

## **CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL**

**7 November 2022**

**COUNCILLOR VIRGINIA GAY - PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR LEISURE,  
WELLBEING & CULTURE**

**FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2022**

### **1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.**

#### **North Norfolk Health & Wellbeing Partnership**

The three priorities of the Partnership are:

Older People  
Mental Health  
Inequalities

A Partnership strategy will be written. To inform this, a multi-agency workshop in respect of older people was held in October. Representatives from the Partnership as well as voluntary and statutory agencies attended. The focus of the workshop was to look at issues faced by older people and the organisations that support them and to identify potential solutions.

Workshops in respect of the other two priority areas will be held later this year.

#### **Community Connectors**

The newly formed Community Connector service, funded until March 2023 by Covid recovery funding and other external funding is now fully operational. The aim of the service is to work with community groups, communities and individuals to support communities, groups and individuals to address the wider health, social and economic challenges of Covid and other issues such as the Cost of Living, housing etc. with the aim of building individual and community resilience thereby reducing or delaying the need for statutory service intervention.

Issues identified that require a multi-agency collaborative response are reported back to the partnership and ultimately to the Health & Wellbeing Board responsible for commissioning services.

The Community Connectors work geographically across North Norfolk. They have recently supported the Cost of Living conference and are actively supporting the establishment of Warm Hubs and Community Supermarkets.

#### **Homes for Ukraine**

Ninety eight accommodation checks and seventy nine initial welfare checks have been undertaken since the H4U scheme was established.

Based on data we know that ninety four adults and sixty two children have arrived in North Norfolk. A small number have subsequently returned to the Ukraine or moved to other accommodation outside of the district.

Regular welfare review meetings are held. At these meetings both the host and the guests are asked about future accommodation intentions. Some hosts are happy for

their guests to stay, others are concerned about the Government £350 thank you payment ending as is it currently only for a year and the impact of increased utility bills. Others are unable to accommodate their guests beyond six months. Several guests want to move into their own accommodation but are finding even if they have a job accessing private rented accommodation or social housing difficult. We currently have three H4U families in temporary accommodation and are actively trying to rematch them with other hosts.

### **Social Prescribing**

In September and October 119 Social Prescribing referrals were received. This excludes direct referrals from GP surgeries in Wells, Fakenham, Holt and Sheringham. An increase in referrals with regard to issues arising from the cost of living increases is being noticed.

External funding for one year has been secured for NNDC to take part in a Social Prescribing in secondary care pilot. Social Prescribing referrals from departments at the Norfolk and Norwich hospital including from Accident & Emergency will be managed by a dedicated officer employed by NNDC. The aim of the pilot is to address the wider social issues that could contribute towards a person accessing the acute trust and reduce regular and repeat attendance particularly at Accident & Emergency.

## **2      Forthcoming Activities and Developments.**

The next meeting of the North Norfolk Health and Well Being Partnership will take place in December. As a result of the workshop mentioned above, the Partnership is to consider recreating a North Norfolk Forum for Older People.

## **3      Meetings attended**

In addition to regularly scheduled Council meetings and briefings I have attended these other meetings and events.

Norfolk Citizens Advice AGM 18/10/22  
NN Health and Well Being Partnership 26/10/22  
NN HWB Partnership Thematic Workshop on the subject of older people 31/10/22  
Integrated Health and Care Partnership 9/11/22

*November 2022*