

## **CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL**

**December 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

To inform this, multi-agency workshops in respect of older people and mental health have been held. Representatives from the Partnership as well as voluntary and statutory agencies attended. The focus of the workshop was to look at services for and issues faced by older people, those with mental health needs and the organisations that support them and to identify potential solutions.

An inequalities workshop will be held in January.

The outcomes of the workshops will inform the Partnership strategy.

#### **Community Connectors**

The Community Connectors who receive funding from the NNHWP as well as from NNDC are starting a weekly Monday morning programme on Poppyland Radio on 12<sup>th</sup> December.

The programme will consist of thematic information about specific topics such as keeping warm and will give information and advice about services and support relevant to the topic such as warm hubs / spaces, benefits and what individuals and communities can do to help themselves, tips to keep warm etc. It will promote the role of the Community Connectors to a certain extent but the main focus will be on the topic to be discussed.

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**

One hundred and five accommodation checks and eighty initial welfare checks have been undertaken since the H4U scheme was established.

Based on data we know that ninety five 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.

There has been no confirmation from the Government regarding the extension of and funding for the H4U scheme beyond 31 March 2023.

A range of measures have been proposed by NCC in relation to time limited increased financial support for hosts and a range of additional support measures for guests particularly in relation to moving on following the twelve months hosted accommodation.

### **Social Prescribing**

In November, fifty three Social Prescribing referrals were received requesting support with one hundred and seventy six issues. This excludes referrals from GP surgeries in Wells, Fakenham, Holt and Sheringham. Benefit, financial and mental health support remain the most frequent reason for referral.

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. This service will start in January 2023

### **Waiting Well**

NNDC has received external funding to deliver the Waiting Well project in North Norfolk. The project aims to help local residents, who are on the orthopaedic waiting list for a knee or hip condition at the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital, to live as safely and independently as possible while they wait to see a consultant or have treatment. A dedicated officer will initially write to people on the relevant waiting lists advising them of the service. This will include offering advice and information about services and support that may be available to help them with physical, mental health, financial or other needs whilst they are waiting for their surgery / treatment.

Support could include:

- Finding ways to stay active or get fit for treatment,
- Finding ways to cope with loneliness or isolation,
- Help to ensure any benefits people are entitled to are claimed
- Provision of equipment to make daily life safer and less difficult,
- Installation of a Careline alarm unit in case of falls
- Information about Disabled Facilities Grants for housing adaptations
- Helping people to plan for their care now or while you recover\*,
- Accessing support if they provide care to someone else.

### **Arts & Culture Fund**

A meeting of Arts & Culture Fund Panel was held in November. Six applications were received all of which were supported. Grants totalling £16,401.68 were awarded.

### **Community Transport Fund**

A meeting of Community Transport Fund Panel was held in November. Two applications were received, both of which were supported. Grants totaling £40,000 were awarded

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

As has been written before, a thematic workshop about inequalities within our District has been scheduled. As with the two workshops which have already taken place, this is a chance for groups which are not permanent members of the North Norfolk Health and Wellbeing Partnership to share expertise and lived experience with the Partnership.

Work is continuing toward the preparation of a strategy for the Partnership.

### **3 Meetings attended**

In addition to regular briefings, I have taken part in the following meetings.

**23/11/22 - Arts and Culture and Community Transport Funding Panel**

**24/11/22 - District Councils' Sub Committee for Health and Well Being**

**29/11/22 - Thematic Workshop for Mental Health**

**6/12/22 - Citizens Advice recurring meeting**

**7/29/22 - North Norfolk Health and Wellbeing Partnership meeting**

*November 2022*