID totally changed this and added a whole new dimension to issues faced by communities. The CP's have responded magnificently by shifting their whole model to virtual working and managing to successfully develop a programme of work to support and coordinate elements of our community response to Covid across the whole of East Suffolk, as well as delivering on their own priorities. Several CPs have also set up Task and Finish Groups to make progress between meetings.
- £247,951 has been committed to projects across all eight CP's. with 48 projects planned, completed or underway across all eight CP's this year. However, total project costs across all CP's amounts to £604,435.09. This is combined funding for projects either initiated, developed, or supported by the CP's which represents a multiplier of 1.48 on their own budgets (i.e. for every pound that ESC has invested through the CPs a further £1.48 has been contributed). This demonstrates the value that is added by working in partnership by bringing budgets and funding streams together around shared priorities.

3. Progress from the Covid Impact Task and Finish Group.

The Covid Impacts Task and Finish Group has now met three times since it was formed, most recently on February 5th, 2021. the group reviewed all the material considered at its previous meetings about the impacts of Covid-19 in East Suffolk. This is summarised in a table [HERE](#)

The East Suffolk Buddy Up programme will build on the Suffolk model designed and delivered by Community Action Suffolk which in turn emerged from the Community Can programme. CAS are recruiting three members of staff to lead on their Isolation Buddies programme - one to work across Suffolk, one to focus on BAME and hard to reach communities and a legacy officer. All these roles are linked to the Covid

Outbreak Management Fund ambition to limit the transmission of Covid-19 by supporting people to stay well.

The model involves the recruitment of Covid-Support Buddies, initially from Good Neighbour Schemes and mutual aid/Covid response groups. The East Suffolk programme will augment this model by providing additional capacity to focus on recruiting, training, and supporting Community Buddies and Digital Buddies/Champions in our District. The aim is to support people to stay well and connected during the response phase of Covid-19 and then to support people to re-connect with community groups, activities, and facilities during the Covid-19 recovery phase. The full outcome proposal can be viewed [HERE](#)

Following discussion, the Board agreed to:

- Allocate £10,369 towards the Buddy Up project
- Allocate the remaining (£11,500) to the East Suffolk Grandpads scheme.
- Allocate £22,049.73 to the Bounce Back Fund
- Mandate the Task and Finish Group and partner organisations to develop the projects identified as a priority for 2021/22 funding from the Community Partnership Board and bring outcome proposals back to the June Board meeting

4. Feedback on the Transport and Travel Programme

The Programme Manager has started work on the programme, following the kind offer from EDF (15 hrs p/w for 6 months). Progress to date:

- Kicked off both quantitative and qualitative data gathering, which is due to ramp up over the next couple of weeks.
- Produced a key contacts list to support the creation of the CPB transport & travel strategy and begun contacting all 8 Community Partnership Chairs to arrange a conversation.
- Created a plan of action for the path leading to the strategy and fed back to the task group for further input.

5. Looking forward

The Board considered the coming year in East Suffolk and reviewed it's ambitions for 2021/22. Presentation "What will this year look like in East Suffolk" can be viewed [HERE](#)

The Board agreed to:

1. Maintain focus on current Priorities:

- Isolation and Loneliness (even bigger issue than pre-Covid...)
- Transport and Travel (deliver more impacts at a community level this year)

2. Continue to tackle the impacts of Covid-19 with a specific focus on Vulnerable People and Places

3. Also focus on Mental Health and Wellbeing (third highest Community Partnership priority – given links to Isolation and Loneliness and a growing issue due to Covid)

Luke Bennett, Partnerships Manager. 03.03.2021