



SELF RELIANCE UPDATE

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL
LOCAL COMMITTEE (GUILDFORD)**

10th DECEMBER 2008

KEY ISSUE

An annual update of the work of developments in tackling inequality in Guildford borough and on progress to develop strategic priorities in Guildford and countywide.

SUMMARY

Addressing disadvantaged neighbourhoods through community development work in North Guildford has continued and a network of agencies has been drawn together to initiate similar work in Ash. Significant challenges remain for both areas of work, in order to secure a more sustainable approach to prevention and addressing relative disadvantage in Guildford borough.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is asked to

- 1 support the approaches in North Guildford and Ash
- 2 acknowledge the consideration that GBC are making regarding hosting the community development workers, and the resource implications needed from all the key partners to continue this work
- 3 support the proposal that this work be taken forward in partnership, and that Guildford's Local Strategic Partnership adopt tackling

inequality as one of its thematic delivery groups and priorities from January 2009.

- 4 Comment on progress in developing a countywide Stronger Communities Strategy that has a clear emphasis on priority places.

BACKGROUND

1. A number of key agencies have been working together in Guildford's most deprived wards of Westborough and Stoke over the last 12 years, in the form of the North Guildford Project, the Building Bridges Partnership and the Healthy Living Programme. Partners have included Surrey County Council (SCC), Guildford Borough Council, the Primary Care Trust, Faith Groups, the voluntary sector and numerous community groups.
2. SCC's contribution to this work came in part through its 'Self Reliance' Policy. Lottery funding for the Healthy Living Programme ended in March 2007, and partner agencies locally, with welcome funding contributions from the Local Committee for Guildford, sustained two of the Community Development Worker posts (under a slightly different 'Healthy Living Project' title). Funding and arrangements to host the workers are currently in place up to March 2009.
3. The Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) has had a 'Stronger Communities' project since July 2007, recognizing the need for strategic ownership of interventions to improve quality of life in the borough's most disadvantaged areas. At a recent LSP workshop (19th September 2008) Members heard that these areas continue to be characterized by inequality relating to children and young people, health and crime.

PROGRESS SINCE LAST REPORT (DECEMBER 2007)

4. Two community development workers in Westborough and Stoke wards have continued to support members of the community to form and run groups that meet identifiable needs of these communities. A list of projects in each area is attached as ANNEXE A.
5. Survey work undertaken earlier in the year has led to the following priority actions by workers:
 - a. Support for Community / Residents Associations to address parking, speeding and roads issues, organise social events; Organizing Community Speedwatch training
 - b. Development of Barn Youth Project including summer event and Healthy food events arranged at Barn Youth Café

ITEM 7

- c. Concerns about disorder passed to police neighbourhood teams
 - d. Communication improvements through networking group and community newspaper: 'Grassroots'
 - e. A new a weight-management group
 - f. New affordable exercises classes
 - g. New activities (fitness, crafts, guest speakers) for older residents
 - h. Communication back to survey respondents about services (e.g. smoking cessation advice), opportunities for volunteering, facilities and local activities.
6. Two projects in particular have had a considerable impact in the community, and are detailed in ANNEXE B:
- a. A new youth group for 7-11yr olds ('Our Place') in Bellfields
 - b. Day out to Worthing for 45 isolated/vulnerable older people

These projects are not just nice things for residents to enjoy. They are judged to have a significant long-term impact on a number of indicators:

- i. Youth antisocial behaviour
 - ii. School attendance and performance
 - iii. Physical health / levels of obesity

 - iv. Adult social care referrals
 - v. Hospital admissions
 - vi. Rates of depression among older people
7. Up to July 2008, Healthy Living Project workers had contact with 1725 people.

