

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

August / September 2021

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

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters - Well Being

Business as usual activity

Grants

Arts & Culture Fund – Financial year 2021 / 2022. As of 31st August, six grant applications have been awarded funding totalling £9,315.14.

Community Transport Fund – Financial year 2021 / 2022. As of 31st August two grant applications have been awarded funding totalling 2,750.

North Norfolk Sustainable Communities Fund (NNSCF) – Financial year 2021 / 2022. As of 31st August sixteen applications had been received requesting grants of between £1,000 and £15,000. The Panel recommended that thirteen projects totalling £86,106.75 were approved, one application was ineligible, one deferred and one refused. Eight applications have been received to the Under £1,000 NNSCF. Seven were approved and awards of £5,909.97 made. Grant funding of £92,016.72 awarded to date to twenty organisations.

Social Prescribing

Between 1st January and 31st August 2021, 521 Social Prescribing referrals have been received. This compares to 371 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 went 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. There is also a dedicated North Norfolk Help Hub page on internet which gives information about the Social Prescribing service and has links to other related support such as benefits, housing and Domestic Abuse.

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

The contract with the North Norfolk Primary Care Network for the Social Prescribing Link Worker service that covers nine surgeries in North Norfolk ends in January 2022. Discussion are being held with the NNPCN regarding the extension of the contract.

A vacant Social Prescribing post has been filled on a temporary basis from October 2021 – October 2022 using an underspend from the Norfolk County Council Social Prescribing service budget.

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. There is currently no face to face provision in Fakenham as the use of Fakenham Connect was not feasible at this time. Norfolk CA have been asked to find a suitable premises in Fakenham for the delivery of a face to face service.

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 also deliver an Enhanced Contact Tracing service. This service is for the contacts of people who have tested positive for Covid 19 if they meet the criteria 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.

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.

Domestic Abuse Forum

Cllr Fredericks is leading on a multi agency Domestic Abuse Forum for North Norfolk. A meeting is taking place with Pandora in September to consider utilisation and greater collaboration with the Help Hub office space and the use of public meeting rooms to see clients.

North Norfolk Armed Forces Covenant Pledge

The National Armed Forces Covenant represents a promise by the nation that those who serve or have served, and their families, are treated fairly.

North Norfolk District Council (NNDC) signed the Norfolk Armed Forces Covenant at an official ceremony on 7 March 2012.

To further demonstrate North Norfolk District Council's commitment to the Armed Forces Covenant and to ensure compliance with the forthcoming legislation, it is proposed that the Council publishes and signs its own Armed Forces Covenant Pledge.

A report regarding the Covenant pledge will be presented to Cabinet in October.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

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

On 28/07/21 I attended a meeting a meeting of the Arts and Community and Community Transport grant funding panel and on 06/09/21 I observed the meeting of the Sustainable Communities grant funding panel. I took part in Cllr. Fredericks's Domestic Abuse Forum on 10/09/21 and on 26/07/21 Mrs. Shuter, Cllr. Shires and I met the CCG in order to discuss health inequalities. Karen Hill, Emily Capps and I held a scoping session on 31/08/21 to discuss preparation for NNDC's Quality of Life Strategy.