

## **COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 14 DECEMBER 2012**

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

### **Councillor Big Society Fund**

Next week the Councillor Big Society Fund will have been running for 15 months. In that time awards of funding have been made right across Lincolnshire to support a wide range of community projects.

As of end November, a fantastic 471 awards have been made by Members. This equals a total of £211,902.48 going directly to support local community action.

Of the 471 awards made:

- 201 were to Community and voluntary groups
- 109 were to Parish or Town Councils
- 103 were to Registered charities
- 24 were to Religious or faith based organisations
- 28 were to Schools or education groups
- 7 were to Social enterprises

All Members will have an update on funds in their pigeon holes today. I would kindly ask all Members to make any final awards by end of February to ensure they are paid before the end of the financial year.

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

Lincolnshire's first endorsed application has been approved by the Ministry of Defence – a play park at RAF Scampton. At the recent meeting, 12 grant applications were received, three were endorsed and three were deferred. At the meeting it was also proposed that a county event be held in March 2013 at RAF Cranwell to consider the issues experienced in and around Forces' communities and to prioritise activity. This event would involve Councils (Officers and Councillors), the NHS, Armed Forces, Forces' Charities, the voluntary sector and practitioners across the sectors.

### **Healthwatch**

The Healthwatch Transition Board has been created to enable the smooth migration from Lincolnshire LINK to Healthwatch Lincolnshire. In line with the consultation findings and the Council's Executive Report, the Board is made up of nine individuals, five from within the current LINK Executive and four people who are influential community 'champions'.

The project plan for final transition has been developed; with Transition Board members allocated their working groups. The working groups are focussing on the following areas:

- Governance – tasks include creating the body corporate as a non-profit company, limited by guarantee (with co-operative values) and creating all relevant governance systems and documentation.
- Communication and relationships – tasks include looking at the current links between LINK and external agencies such as Adult Social Care, Children's Services and Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) and improving those relationships and information/intelligence sharing through joint protocols. We are also currently working with CCGs in order to help them to add Healthwatch members onto their Boards.
- Volunteers and training – tasks include researching the training and numbers of volunteers associated with 'enter and view' visits for LINK; the group will look at how Healthwatch can carry out a greater number of visits, and how it can share this information more successfully in the future.

Further information will be available throughout the transition (until 1 April 2013) at [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/healthwatch](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/healthwatch)

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

I reported last time that our role as a national pilot site for payment by results based services for people with drug and alcohol problems had come to fruition and following receipt of the first set of results, whilst still early days, signs were very promising for this innovative approach to services.

Since that time, our Substance Misuse Commissioning Team have attended a briefing meeting on our work for new ministers from the Ministries of Health, Justice, Work and Pensions and the Home Office. We have been congratulated on progress and thanked for making a significant contribution to the development of national policy.

### **Excellent Ageing**

The aims and resourcing of the Excellent Ageing programme have been reviewed to ensure that it remains fit for purpose given the changing landscape locally. Due to the links with the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, the lead role in supporting Excellent Ageing is now being taken forward by Public Health with a dedicated Public Health professional appointed for this purpose.

The November Steering Group agreed the following new priorities for Excellent Ageing:

- To work with the Joint Health and Wellbeing Board to inform and influence the delivery of the theme of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy focused on improving the health and wellbeing of older people
- To provide leadership in Lincolnshire through the Excellent Ageing brand around delivering a better quality of life for older people, including acting as a reference point and a challenge to organisations commissioning and delivering services for older people
- To support a network of relevant stakeholders who are committed to delivering for older people

- Sponsorship to remain with Lincolnshire County Council's corporate management board
- Lead Officer role to pass to Public Health
- Steering Group to become a sub-group of the Health and Wellbeing Board

There will be some changes to the programme therefore, but the underlying aim will remain and with close collaboration with the Health and Wellbeing Board in making a positive difference to the lives of older people in Lincolnshire.

As part of the revised priorities, the programme has been reflecting on the last two years to consider what did and did not work well and what could have been done differently.

Particular highlights included:

- The innovative approach taken by the programme in basing its aims and objectives around what older people said was important to them
- The enthusiasm and passion of everyone involved
- Difficulties in people being able to spare the time and resource to work with us in a tough economic climate
- Positive networking outside of the county as well as locally
- Difficult to communicate, and for some to recognise, the intangible benefits sought by the programme
- Successful impact and recognition of the programme's branding

### **National No Smoking Day Award Winners**

Each year, the Smokefree Lincs Alliance partners get together to support the work of the local Stop Smoking Service. Using the national 'No Smoking Day' campaign to make best use of both local and national media opportunities, they run a series of fun activities to help engage with the public of Lincolnshire and, most particularly, those smokers who want to get support to quit.