HOSTING

8. The two community development workers for North Guildford are currently hosted by Surrey Primary Care Trust (Surrey PCT). The PCT is focusing on its commissioning function and the delivery aspects of service are being transferred over to the provider arm of the Trust. Unfortunately the provider arm is not prepared to host the staff and therefore there is a need to consider alternative hosting arrangements. Following TUPE regulations to match the terms and conditions of the staff, a statutory organisation would be more suitable than a voluntary organisation.
9. Discussions have been entered into between the PCT, GBC and SCC about the future hosting of the two community development worker posts. The preference, as things stand was for the posts to be line-managed within GBC Housing Services, but still to be located in their respective communities of Westborough and Stoke wards. In addition, the workers

will continue to work to and be answerable to community groups and partner agencies on a steering committee. GBC have indicated that in the current climate they are unable to provide hosting arrangements. The Area Director is therefore exploring with SCC arrangements for hosting the workers within the Local Partnerships Team, while maintaining their work bases within their respective communities .

ASH

10. A strong network of agencies has continued to meet quarterly to share information, co-ordinate delivery and build relationships. Specific information has been shared on: facilities for young people, volunteering and support for the voluntary sector, and lifelong learning.
11. For example links have been made between Voluntary Action South West and SCC Youth Development Service who need volunteering placements for young people undertaking the Duke of Edinburgh award. Shawfield Day Centre are now discussing how adult learning activity can be better introduced in the centre.
12. Many services continue to work in isolation in the area and the network meetings are proving effective in removing these barriers. For example agencies hoping to deliver services or projects are able to use public-facing workers (e.g. GBC Community Safety Wardens), publicity (e.g. Ash Parish Council newsletter) and events (e.g. Police panels) to directly engage with residents.
13. The need to engage members of Ash's community(ies) remains and as a first step, a photo mural project is being planned with schools and the local U3A group.
14. Members of the Network have said the meetings are valuable and support the proposal to have a Community Development worker for Ash.

FUNDING

15. The current funding for community development posts in North Guildford expires the end of March 2009. A bid has been put forward for the Voluntary Grants Panel however this is not guaranteed and it would be more appropriate if longer term mainstream funding could be identified from the PCT, Surrey County Council and Guildford Borough Council. These discussions are currently taking place.
16. The on-going element of funding from SCC (£20,000) has been proposed for the 2009/10 SCC budget submission and negotiations are continuing, although this may not be confirmed until the budget is set in February

2009. Meanwhile, the PCT has identified an additional contribution of £10k that they hope to confirm for 2009/10. It is hoped that GBC can identify possible funding that they could make to continue this work.

17. A small amount of funding (about £3500) remains for developing initial work in Ash. Further substantial funding (or mainstream commitment) is sought for community development work in the Ash area.

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

18. Officers have developed a framework which

- sets a baseline of needs,
- will measure success in meeting those needs,
- directs the operational delivery of community development workers.

See Appendix C for this framework.

19. These measures gauge the effectiveness not simply of Community Development staff, but the support and commitment from the range of partners represented at the LSP. Improvements may not be seen in the short term.
20. Key data for benchmarking is derived from the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD); measures will also be linked to the Health Profile for the area, surveys, the Local Area Agreement (LAA) and National Indicator (NIs) (see below) and from the 'Heatmap' table, which are reported at 'Super Output Area' (SOA) or Ward level.
21. Work by agencies in North Guildford and Ash has the potential to make a significant contribution to Guildford borough's performance against LAA targets. Community Development workers provide a crucial role of community engagement, co-ordination and communication that will enhance the delivery of services in meeting LAA objectives. It is expected that LAA performance will be reported at county and borough level, but not at ward or Super Output Area level. It is therefore not proposed that the LAA be used to directly measure performance of this project.
22. Local and ward surveys are also being used to gauge progress and strength of community cohesion.
23. Community development workers already record numbers of people involved in the projects and community groups that they support. Further data gathering will aim to track the progress of some residents from being recipients of services, through being volunteers, to being active organizers of projects or other forms of community self-help.

24. The project will aim to improve the scores or ranking of North Guildford against a national comparison of the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) i.e.:
- To support the reduction of the number of Super Output Areas in Stoke and Westborough that appear in the 1st or 2nd worst quartile nationally (i.e. worse than the national average) in the Overall Index of Multiple Deprivation from 7 (in 2007, out of a possible 10 SOAs) to 5 by 2010, and to zero by 2026.

