

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

June / July 2021

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

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Business as usual activity

Grants

Arts & Culture Fund – Financial year 2021 / 2022. As of 30th June two grant applications have been awarded funding totalling £5,718.17. One application was refused as it did not sufficiently meet the aim and outcome of the Fund. Two new applications will be presented to the Panel in July.

Community Transport Fund –Financial year 2021 / 2022. As of 30th June one grant application has been awarded funding of £2,000 awarded. One new application will be presented to the Panel in July.

North Norfolk Sustainable Communities Fund (NNSCF) – Financial year 2021 / 2022. As of 30th June ten applications had been received requesting grants of between £1,000 and £15,000. The Panel recommended that eight projects totalling £48,655 were approved, one was deferred and one refused. Four applications had been received to the Under £1,000 NNSCF. Three were approved and awards of £2,311 made. Grant funding of £50,966 awarded to date to eleven organisations.

Social Prescribing

Between 1st January and 30th June 2021, 363 Social Prescribing referrals have been received. This compares to 292 for the same period last year. People are now able to self-refer to Social Prescribing rather than having to be referred by an organisation. A phone duty line will go live in July to triage requests for support from residents and professionals. General advice and support requests will be dealt with over the phone. A Social Prescribing referral will be made where more complex support is needed.

It is considered that expanding the Social Prescribing service to include self-referrals will enable support to be offered before a situation escalates therefore reducing complex and lengthy input from statutory services including NNDC and avoiding potential legal costs e.g. debt recovery.

The Social Prescribing Service continues to respond to direct requests for support from residents impacted by Covid 19.

Information, Advice & Guidance

Total core budget for IAA is £66,710. A grant of £55,000 has been awarded to Norfolk CA towards for the provision of generic IAA services in North Norfolk for the period 1.4.2021 – 31.03.2022. Subject to Covid restrictions, face to face services will be available in North Walsham, Holt and Fakenham. Ongoing discussions are being held between Norfolk CA and NNDC regarding the use of Fakenham Connect.

In consultation with the portfolio Holder for Culture & Wellbeing the remainder of the allocated budget £11,710 will be awarded to identified VCSE organisations to enhance IAA services to young people in North Norfolk and / or a VCSE organisation that provides specialist IAA support to residents in North Norfolk who may not be able to access or be supported by generic services IAA services.

Covid 19 related activity

The Council continues to work with Norfolk County Council to provide a local Contact Tracing service in North Norfolk. This is for people who have tested positive for Covid 19 but where national or NCC contact tracers have been unable to reach them by phone. A team of Covid Support Workers are available to visit people to request that they register details of people they have been in contact with. Support is also offered to people who have tested positive for Covid 19 to enable them to self-isolate.

NNDC have also recently started to deliver an Enhanced Contact Tracing service. This service is for the contacts of people who have tested positive for Covid 19 and as a result should be self isolating. Daily data reports are received from Public Health. Covid Support officers initially try to contact people by phone to check if they need food, medication or other support to enable them to self-isolate. Face to face visits are carried out if a person cannot be contacted. Requests for emergency food or medication support are fulfilled by NNDC. Referrals for financial or long term support are referred to Social Prescribing or other services including the Norfolk Assistance Scheme as appropriate.

Shielding has now officially ended but NNDC continues to work with NCC and Third Sector organisations to support Clinically Extremely Vulnerable residents and those experiencing financial hardship or requiring other support due to the impact of Covid 19.

Officers attend regular meetings to ensure NNDC is informed, prepared and equipped to deal with all issues relating to Covid including implementation changes to Government guidance, community outbreaks, surge testing, people requiring support whilst on holiday etc.

Norfolk Children and Young People Strategic Alliance

This is a newly formed group bringing together the Children and Young People Strategic Partnership and Children and Young People Alliance Board in an attempt to streamline governance and increase capacity to work together on shared objectives to deliver improved outcomes. This group

oversees the work of a number of other groups including;

- Norfolk Area SEND Multiagency Steering Group
- CYP Mental Health Alliance Executive Management Group
- Early Prevention Board
- Norfolk Learning Board

There is a number of task and finish groups working on the development of the CYP Partnership Plan jointly overseen by the Norfolk Safeguarding Children's Partnership looking at workforce development, data and stakeholder engagement and insight.

The group met for the first time on 20 May.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

Domestic Abuse Forum led by Cllr Fredericks has been established

Health funding has been secured to establish a hub in North Norfolk to support people with mental health needs. Cllr Shires Chairs the multi-agency group established to take this work forward. It is anticipated that the Hub will be operational in 2022. Tender process due to start August 2021

3 Meetings attended

6.7.2021