

East Suffolk Community Partnerships Overview - January 2020

What are Community Partnerships?

Community Partnerships are an innovative new way for the Council, partners and communities to work together to 'bring ideas to life' by taking a solution-focussed approach to local priorities

Why?

During the consultation on forming the new East Suffolk Council (ESC), concerns were expressed about the 55 Councillors covering larger geographical areas, more Town and Parish Councils and more people, and becoming disconnected from local people.

How Many?

Eight Community Partnerships (CPs), based on natural groupings of communities, using the new ESC ward boundaries as the 'building blocks'.

Who?

- Each ESC Councillor will sit on their CP – between 4 and 14 ESC Councillors per CP area
- Each SCC Councillor will attend the CP that best fits with their SCC Division
- All the Town Councils within the CP boundary plus one Parish Council/Meeting per ESC Ward
- Suffolk Police and the relevant CCG – either Norfolk and Waveney or Ipswich & East Suffolk
- 2 x voluntary organisations and/or community groups (through Community Action Suffolk)
- Youth and Business representatives
- Lowestoft Rising, Leiston Together or Felixstowe Forward (where relevant)

How?

- Informal bodies with a solution-focussed workshop style, rather than a formal board or committee
- Focussed on priorities identified at an annual workshop and based on data (facts and figures) and local insight
- Simple Terms of Reference
- All eight CP Chairs will sit on the Community Partnership Board, alongside key partners including the CCGs and Police, ESC, SCC, SALC, CAS and the Greenprint Forum
- CPs will evolve organically in each area to reflect local distinctiveness
- Annual Forum bringing representatives from all 8 CPs together

Community Partnership Workshops

Between 27th October and 27th November 2019, the eight East Suffolk Community Partnerships were launched with a programme of workshops based around a tailored data pack, one in each of the Community Partnership areas. Attendance ranged from 30 to 80 participants per workshop and three priorities were agreed by those present at each workshop (derived both from the data presented on the evening and from intelligence about local needs):

Community Partnership Priorities



Lowestoft and northern parishes	Kesgrave, Martlesham and villages	Melton, Woodbridge and Deben Peninsula	Carlton Colville, Kessingland, Southwold and villages
1. Improve mental health and wellbeing (45)	1. Reduce social isolation & loneliness (27)	1. Active and sustainable transport provision (39)	1. Active and sustainable transport provision, particularly rural (27)
2.= Tackle childhood obesity (31)	2. Environmental care and sustainable transport (23)	2. Village Hub – bringing services to people (28)	2. Reduce social isolation and loneliness
2.= Reduce social isolation – all ages (31)	3. Support people to age well/Traffic and road safety (17)	3. Youth Engagement, opportunities and services (21)	3. Facilities, activities and employment for young people (20)
Felixstowe Peninsular	Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and villages	Framlingham, Wickham Market and villages	Aldeburgh, Leiston, Saxmundham and villages
1. Community spaces and physical enhancements (35)	1. Active and sustainable transport solutions / community transport (47)	1. Developing opportunities for young people (24)	1. Transport and access to services (30)
2. Social isolation and loneliness (33)	2. Reduce social isolation and loneliness (42)	2.= Reduce social isolation and loneliness (22)	2. Economic Regeneration / High Streets (28)
3. Education – aspirations, ambition and standards (24)	3. Improve wellbeing and enable people to live healthy lives (34)	2.= Alternative, active and sustainable transport provision (22)	3. Housing that meets local needs (18)

The individual voting sheet for your Community Partnership is Item 4 on the agenda.

East Suffolk Priorities

A workshop on Community Partnerships was held at the East Suffolk Partnership Forum on 15th November 2019. This focussed on an East Suffolk data pack. It was attended by more than 50 conference delegates, who identified the following as their priorities:

- 1) Social Isolation – 5 Tables
- 2) Obesity and Healthy Weight – 3 Tables
- 3) Mental Health and Wellbeing – 3 tables
- 4) Crime – 2 Tables

Looking across all eight workshops and aggregating the total votes for each priority issue, the top priorities for the District are as follows:

	Priority	Number of Votes (across all eight CPs)
1	Reduce social isolation and loneliness	201
2	Active and sustainable transport links	190
3	Improve mental health and wellbeing	150
4	Community 'hubs', buildings and spaces	121
5	Opportunities, activities and facilities for young people	118

The top two of these - Social Isolation and Loneliness / Active and Sustainable Transport Links - were in the top three priorities for six of the eight East Suffolk Community Partnerships. It is therefore proposed that these should be the focus of the East Suffolk Community Partnership Board (see below).

Community Partnership Meetings – Round One

The first round of meetings will take place between 27th January 2020 and 27th February 2020:

Community Partnership	Date	Time	Venue
Aldeburgh, Leiston, Saxmundham and villages	27 th January 2020	6.00pm	Community Centre, King George's Avenue, Leiston
Lowestoft and northern parishes	29 th January 2020	6.00pm	Conference Room, Riverside
Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and villages	3 rd February 2020	6.00pm	Bungay Community Centre
Framlingham, Wickham Market and villages	6 th February 2020	6.00pm	Wickham Market Village Hall
Carlton Colville, Kessingland, Southwold and villages	19 th February 2020	10.00am	Carlton Colville Methodist Church
Kesgrave, Martlesham and villages	20 th February 2020	6.30pm	Martlesham Community Hall
Felixstowe Peninsular	24 th February 2020	2.00pm	Felixstowe Town Hall
Melton, Woodbridge and Deben Peninsular	27 th February 2020	6.00pm	Deben Conference Room, East Suffolk House

Terms of Reference

Terms of Reference for the Community Partnerships have been drafted and are Item 3 on the agenda.

East Suffolk Community Partnership Board

The first meeting of the Board will be held on 16th March 2020. The Board will bring together the eight Community Partnership Chairs with a range of strategic partners – Suffolk County Council, Police, CCGs, SALC, as well as East Suffolk Council. It will be Chaired by the Leader of the Council.

As outlined above, the Board will receive reports on progress from the eight Chairs and focus on two cross cutting issues – Social Isolation & Loneliness and Active & Sustainable Transport Links.

Resources

Each Community Partnership has a budget of £10,000 for the 2019/20 financial year – this needs to be allocated by the end of March (not spent) - and then £25,000 per year for the next three years.

The budget for the Community Partnership Board is £150,000 for the 2019/20 financial year and then £300,000 per year for the next three years. Again, this year's allocation needs to be allocated by March 31st.

At the final East Suffolk Partnership Board in December 2019, some of the remaining budget was allocated to support two successful existing ESP projects which will continue under the Community Partnerships:

- Business and Project Planning support – groups can access 90% of the costs of a programme of support through Community Action Suffolk to develop a bespoke Business Plan for their organisation or a Project Plan for a particular project/initiative. 12 projects have benefitted from between 1 and 13 days support.
- Hidden Needs Funding – grants are available for projects in hidden need 'hot-spot' areas which focus on social isolation in older people or in families with limited access to resources. Eight projects have received funding to date for projects as diverse as dementia friendly cinema screenings, Men's Sheds, Age UK Chinwags groups and Compassionate Companions.

CPs will be supported by a range of ESC staff, including from the Democratic Services, Communities, Communications, Economic Development and Funding Teams.

**For more information about Community Partnerships, please visit
<http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/community/community-partnerships/>**