STRUCTURES

25. There is currently a Healthy Living Project management committee for the Healthy Living Project, overseeing work in Westborough and Stoke. In Ash a networking group has been formed to explore areas for future community development.
26. It is proposed that a borough-wide strategic group, ideally acting as a subgroup of the LSP be formed to steer, support and develop work in both areas (North Guildford and Ash), and potentially to develop work in new areas (Guildford town centre, Bushy Hill).
27. All LSP agencies have the potential to make a contribution to this agenda and would be welcome to be part of this new group. Each agency should be considering how any activity could be mainstreamed in the future. One LSP Executive member would be welcome to champion the work and be accountable to the wider LSP.

STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENTS

28. Discussions have been initiated both within SCC at senior officer level and at countywide within the Safer & Stronger Communities Partnership Board, part of the Surrey Strategic Partnership. These developments are focusing on
- Approaches to neighbourhood engagement and neighbourhood management
 - Identifying priority places across the county where concentrated effort across the agencies should be concentrated to achieve measureable improvements, both in the medium and long-term.
 - Efforts to identify the resources needed to deliver such a strategy, both from some developmental funding (the Self Reliance budget of old) and from re-alignment of partners' mainstream services.
29. It is planned for a Stronger Communities Strategy to be drafted by mid February to be commented on by partners to endorsed by the Safer &

Stronger Communities Partnership Board in March, for adoption by April 2009.

30. Within Guildford, the linkage to and ownership by the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) (see para 2, above) is of crucial importance because on the re-newed emphasis on “sustainable communities” and on priority places for joint activity by partners. Previous work on the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) and crime statistics have been supplemented by Health Profile and Heat Map data. This is giving a richer profile of the range of needs within areas such as Westborough, Stoke and Ash Wharf.
31. The next step within Guildford will be for the LSP Operations Group in December to commit further to dedicated activity, with resource needs identified, to propose to the full LSP meeting in January 2009. While it is hoped that sufficient resources will be maintained in Westborough and Stoke, there will be challenges to identify the additional resources in Ash to take the developmental work to the next level.
32. Members are asked to comment on the strategic and resource issues set out in this report.

CONSULTATIONS

33. Members of the respective communities and key agencies have been consulted about the needs of each area.

FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

34. The costs of this work represent good value for money in relation to prevention of a range of costs to public agencies (health, community safety, social care)

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

35. Some of the projects relate to enhancing and improving the environment.

EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

36. The central objective of this work is to reduce forms of exclusion and inequality. Many of the projects and events pay particular attention to issues associated with gender, age, disability, faith and belief.

CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

37. It is a central principle of the work that community safety can be promoted

by community strengthening and cohesion. Many of the initiatives therefore have a positive impact on community safety, and residents' reassurance and resilience.

CONCLUSIONS AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

38. Work in North Guildford and Ash addresses a number of key issues for local public service:

- Meeting unmet need
- Finding preventive solutions (e.g. for children's social care)
- Tackling a range of forms of inequality
- Engagement of services with residents
- Seeking solutions in the potential of families and communities themselves, rather than imposed service solutions.

39. The committee is asked to give its support to the work and to developing a more robust and sustainable approach to the work, to ensure that past investment and momentum is not dissipated and so that communities continue to receive the support of a partnership of agencies.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

40. The Healthy Living Programme will continue to implement the Action Plan (ANNEXE C). Guildford Local Strategic Partnership is in the process of reviewing its priorities and structures. A report is due to be brought to this Committee on March 11 2009 concerning the LSP and local implications and delivery of the Surrey Local Area Agreement.

