Streets Apart: Working Together in Elmbridge Programme Overview

Vision

‘Elmbridge is a great place to grow up where all children, young people and their families have the best chance of being healthy, happy, safe and confident in their future.’

Summary

Elmbridge is a desirable place to live for many; it also has many hidden challenges. A number of interested parties have set out to establish a deeper understanding of the unique situation in the borough. The 2014 ‘Streets Apart’, youth focused report and the more recent New Economic Foundation report on ‘Inequality in Elmbridge’ has uncovered a number of local challenges and opportunities. A range of stakeholders have committed to coalescing around a set of agreed priorities in order to improve outcomes for local people, the programme places a particular focus on children, young people and their families who experience disadvantage, inequality and social isolation. Our objectives will be achieved by working together as a ‘whole system’, aligning resources, knowledge and expertise. Streets Apart is the vehicle for bringing together members of the voluntary, community and faith (VCF) sectors, local government at Borough and County level and the private sector to work in collaboration at a local level in ways which are new and innovative. We are drawing on national research and building our own body of local research with residents that will shape the project as it develops.

Outcomes

In Elmbridge, we will work together in order to improve the life experiences of children, young people and their families, in particular those who face disadvantage. This may include, but is not limited to; the co-design of initiatives and projects, joint commissioning and integrated services. In particular, we aim to:

- Further develop the local housing pathways for young people, ensuring they can live in and contribute to the area in suitable accommodation that supports a successful transition to adulthood
- Positively influence the health and well being of particular communities by better understanding their experiences and through fully joined up services
- Ensure that children and young people are accessing good information and guidance about their futures and are able to progress their education, employment and skills supported by local agencies and businesses
- Work together to ensure that young people experience healthy relationships with their school, friends, family and partners and have the resilience to manage difficulties when they arise
- Build on national research and best practice to better understand the experiences of families living in poverty. To work together innovatively and with expert guidance to improve the experiences of children and families who face economic disadvantage
- Increase community capital by focussing on assets not deficits

Approach:

- Break down barriers to working together
- Be inclusive, resident centred & focussed on local area
- Seek to better understand resident experience – grass roots
- Be responsive to empirical evidence
- Pilot model, develop & share learning
- Build on existing assets

Projects

Elmbridge Bike Project
Lead: John Thurlow, Kier Schiltz
An opportunity for all ages to develop new skills, enhance physical activity, increase employability & social networks

Elmbridge Young Person’s Lodgings, Pilot Scheme
Lead: Julie Cook, Colin Waters
Co-designed, co-commissioned and co-funded pilot to increase housing options through development of local resource

Elmbridge Joint Youth Strategy
Lead: Chris Beck
Sets out priorities as defined by young people. Joint responsibility held by all

Elmbridge Child Well Being Audit
Lead: Emily Pentland
Sponsor: Jackie Lodge
Listening to the voice of the child & responding as a whole system in order to improve life experiences

Elmbridge Protected Work Placements
Lead: Chris Beck
Supportive work experience placements for young people in conjunction with local business