



Appendix 1: Community Planning Quarterly Briefing October to December 2013

This is a quarterly briefing designed to give everyone involved in the community planning process across the Caerphilly county borough, as well as wider audiences, an overview of progress on the Community Strategy. Information has been supplied by each of the co-ordinators leading on different themes of the Community Strategy please get in touch directly with the co-ordinators for further information.

Community Planning (Jackie Dix, Alison Palmer & Howard Rees)
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Caerphilly Delivers the Single Integrated Plan 2013-2017

Following the approval of the Single Integrated Plan by the Caerphilly Local Service Board and Cabinet last April, the designed version is now available –



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A limited number of hard copies are available from Jackie Dix on telephone: 01443 864447 or Email: dixj1@caerphilly.gov.uk

The implementation/delivery phase of the Single Integrated Plan is being progressed through the Leads Group appointed to oversee the delivery of the five priority outcomes, comprised of:

Learning – Keri Cole, Caerphilly County Borough Council
Prosperous – Pauline Elliott, Caerphilly County Borough Council
Safer – Lead to be appointed
Healthier – Sam Crane, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
Greener – Sue Maberley, Natural Resources Wales (until December 13)

Caerphilly Local Service Board (LSB)

The LSB met on 16th October and considered:

- The Delivery of ***Caerphilly Delivers - the Single Integrated Plan 2013-2017***

Please contact the relevant co-ordinator if you require further information on any of the above or Community Planning, Penallta House Tredomen Park, Ystrad Mynach CF82 7PG



- The Welsh Government consultation on *Designated Persons* arising from the Local Government Measure 2011, which will place a new duty on Local Authority scrutiny committees to scrutinise public service providers (*Designated Persons*), delivering services in the area
- Update on the Caerphilly County Borough Council Welfare Reform Act Implementation Project
- Update from the LSB Poverty Task Group
- Update on the projects and partnership work in the voluntary sector by Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations.

Full details of the papers discussed at the meeting, including the latest news on the Single Integrated Plan for delivering the Caerphilly borough Community Strategy can be found at:

<http://your.caerphilly.gov.uk/communityplanning/content/caerphilly-local-service-board>

Caerphilly Local Service Board Community Planning Standing Conference

The next Standing Conference, focusing on the Single Integrated Plan **Caerphilly Delivers**, is taking place on Friday 13th December from 9:30am to 1pm at Llancaiach Fawr, Nelson. For further details please contact Alison Palmer by Email: palmea@caerphilly.gov.uk or telephone: 01443 863540.

Prosperous Caerphilly (Antony Bolter)

regeneration@caerphilly.gov.uk

COMMUNITIES FIRST

The new phase of Communities First started on 1st April 2013. There are 4 Communities First clusters in Caerphilly: Upper Rhymney Valley, Mid Valleys East, Mid Valleys West and Caerphilly Basin. Each cluster has a team of Communities First officers to support healthier communities, more prosperous communities and improve learning in communities.

Work Clubs - there are 13 Communities First work clubs across the borough to help and support people who are unemployed to secure employment. This includes help to get online, complete job applications and gain information about further support and training.

Caerphilly Passport Programme - the aim of the programme is to provide young people aged 16-24 with work experience and training to prepare them for sustainable employment.

Care That Works – a pre employment programme to help give young people the skills and training needed for a career in care, has been held in the Caerphilly

Basin. Training includes: Dementia Awareness, Protection of Vulnerable Adults, Infection Control for Care Workers, and Outcome Focused Recording. 14 people have so far taken advantage of the training.

Tackling Workless Households Pilot - Caerphilly Basin has been chosen as one of 8 Communities First clusters to host 2 new officers to tackle workless households in the cluster. Supported by the Welsh Government Tackling Poverty Action Plan, the officers will act as a single point of contact for employment support, and helping local people to obtain, skills, training and work placements, to ensure sustainable employment opportunities.

SKILLS & EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT

Professor Dave Adamson has produced a report for the Caerphilly borough on potential areas of economic growth, future vacancies in the labour market, skills required and skills gaps. The findings were considered by partners at a workshop held 8th October 2013. Comments and suggestions are currently being pulled together and these will be considered at the next meeting of the Training and Education Forum on 9th December 2013, with a view to developing an action plan.

TOURISM, EVENTS & MARKETING

This quarter sees the borough's most extensive **Christmas Events Programme** yet, with event and marketing activity designed to promote town centres, increase footfall and encourage more visitors to the county borough of Caerphilly.

The Blackwood Christmas Market kicks the programme off on Saturday 30th November and Sunday 1st December with the High Street closed to vehicles to host food & craft stalls, funfair rides, traditional entertainment and a Santa's Grotto.

The following week will witness the first weekend in a new chapter of Bargoed life following hot on the heels of the new Morrisons store opening on 2 December. Bargoed High Street will be closed to traffic for an expanded Christmas Market on 7 December. This will bring some of the new public realm works to life, and the real Ice Rink will open to the public on the same day, at the start of a nine day opening period. Entertainment at the Christmas market will include an indoor Santa's grotto, traditional Punch & Judy shows, children's activities such as pottery and crafts and street theatre.

Also taking place on the 7 December and continuing to the 8 December will be Caerphilly's Medieval market, one of Wales' largest festive events, which will bring it's own unique blend of medieval entertainment, food and drink and over 140 stalls selling unusual Christmas gifts, such as medieval replica, traditional crafts, jewellery and Christmas decorations.