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Westborough Ward

Projects	Worker Activity
1 Barn Youth Project	Support, promote, recruit, Committee & Sub-committee Member, advice, cover at Youth Cafe
2 Open Space Project	Support, promote, recruit, attend meetings
3 Grass Roots Meetings	Run, facilitate, organise, promote, fundraise
4 Grass Roots newspaper	Production, distribution, fundraise, promote
5 Wey River Time Bank	Run, promote, recruit, projects/events, networking
6 4 Churches, plus their community groups	Networking, support, promote, recruit, fundraise, inform, offer training, events/projects
7 PB&WB Community Association	Support, promote, recruit, fundraise, source training, advice, projects/events, committee member
8 Guildford Grove Children's Centre and Guildford Children's Centre Community Partnership	Steering Group Member, networking, promote, projects/events, bridge building, support
9 Meeting Point	Support, fundraise, promote, inform, advice
10 Walking for Health	Walk Leader, promote, recruit, attend meetings
11 5 Parent & Toddler groups	Networking, inform, promote, support, recruit
12 Community clean-ups	Run, organise, promote, fundraise, partnership work, projects/events, engage with community, recruit
13 Senior Resident's Day trips	Run, organise, promote, fundraise, engage
14 WASHA - Allotments	Support, advice, promote, fundraise, recruit,
15 CHIPS / FISH	Promote, attend meetings
16 Local residents/individuals	Address issues as arise
17 Watt's Gallery – Art Project	Steering group, recruit, promote, set up projects / workshops, networking, fundraise, bridge building
18 Neighbourhood and Speed Watch Schemes	Support, promote, leafleting, monitor
19 Funky Fitness for all ages	Promote, support
20 SCC Family and Adult Learning	Support, networking, setting up projects
21 Safer Guildford Partnership: CIAG/JAG, Young people, Steering Group, Police panels	Partnership work, support, promote, projects/events, fundraise, meetings, networking, engagement
22 Surrey Wildlife Trust	Promote, Projects/Events, support
23 Various organisations, e.g. Next Step, Connexion, Age Concern, YMCA	Promote, support, engage with community, advice, refer to,

Stoke Ward

Projects	Worker Activity
1 Wey River Time Bank	Run, promote, recruit members, treasurer
2 Fir Tree Community Garden	Manage, develop, fund raise
3 Weyfield Residents Association	Support, advise, projects/events
4 Bellfields Residents Association	Support, advise, projects/events
5 Our Place Youth Group	Help run, training, seek fundraise
6 Teenagers	Mapping
7 Allotments	Oversee, manage, promote
8 Breastfeeding support	Initial stages of trying to set up a baby café
9 Walking for Health	Walk leader, promote, seek volunteers
10 Churches	Support
11 North Guildford Children's Centre	Networking to engage with the community, set up groups
12 Bellfields Senior Residents Group	Support, fund raise
13 Local residents/individuals	Address issues as arise
14 Young Peoples Group – Safer Guildford	Support events
15 Guildford Children's Centre Community Partnership Group	Attend meetings, network and support

Good Practice Examples From North Guildford

Westborough – Worthing trip

The residents' survey indicated that more activities were needed for older people. The Community Development worker and Community Safety Warden used their local knowledge to target households of older people who were rarely or never seen at community events or groups, with an invitation to a day out in Worthing.

Funding was raised from the Safer Guildford Partnership, SCC Local Committee and ticket sales. 48 people took part. A feedback survey clearly showed that the event had had an impact on reducing people's isolation and narrowed horizons. Some respondents indicated that they would volunteer to fundraise and help organise further similar trips.

Community Development worker is building on this success to explore ways of sustaining the social contacts formed on this trip and introducing isolated people to the range of activities available (e.g. church groups, Park Barn day centre, community groups, fitness and craft activities etc).

Stoke – 'Our Place' youth group, Bellfields

The residents' survey indicated that more activities were needed for young people aged 7 to 11 in Bellfields. The Community Development worker and Community Safety Warden consulted schoolchildren and parents about setting up a new group and began engaging the community in the project.

The group was established earlier this year and now runs fortnightly and continues to attract about 45 young people at each session. The two workers are joined by volunteers from the school and community and local PCSO. Training for the volunteers took place in September.

The group provides a safe place to go and enjoy a range of physical activities, team games, socialising, crafts or just relaxing. At most sessions young people receive advice and information about staying safe or making healthy lifestyle choices. Future events are already planned to the end of the year including Children in Need 'OUR PLACE has got talent' competition in November.

During the summer the group ran a 'mini-olympics' session which was very enjoyable and received special commendation from Surrey's High Sheriff Sally Varah: "In setting up this initiative, you are clearly helping to provide a safe environment and so improve the quality of life of the 7 to 11 year olds living on the Bellfields estate and to impact on potential levels of crime and anti-social behaviour going forward. Brilliant."

