

## **COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 17 FEBRUARY 2012**

**Statement from: Councillor Mrs S Woolley, Executive Councillor for Health, Housing and Community**

### **The Big Society**

The County Council will be consulting with the people of Lincolnshire and partners for 12 weeks about how we approach putting into practice The Big Society. A range of activities, focus groups, questionnaires, workshops and face to face interviews will be used to respond to the consultation paper 'A little bit of help'. The team will then be reporting back to the Council's Executive with an action plan based on the findings of this consultation.

### **Lincolnshire Armed Forces Community Covenant**

Wing Commander Sandilands submitted a draft Covenant in January 2012 for comment. This has since been distributed to all local authorities and appropriate departments within Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) for comment. The draft Covenant was presented to the Lincolnshire Leaders' & Chief Executives' meeting on 26 January 2012 where it was discussed, amendments suggested and next steps confirmed for the process of applying for and local endorsement of the Community Covenant Grant Scheme.

### **Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy**

The Strategy will be drafted and presented to the Lincolnshire Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board at its meeting on 28 March 2012. A formal period of consultation will follow between April and June 2012. During the consultation the Strategy will be presented to the Adults, Children & Young People, and Health Scrutiny Committees, as well as the NHS Lincolnshire Board and Informal Executive.

Once completed, the Strategy will be signed off by the NHS Lincolnshire Board and LCC Executive and published in September in order for it to inform commissioning plans for the year 2013/14. It is intended to be a five year strategy which will be periodically reviewed by the Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board.

### **Payment by Results Drug and Alcohol Programme**

Commissioners have almost agreed the financial and contractual arrangements, including Payment by Results (PbR) weightings and tariffs, for 2012/13 and beyond, with recovery providers. Both providers have now fully moved into the implementation phase of their models, and commissioners are working with them to ensure all issues are resolved. The new recovery model is on target to go live from 1 April 2012.

Plans to transfer substance misuse budgets from NHS Lincolnshire to Lincolnshire County Council have been agreed through the Health Scrutiny Committee and LCC Executive.

## **Prison Drug Treatment Service**

The Pre-Qualifying Questionnaire for the new Prison Drug Treatment Service was released on 4 January 2012 and was due to close on 6 February 2012. Up to the end of January 19 providers had registered, and questions regarding the contract were arriving daily.

Commissioners are on schedule to complete the procurement exercise within the agreed timeframe. The new contract will commence from 1 September 2012.

## **Volunteering**

I am very pleased to announce that the Health and Wellbeing Fund for Lincolnshire is investing almost £1m to improve opportunities for volunteers. This money, spent in partnership with the voluntary sector, will improve pathways into volunteering, improve the support and training volunteers receive and help volunteers to move from 'cause' to 'cause' as their interests change.

## **Countywide Prevention of Court Repossession Service**

A six month contract extension has been awarded to the Countywide Prevention of Court Repossession Service. The service offers crisis intervention followed by ongoing support to vulnerable individuals and families who are at risk of mortgage and tenancy repossessions.

This extension will enable Public Health Commissioners sufficient time to work in partnership with District Council Housing colleagues to develop a robust joint commissioning model that can deliver a value for money countywide service.

## **Warm Homes/Healthy Lives**

Members will be pleased to note that we successfully bid for over half a million pounds of Department of Health money in December 2011 to provide practical support to people vulnerable to severe weather.

Since receiving notification of our success to the time of writing this statement our 'Responders to Warmth' project has helped many people.

## **EXCELLENT AGEING**

### **Projects Update**

The Central Team has carried out a review of projects, resulting in a further rationalisation in consultation with the Steering Group, project leads and the Working Groups. The 35 projects were categorised according to the type of involvement Excellent Ageing has with them:

- 11 projects were found to be either independent enough to exist without Excellent Ageing's support, or suitable for amalgamation into other projects;
- 7 projects were recognised as having substantive local or national sponsorship and, consequently, are supported but not governed by Excellent Ageing.

The result of this categorisation has meant that the programme is in an enhanced position to focus its energy on steering and shaping the core 18 projects and better support the 7 projects that are being implemented by other organisations.

### Engagement Update

Partner and Older People engagement continues to take place across the county. The Central Team are working to ensure that there is a clear link between engagement activity and the projects, and that projects are validated through engagement and consultation with relevant stakeholders. The recently created twitter account has garnered some 69 followers and continues to attract more.

### Youth Offending Service

The Youth Offending Service is currently awaiting confirmation of the Youth Justice Grant for 2012/13. The Grant, although once received is not ringfenced, is made up of three components from the Home Office, the Department for Education and the Ministry of Justice who contribute approximately 80%. Negotiations are continuing and it is hoped the amount will be confirmed as soon as possible. Any significant reduction in Youth Justice Grant will have an impact on service delivery.

The YOS was restructured in 2011 following the reduction in LCC funding and there are new streamlined structures in place to ensure service delivery is maintained on the reduced funding. Following the restructure, our resource to work with victims in a restorative way has increased and all victims of young people subject to Referral Orders are offered the opportunity of a restorative solution. The participation levels of victims in this process have increased from less than 10% to almost 40% since the service restructure was implemented in September. This process leads to high levels of satisfaction for victims and communities and has an impact on the young people who learn directly of the impact of their behaviour on their victims.

### Lincolnshire Sports Partnership

2012 will be an exciting year for Lincolnshire. We are constantly asked what impact the Games in London will have on Lincolnshire. We have a significant number of athletes in training programmes preparing for the Olympics and Paralympics. At Beijing there were 8 athletes from the county competing, this year we are expecting the number to be nearer 20. In addition to this we have a growing number of Games Makers, volunteers who will be part of the 7,000 volunteer workforce supporting the Games. These have been selected from over 25,000 people who applied to be Games Makers.

In the county we have individuals who have been through the nomination process and now know they are going to be one of the 120 people who will be Torch Bearers in Lincolnshire in June and July next year. For many counties the Torch will only be in their counties for a matter of hours, in Lincolnshire the Torch will be in the county all day on 27 June and then for parts of 28 June and 3 & 4 July. On 27 June, there will be an overnight stop for the Torch in Lincoln - this will be part of an evening celebration where we hope 10,000 will attend.

On 27 June we will also be holding the second Lincolnshire School Games to coincide with the Torch coming to the county. This event, to be held at Yarborough Leisure Centre, will see over 800 young people taking part in a multi-sport event replicating the Olympic Games.

During 2012 we will be carrying out a review of our current Sport and Physical Activity strategies and developing a new strategy for beyond 2012. This will be looking at engagement through communities, families and accessible local venues.

Lincolnshire Sports Partnership is seen as a model of good practice in a number of areas across the country – our mission for 2012 is to make sure we continue to show Lincolnshire in a positive, innovative and dynamic light

We still continue to develop and deliver our 2012 Legacy programmes including

- The Lincolnshire Elite Athlete Programme (LEAP)
- Silver Spirit
- Quest for Gold
- Sportivate
- Behind the fence –opening up facilities to be used for sporting activities in local communities
- Sports Library

Further details of these programmes can be seen on the LSP website [www.lincolnshiresports.com](http://www.lincolnshiresports.com)