There are several national awards, and this year the Alliance partnership was pleased to win three of these categories:

- 'Best Use of Big Cig'
- 'Best photo'
- 'Best Health Setting'

Wednesday, 13 March is 'No Smoking Day 2013', and the team are already planning an array of activities that will engage the public, and raise awareness of the Stop Smoking Service.

### **'Warm Homes, Healthy People' Fund**

I am delighted to inform Council that we have again been successful in securing funds from the Department of Health to offer much needed help and support to vulnerable people at risk of illness in the coming cold weather. We are to receive £243,000 from the national 'Warm Homes, Healthy People' fund to offer a local service under the 'Responders to Warmth' brand. I would urge Members to look out

for opportunities to promote both awareness of the dangers of living in the cold, and uptake of the help we will be offering again this Winter.

### **Crisis Response Service - Pilot**

I am pleased to announce that since 3 December 2012 there has been a pilot Crisis Response Service linked to the Telecare service provided by Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) in the wider Lincoln area. This is being achieved by the Telecare service (LCC), Lincare and L.I.V.E.S working together.

Telecare uses a combination of alarms, sensors and other equipment to help people live more independently and remain in their own home for as long as possible. This can be done by activating a call for help in emergency situations, such as a fall, fire or gas leak.

The pilot is aimed at those people who have not been able to have Telecare equipment installed because they do not have a local responder.

We have always wanted to make Telecare available to everyone and anyone who requests it, and after working with the team at L.I.V.E.S, an agreement has been reached where their volunteers and cluster groups will provide the function that is usually provided by a family member or friend that lives in close proximity.

The pilot will run from 3 December 2012 until the end of March 2013. It is then envisaged that the lessons learned from the pilot period will lead to the scheme being opened up to the whole of the county.

L.I.V.E.S are undertaking the pilot at no cost as part of their development of communities helping themselves. We will all be working closely as part of the evaluation to see if we can keep the service at nil or very low cost after the pilot.

If you require more details about the pilot please contact Scott Watkinson on 01522 554502 or ring any of the Lincolnshire County Council Telecare team on 01522 554040.

### **'Me Sized Plates' Programme**

The Childhood Obesity Team were invited to present the 'Me Sized Plates' programme and run an hour long workshop at the Local Government Conference: 'Reversing the Tide: Councils' Role in Tackling Obesity' in London on the 19 November.

### **Review of School Food**

The Childhood Obesity Team were asked to host the LEON visit to Lincolnshire on the 29 November. The Secretary of State, Michael Gove MP, had asked Henry Dimpleby and John Vincent from the LEON restaurant chain to lead a review on school food. They will work with the Department of Education (DofE), seeking input from sector bodies, existing campaign groups, Local Authorities, caterers, schools and parents to establish the facts needed to put together their plan which they will deliver in 2013. The purpose of the DofE's School Food Plan is to significantly increase the number of children eating good food in schools and to determine the role of food, cooking and growing fruit and vegetables in schools.

## **Clinical Commissioning Groups – Update**

In Lincolnshire there will be four Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) after 1 April next year - West, East, South and South West. These groups will take on the commissioning of local hospital, community and mental health services from NHS Lincolnshire. The CCGs have to be authorised and this process is underway. The CCGs are at different stages of authorisation. All the visits from the authorisation will be complete by Christmas, but the level of authorisation for each CCG may not be known until February 2013.

The CCGs have all now appointed their Chairs, Accountable Officers and Lay Members. They still have to appoint some of their clinical Board members.

The County Council is working very hard to establish the best possible relationships with CCGs at both member and officer level. There are very important opportunities for joint commissioning with these new NHS organisations and these opportunities are being seized.

## **Public Health Outcomes Framework**

On 20 November the Department of Health published information relating to the Public Health Outcomes Framework. This sets out the desired outcomes for improving the public's health. The information will, therefore, be critical for us in understanding the health and wellbeing of our residents, particularly as public health responsibilities move over from the NHS from April 2013.

It is for local areas to decide which elements of the framework are the most important for them to focus on. With this in mind the Public Health Directorate is currently undertaking work to review the information which has been published, and to ensure that the priorities identified in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy are fully supported by a set of local public health outcome measures from 2013 onwards.