In September the youth group won the Surrey Police Local Heroes Award 2008 in the Community Group Award Category.

Healthy Living Project Community Development Workers – Action Plan – 25.11.08

Aim	Activity	Performance indicator/time frame	Key Partners	Notes and Progress
Income	To support the reduction in the number of Super Output Areas in Stoke and Westborough that appear in the 1 st or 2 nd worst quartile nationally (i.e. worse than the national average) in the Income Domain of the Index of Multiple Deprivation from 8 (in 2007, out of a possible 10 SOAs) to 6 by 2010.			
Maximising people's income through accessing relevant benefits and managing money.	Children's Centres – promoting the work and the various services that take place there.	Visit children's centre and identify if job centre plus or benefits agency have a presence, if not rectify, if possible.	Children's Centres Job Centre Plus CAB	Initial by December 2008
	Credit Union – support and attend the meetings and then promote once it is up and running.	Attendance at meetings Promotional material distributed to residents	Credit Union	Next meeting date 14.01.09
	Promote benefit uptake with older residents.	Offer and arrange if needed benefits talk.	CAB Older People's groups	
Employment	To support the reduction in the number of Super Output Areas in Stoke and Westborough that appear in the 1 st or 2 nd worst quartile nationally (i.e. worse than the national average) in the Employment Domain of the Index of Multiple Deprivation from 6 (in 2007, out of a possible 10 SOAs) to 5 by 2010.			
Increasing opportunities to access employment	Promoting the work and the various services that take place there, in a range of places including Children's Centres.	Visit children's centre and identify if job centre plus have a presence, if not rectify, if possible.	Next Step Job Centre Plus Voluntary Action – South West Surrey Vinvolved	
Health and Disability	To support the reduction in the number of Super Output Areas in Stoke and Westborough that appear in the 1 st or 2 nd worst quartile nationally (i.e. worse than the national average) in the Health and Disability Domain of the Index of Multiple Deprivation from 2 (in 2007, out of a possible 10 SOAs) to 1 by 2010.			
To increase opportunities to engage in physical activity	Promoting walking for health, sports for young people, exercise classes, chair based exercises Leading organised walks.	Promote all known exercise activities that take place in the area to relevant people.	Age Concern Barn Youth Café Park Barn Day Centre Surrey PCT	

ITEM 7 ANNEXE C

Aim	Activity	Performance indicator/time frame	Key Partners	Notes and Progress
To educate and promote healthy eating.	Set up a community garden in Stoke. Support the local allotments and promote uptake. Attend Cook and Eat Training Course.	Community open and used by residents. Support funding application People	GBC GAS Surrey PCT	April 2009
To increase breast feeding uptake	Explore possibility of setting up breast-feeding cafés.	Relevant professionals sought and contact made. Initial discussions about setting up the café.	Surrey PCT Children's Centres	April 2009
Stop Smoking	Work with the Stop Smoking service to provide stop smoking activities/talks locally.	Stop Smoking Service provide talks.	Stop Smoking Service	On-going
Education, Skills and Training	To support the reduction in the number of Super Output Areas in Stoke and Westborough that appear in the 1 st or 2 nd worst quartile nationally (i.e. worse than the national average) in the Education, Skills and Training Domain of the Index of Multiple Deprivation from 8 (in 2007, out of a possible 10 SOAs) to 6 by 2010.			
Promoting engagement in schools	Identify people and agencies that can improve school attainment.	Engage with home school liaison workers. Make a link with the Confederation Co-ordinator	Schools School Confederation EWOs	
	Encouraging post 16 schooling and college.	Signposting people to appropriate agencies	Connexions	
Crime	To support the reduction in the number of Super Output Areas in Stoke and Westborough that appear in the 1 st or 2 nd worst quartile nationally (i.e. worse than the national average) in the Crime Domain of the Index of Multiple Deprivation from 6 (in 2007, out of a possible 10 SOAs) to 4 by 2010.			
	Engaging with the young people at Hazel Avenue.	Work with the PCSO to engage with the young people, explore alternative leisure activities.	PCSO	January 2009

