

Key outcomes of the East Suffolk Community Partnership Board meeting held 6 September 2021

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](#)

1. Report from Transport Task and Finish Group

The Board received a report ([HERE](#)) and presentation on behalf of the Task and Finish Group, including input from Transport East about alignment with regional and national ambitions, and considered a revised outcome proposal ([HERE](#)) for total funding of £180,000. £80,000 was agreed in 2020/21 and therefore the request was for an additional £100,000 from 2021/22 to be allocated across five projects:

£50k for the expansion of the BACT service into the Lowestoft and Northern Parishes CP area

£50k for a further Demand Responsive Transport pilot

£10k towards marketing of the KATCH service, with a view to accessing more villages on its route

£20k for active travel pilots to complement the DRT schemes

Up to £50k for the development of a mobile app to support the DRT and active travel pilots and enable a further expansion of DRT solutions into new areas of East Suffolk.

During the meeting it was also announced that a new Katch DRT service would be launched around the Snape/Tunstall area in the next few weeks.

The Task and Finish Group reiterated their offer to meet with Community Partnerships to discuss specific transport needs in their area – please contact Jack Raven at jack.raven@sizewellc.com.

2. Focus on Community Partnerships

An updated Progress Report, which can be found [HERE](#), summarising activity in each of the eight Community Partnership areas was received by the Board. The Board then received a short presentation from the Chair and Communities Officer from two of the eight Community Partnerships – Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and villages and Kesgrave, Rushmere St Andrew, Martlesham, Carlford and Fynn Valley Community Partnership. These presentations highlighted achievements to date and examples of innovation.

3. Covid Impacts Task and Finish Group / Hoarding Outcome Proposals

The Board considered a report ([HERE](#)) produced by ESC on behalf of the Task and Finish Group which reminded the Board of the funding allocated to date in response to the Covid-19 pandemic - a total of over £300k over three financial years. The report then focussed on the priorities identified by seven strategic partners at the June Board meeting. In total the list includes nine areas of focus, including the existing Board priorities of Social Isolation and Loneliness and Mental Health and Wellbeing. Since the meeting, partners have undertaken a piece of work to identify activity against each of the nine priorities and what else could be done under the auspices of the Board. It is proposed that the Task and Finish Group should meet a final time to consider any projects that could be developed into outcome proposals to be considered at the December Board meeting.

The Board also considered an outcome proposal (which can be found [HERE](#)) around Self Neglect and Hoarding developed by the ESC Private Sector Housing Team in conjunction with Access Community Trust. The need for this project had been identified during the pandemic and the first quarter has been funded through the Councils funding to support Clinically Extremely Vulnerable people, match funding of £30,000 is available from MHCLG. The request for £22,500 of funding was agreed by the Board.

4. Focus on BT

The Board received a presentation from Lisa Perkins, Vice Chair of the Board, about the work of BT, with a particular focus on their focus on innovation and work in the community. This focussed on four key areas of activity:

- Education and Skills, including a STEM focussed education programme
- DigiTech Centre at Adastral Park linked to the University and including support for SMEs with things like marketing and promotion
- Health and Wellbeing, including the provision of PPE and loan of people and kit during the pandemic, and current trials of digital and robot solutions health and care providers
- Transport optimisation engine to match schoolchildren with transport, and EV fleet management

This is the first in a series of presentations from Board partners at each quarterly meeting.

5. 2021/22 Community Partnership Forum

An update was provided on proposals for the 2021/22 Community Partnership Forum. The report includes a reminder about the 2020 Forum which was a week-long event held virtually which included 10 separate sessions. The proposal in December 2020 was to hold a hybrid event in 2021, culminating in a face-to-face event for up to 200 people at Trinity Park on November 5th. Given the ongoing concerns about the spread of the virus (particularly the Delta variant) across the country, it was agreed that the full Forum event would be pushed back to March 25th, 2022, and to use the 5th of November slot for a face to face Community Partnership Board workshop at Trinity Park for up to 45 people which will enable us to socially distance. The focus would be on visioning for 2022, receiving a report on the LGA Peer Challenge to be held in October and any data that is available at that point.

6. Any other Business

The Chair reminded the Board that the LGA 'deep dive' Peer Review of Community Partnerships is taking place between 12-14 September 2021 and thanked those who were involved in interviews and focus groups for their participation.

There was also a discussion about potentially moving the meetings to Teams which will be explored further as there are pros and cons to both Zoom and Teams.

Nicole Rickard, Head of Communities, 07/09/21