## **Youth Offending Service**

The Youth Offending Service are preparing for the implications of the Legal Aid Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 which introduces a number of changes to the Youth Justice System including the introduction of a single remand order and a further large area of change is to the out of court disposals available to young offenders; as the current final warning framework is repealed.

The Act is designed to incentivise Local Authorities to reduce the numbers of young people who are remanded into custody as nationally the numbers of young people remanded in custody have not declined at the same rate as those who are sentenced. In addition many young people who are remanded securely by the courts are not then sentenced to custody, suggesting their risk could have been managed by a supportive bail package in the community. The Act will introduce a single remand order and a new financial burden on Local Authorities who will be required to fund the entire bed night price of all young people aged 10-17 who are remanded in custody. In addition young people who are remanded will require a Looked After Status. Work is under way in partnership with Children's Services and the Courts to introduce training and procedures to ensure wherever the risk allows young people remain in the Community.

Three Early Intervention and Prevention Workers will start in December and who will ensure that the new pre court responsibilities placed on the Youth Offending Service by the LASPO Act are met. These changes will enable young people to be appropriately diverted away from the Court process and receive effective interventions including Restorative Justice to prevent and reduce future offending.

### **Lincolnshire Sports Partnership**

Following the success of the 2012 Games the LSP continues to develop and deliver our Legacy programmes. For the LEAP programme this will be the 5<sup>th</sup> year of delivery, we have secured over £100,000 to support elite athletes in the county. At the Olympics and Paralympics Lincolnshire had 16 athletes competing for team GB of these 7 are current or past LEAP athletes.

In the first year of **Sportivate**, a National Legacy programme, we had 120 projects who received funding (£80,000). The target from Sport England was 891 young people retained in the sessions and our actual figure was 1,586. Because of the success of the programme the funding has been extended to 2017.

**Sports Makers** is another National Legacy Programme, in Lincolnshire 616 people have become new volunteers in sport, attending an inspirational workshop, of these 125 Sport Makers have logged 10 hours or more. The Sport Makers programme successfully recruited, trained and deployed 55 volunteers to support the Egyptian Paralympic Team whilst in Lincolnshire for their Pre-Games training camp.

In **events**, the **Lincolnshire Sports Awards 2012** was held on 8 November hosted by the BBCs John Inverdale. In attendance were Olympians Rob Tobin and Georgie Twigg and Paralympians Sophie Wells, Jamie Carter and Kieran Tscherniawsky. The event attracted over 330 guests and 16 corporate sponsors. The Lincolnshire Sports Personality of the Year is Sophie Wells winning a Gold and 2 Silver medals at the Paralympics.

The **Giant Tea Party for Health Walks** Volunteers took place on 2 October. There were 350 volunteers and walkers at the event, the first of its kind. There was a choice of walks to choose from, with the majority opting for the longest three mile route.

We have been offered the lead in the **LN6 project for the physical activity component** of the £5m congestion reduction project at LCC. There is likely to be £75,000 worth of work for us until 2015, and the proposal is to employ an officer three days a week to drive activity levels up in the area, following market research and the development of a steering group. We are still awaiting the contract but the intention is confirmed.

The **Wheelchair Sports Programme** has been independently evaluated by The University of Lincoln, the final version has been submitted to funders and shows the programme in very good light. Ian is also working on Equality Standards, Rounders England and is developing an overarching disability executive. Ian and Amelia delivered the 4<sup>th</sup> Lincolnshire Kurling Competition with 31 teams entered. We are also developing work with Short Breaks on children taking part in school PE, joining clubs and accessing swimming pools.

Work connected to the **Involving Lincs/Transforming Local Infrastructure** network continues, with LSP heading up the communications and research element of the project, which includes developing and facilitating a website tender for the new Involving Lincs website, organising the annual Involving Lincs conference (6 December @ The Showroom, Lincoln, with 58 delegates currently signed up) and developing a communications strategy for the third sector organisations involved. We also continue to deliver project work associated with the single database project and quality standards project.

The **Sports Library** now has over £40,000 worth of equipment in it for community groups to access. We have 31 community groups who have signed up as members and the equipment was used every weekend over the spring and summer.

Our new strategy has been developed in collaboration with all our partners and will be launched in January titled 'Inspiration to Participation'. The 4 key areas of the strategy are – **Workforce, Facilities, Activity & Events and Communications.**