



Minutes Annex 1

SCC LOCAL COMMITTEE IN SPELTHORNE – 14 March 2016

AGENDA ITEM 6

MEMBER WRITTEN QUESTION TIME

1. No member written questions were received for this meeting.
-

AGENDA ITEM 7

PUBLIC WRITTEN QUESTION TIME

1. Mr Andrew McLuskey will ask the following question:

“Given recent revelations that Spelthorne is the unhealthiest council in Surrey (and the 132nd in England) what action is the Local Committee planning to take to correct this distressing situation?”

Lisa Andrews, SCC Public Health, will give the following answer:

“The health and wellbeing of Spelthorne residents is a key priority. There are significant dedicated resources to ensure that residents of all ages have opportunities to stay physically and mentally active and maintain a healthy lifestyle. There is a huge choice of sporting and leisure activities in the Borough and many of these are provided free of charge.

It is not uncommon for Spelthorne to compare less than favourably in health statistics when compared with other Surrey Boroughs. The Borough lies to the south west of London and has a demographic which makes it more comparable with some outer London boroughs than the rest of Surrey.

Surrey is one of the healthiest counties in the UK and Spelthorne also fares well in the majority of health measures when compared with the national picture and that of our neighbouring boroughs. However, the County and Borough Council are not complacent and recognise the key role they play in helping to improve the health and wellbeing of residents, particularly those in areas of greater deprivation where certain health issues are more prevalent.

Based on the indicators listed, Spelthorne has been ranked 132 out of 324 councils in England and the ‘unhealthiest’ council in Surrey. While many residents in Spelthorne experience good health outcomes, there are small pockets of deprivation in the borough in parts of Stanwell, Ashford, Staines-upon-Thames and Sunbury Common. The main issues in these areas are low income, unemployment, poor educational attainment and higher levels of crime and disorder which can all have an impact on health outcomes.

In order to address this need, Spelthorne Borough Council, Surrey County Council and North West Surrey Clinical Commissioning Group collaborate to ensure services and initiatives are prioritised and targeted.

A Spelthorne Health and Wellbeing Strategy is being written in liaison with partner organisations, which includes several health related actions. The local strategy is aligned to the NW Surrey CCG Prevention Plan and the prevention element of the Surrey Health and Wellbeing Strategy. It contains a number of initiatives all aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of residents, looking at local needs and evidence of what has worked well in the past.

Current initiatives include:

- Surrey County Council commissioned Weight Management courses are currently running at Spelthorne Leisure Centre and Stanwell Rose Centre.
- Food premises can take part in the Surrey wide ‘Eat Out Eat well’ award scheme.
- Surrey County Council has commissioned Quit 51 to provide a Surrey Wide Stop Smoking Service and Spelthorne recently took part in the smoke free playground project.
- Spelthorne works very closely with Active Surrey, schools and local sports clubs to promote opportunities for sport within Spelthorne. Free sports sessions for young people will start in April as part of the Surrey Youth Games and a ‘Sports week’ will take place in the summer holidays for young people.
- There are several free opportunities for people of all ages to keep active including four skate/BMX parks, tennis courts, basketball courts and multi-use games areas and play areas, plus several large parks and open spaces and riverside walks. There is a new 5k measured run route in Laleham Park, which is free to use.
- Spelthorne runs a Walking for Health and Cycling for Health schemes for adults and an exercise referral scheme for those with health problems is available at Spelthorne Leisure Centre. Local walk route maps are available on the Spelthorne website and cycling maps are being developed.
- There is a disability sports club for young people on a Saturday morning and a Boccia Club for adults with disabilities on a Thursday evening.
- Spelthorne is currently taking part in the Get Fit 50+ Surrey wide scheme in liaison with Active Surrey and Public Health and day centres and community centres offer a wide range of activities for older people.

- Spelthorne works with Action Surrey, AgeUK and GP surgeries to ensure residents' homes are safe, warm and in a good state of repair.

2. Mr Ken Snaith, Shepperton Residents Association, will ask the following question:

"The ditches on both sides of Sheep Walk, Shepperton, near the Chertsey Road end, were cleared many weeks ago but the rubbish brought up from them is still piled high alongside the ditches and footpath. Before this becomes more contaminated with weeds etc can you please advise as to when this rubbish will be collected and removed from site. Sheep Walk is already a regular area for fly-tipping and these piles of rubbish will attract further illegal tipping."

Nick Healey, SCC Area Highway Manager (NE), will give the following answer:

"Sheep Walk was inspected last week in response to this question. The recent clearing of the ditch on the east side of the road has brought up what appear to be white coloured stones, rather than rubbish. Officers will ask colleagues at Spelthorne Borough Council to arrange a litter sweep to pick up any rubbish that may be present."

This page is intentionally left blank