ITEM 7 ANNEXE C

Aim	Activity	Performance indicator/time frame	Key Partners	Notes and Progress
	Continue to support the Barn Youth Café.	Support committee and sub group working with the young people to help prevent anti social behaviour. Promote the project.	Committee	On-going
	Supporting PCSOs	Attend police panel meetings and work on any relevant issues in partnership.	PCSO	On-going
	Neighbourhood watch	Support the local co-ordinator, raise awareness about the project, pass on information.	Neighbourhood watch co-ordinator Community Safety Warden	On-going
	Young People's Group	Attend meeting and work in partnership on various projects.	Safer Guildford	
	Work closely with the Community Safety Warden	Attend steering group meetings. Good communication regarding safety issues. Supporting various events e.g. bike marking	Community Safety Warden	
Living Environment	To support the reduction in the number of Super Output Areas in Stoke and Westborough that appear in the 1 st or 2 nd worst quartile nationally (i.e. worse than the national average) in the Living Environment Domain of the Index of Multiple Deprivation from 3 (in 2007, out of a possible 10 SOAs) to 2 by 2010.			
	Speedwatch – encourage and support	Explore the possibility of speedwatch training.	Police	
	Support Open Space project	Work with the committee to promote the project, help recruit volunteers and attend open days.	Volunteers Committee	
Community Cohesion	To use the findings from the Place Survey in particular the indicators NI 5 Satisfaction with local area and NI 4 Perceived influence over local decisions (better than national average: exact measures to be determined: positive trend)			
	Explore doing joint 'new tenant visits' with the Community Safety Wardens.	John Badcock to talk to Rodney Bates about setting this up.	CSW	End of November 2008

ITEM 7 ANNEXE C

Aim	Activity	Performance indicator/time frame	Key Partners	Notes and Progress
	Support the community, from groups to individuals on various concerns or issues, from funding to support community events.	A large part of the work undertaken is as a result of a need arising in the community. We work flexibly around these issues.	The Community	On-going
	Support the local Residents Associations	Attend resident association meetings, support in funding applications and training if necessary. Raise awareness of the association and action any areas highlighted at the meetings. Contribute to their newsletters.	Resident Associations	On-going
	Watts Gallery Art Project	Member of the steering group, co-ordinating different art projects in local area.	Watts Gallery Community Steering Group	August 2008-August 2009
	Wey River Time Bank	Manage, co-ordinate, re-energise, recruit and interview new members, publicise, pull our hair out, attend meetings	Committee	On-going
	Grass Roots	A local networking meeting for frontline workers and anyone who likes to be involved in the community. Producing a newsletter 3 times a year.	Community Safety Warden Attendees	This will continue until it is not wanted.
	Support Our Place Youth Group	Continue to support and fundraise for Our Place Youth Group – attending youth group evenings and identifying any training needs of the volunteers and putting on training required.	Committee Community Safety Warden PCSO Volunteers	On-going
	Local churches	Work with the local churches supporting any relevant activity	Local churches	On-going

Aim	Activity	Performance indicator/time frame	Key Partners	Notes and Progress
	Volunteering	Work with Voluntary Action South West Surrey and Vinolved, using them to promote volunteering in the community. Identify people in the community for volunteering and recruit them.		
	Help to promote services (new and old) to the area	Publicity material distributed through existing networks and contacts.		

Long Term Outcomes of Community Development Work in Westborough and Stoke Wards

The project will aim to improve the scores of ranking of North Guildford against a national comparison.

Short-term goal:

To support the reduction of the number of Super Output Areas in Stoke and Westborough that appear in the 1st or 2nd worst quartile nationally (i.e. worse than the national average) in the Overall Index of Multiple Deprivation from 7 (in 2007, out of a possible 10 SOAs) to 5 by 2010.

Long-term goal:

To support the reduction of the number of Super Output Areas in Stoke and Westborough that appear in the 1st or 2nd worst quartile nationally (i.e. worse than the national average) in the Overall Index of Multiple Deprivation from 7 (in 2007, out of a possible 10 SOAs) to zero by 2026.