

<b>Committee:</b>	Council	<b>Date:</b>	Thursday, 21 February 2019
<b>Title:</b>	Report of the Portfolio Holder for Communities and Partnerships		
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## Summary

1. This report summarises key activity in the Communities and Partnerships portfolio.

## Recommendations

2. None. This report is to note only.

## Financial Implications

3. None

## Situation

## Health and Wellbeing

4. The Health and Wellbeing strategy is in the process of being refreshed to reflect our growing communities including the proposed new garden communities. The council and its partners continue to support the Livewell campaign which provides information for people across Essex on ways to improve their health.
5. A weight management programme (supported by Anglian Community Enterprise) continues to be well supported and has received 120 referrals to the service. The programme offers weekly weigh-ins across the district, including the council offices, the community hub in Great Dunmow and the 1Life centres.
6. A new website for people with dementia, their families and carers has been launched by Uttlesford Dementia Action Alliance. This will be promoted through March's edition of Uttlesford Life in addition to the UDC and partner website and twitter feeds. The link is [www.dementiafriendlyuttlesford.org.uk](http://www.dementiafriendlyuttlesford.org.uk)
7. Through the time to change campaign a second session of mental first aid training for managers is being delivered. A 2 hour mental health at work session has been offered to all staff and will be delivered on 20 March. Councillors would also be welcome to attend.

8. Health walks in the District have now been running for 12 years with a total number of walkers reaching 729. Since January 2017 there have been 120 walkers join the 6 health walks which on average equates to one new walker per week.

### **Community Safety**

9. The Community Safety Hub, which provides a drop-in point in the council offices for partner agencies including the police and Essex social care, continues to be well-used. Agencies are using the hub regularly as a base whilst in the district which enhances partnership working. Hub meetings are well attended where a multi-agency approach is given to low level crime and ASB issues.
10. Safer Streets projects are underway throughout the district assisted by partners internally and externally. The latest project took place on 1<sup>st</sup> February on the Priors Green Estate in Little Canfield focusing on enforcement, improving engagement between the Police, Partners and the local community and to instil public confidence and drive down the fear of crime.

### **Engagement**

11. The youth council has set its meeting dates for the forthcoming year. A recruitment drive has recently taken place and this has strengthened the membership to 23 which includes 2 young people co-opted to the Council who live in Uttlesford but attend school out of locality. The focus for the young people will be involvement in housing and the planning process with the main focus on the proposed New Garden Communities. Allowing the young people to become involved in new and fresh topics will hopefully encourage more into the democratic process.
12. Community Development project work to reduce the risk of loneliness and isolation will begin in Great Chesterford. Working with the vicar and local residents the team will be looking to identify projects that will bring back the connectivity of residents and agencies whilst also identifying any vulnerable tenants who may need support.

### **Partnerships**

13. Results from the feedback of the annual assembly have been collated and work of the Local Strategic Partnership groups will encompass the feedback moving forward. The Uttlesford sustainable communities strategy, which guides the LSP's work will be refreshed to reflect the new focus direction of travel.

### **Saffron Walden Museum**

14. Saffron Walden Museum has submitted an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund under its 'Resilient Heritage' grants programme. This is the first step of a long-term development programme which aims to increase visitors, community

engagement and income, and make the Museum more sustainable in the future.

15. The application is for a grant of £51,300 with a further £10,000 contribution from Saffron Walden Museum Society Ltd; no financial contribution is required from the Council. The project will fund an audience development study, to provide an in-depth analysis of the Museum's actual and potential visitors, and a feasibility study with options appraisal and business plan, to determine the optimum way to develop the Museum and provide a costed plan. Other strands of the project include developing the fund-raising capacity of the Museum Society, which uses its charitable status to raise money for capital projects, and to support and mentor Museum staff and volunteers, who will be taking on a considerable challenge to run a major project alongside day-to-day service operations.
  
16. The outcome of the grant application is expected in early April. If successful, this opening phase of 'Resilient Heritage' work is expected to take 18 months to complete, finishing in December 2020. The Museum and Museum Society will then be equipped to prepare major funding applications for the next phase, which will involve extending and improving the Museum building, displays and facilities, and associated activity programmes