The Risca Christmas Market and Lantern Parade on 14 December will complete a festive quartet of Christmas markets in the borough's primary town centres, with

the added attraction of combining a lantern parade involving local school children around Tredegar Park in the heart of the town centre.

The final event of the Council's Christmas events calendar is the River of Light lantern parade in Caerphilly on Thursday 19 December, an event that attracts over 1,000 lanterns made in a series of community lantern workshops.

For a full programme of festive events visit www.caerphilly.gov.uk/events

Work is currently underway on the **2014 Visitor Guide for the County Borough**, promoting some of the borough's most well known heritage and countryside features to an audience across the UK. The guides were well received this year, reflecting positively on the local tourism economy.

The recent short breaks campaign is currently being evaluated after targeting 7,500 e-mail contacts with a combination of private and public sector offers. Currently in the pipeline, the team are working on a revised visitcaerphilly.com website and *A What's On* app.

TOWN CENTRES

The Go2 My Town Project has created the first local authority wide digital business network with aim of raising the visibility of local businesses online. Seven online town centres have been created – one each for Caerphilly, Ystrad Mynach, Bargoed, Blackwood, Rhymney, Risca & Newbridge – where local businesses can list their details for free, residents can find local services, events, news and job vacancies.

The Go2 My Town team are helping local businesses get online by offering a website grant up to 50% of total cost. After an initial informal meeting and simple application process, businesses are referred to local approved developers who work closely with the business to create a personalised content managed website. Businesses can learn how to update their own website on completion.

Go2 My Town provides a high spec hosting service for websites with high security, unlimited bandwidth, intrusion detection service, daily back-ups of the websites, domain name and e-mail addresses included in the package. The team offers a support service once the site has gone live helping a business to maximise the impact of a new website, use of social media and online marketing.

A recent successful example is Tidal's Stores in Blackwood -

<http://www.tidalsstore.co.uk>

The impact of the photography and graphics on the website has attracted the interest of BBC programme *Come Dine With Me* and orders from all over the UK.

To contact the team and have a chat about how the Go2 My Town project can help, please call 01443 866210, e-mail info@go2grant.co.uk

The Local Investment Fund grants programme has undergone a review by Old Bell 3 Consultancy and has produced a report which has highlighted the success of the programme in terms of jobs created and jobs safeguarded. Excellent feedback was received from businesses on the high quality service provided by the Business Enterprise Support Team who have consistently met targets and responded rapidly to business grant applications. The Business Development Grant and the UK Steel Business Start-Up Grant have also been well received by local business who fall outside the LIF criteria. The composite portfolio of grants and collaborative working with other business development services has provided a good basis for business support in the Caerphilly county borough.

HOUSING

Councillors and members of the Caerphilly Homes Task Group have taken to the road to see for themselves the success of partnership working in delivering affordable housing options for local people. The group took in numerous sites on the road trip; looking at past, current and future opportunities for affordable housing in the county borough. The sites they visited have all been identified through partnership working between the council, Seren Group and United Welsh Housing Association.

This partnership has resulted in over £100 million of external funding being invested in affordable housing in the borough since 2007, with 880 new affordable homes delivered. This work aims to fill the gap highlighted through the Local Housing Market Assessment, which shows there is a shortfall of 530 affordable housing units per year in the county borough.

FUNDING

Convergence Successor - the present Convergence Programme ends December 2013, with some individual projects continuing until 2014/15. Since its start in 2007, the Council has secured £37m of EU grant. This has included capital projects such as Newbridge and Bargoed town centre regeneration, Park and Ride, and training/work experience projects such as Caerphilly Passport Programme, Trinity Fields project, and Transition to Employment.

January 2014 will see the start of a replacement seven year funding programme - ***Wales and the EU: Partnership for Jobs and Growth***. While the final Programme Budget is expected to be slightly lower than the Convergence Budget, the new programme will focus on:

- Jobs, growth and opportunities
- Alignment with EU / National / Welsh Government strategies
- Integration with other EU Programmes
- Stronger spatial targeting (for example City Regions).

It is clear that there will be little opportunity to access funding for capital type projects, and there is a stronger focus on partnership/regional working.

Concerns that delays in the EU Budget settlement, involving consultations, development and preparing appropriate national and regional documentation, have led to a slip, and the start date will now be April/May 2014. Local Authority negotiations have been led by the Welsh Local Government Association, and have included a complicated infrastructure of national/local work groups. Integral to this negotiation, the South East Wales Directors of Environment and Regeneration Group (SEWDERG) has formed ten task and finish groups, and Caerphilly County Borough Council has a representative on each. Officers are currently considering a number of proposals for future consideration and input.

Rural Development Programme

In the current 2007-13 RDP Programme, twenty-two projects have been approved with a total value of nearly £7 million. The original programme required projects to end in 2013. However, early in 2013, the Welsh Government agreed to allow extensions and enhanced funding to the projects to allow them to proceed into 2014.

Development of the RDP programme from 2014 to 2020 is running behind the other programmes. Implementation of the RDP for Wales is unlikely before January 2015. Extension of the current programme will not fill the gap, and there are currently no specific interim proposals.

The amount of European funding coming to Rural Wales from the RDP 2014-2020 Common Agricultural Policy is presently unknown. However, it is clear is that there will be significantly less money over the coming seven year period for Wales compared to the current programming period. Furthermore, the programme in Wales is part-funded by the Welsh Government and co-financing for the next RDP has yet to be agreed.

The current delivery structure of Partnerships and Local Action Groups will be removed and there will be just one group to cover an area in the new programme. Further details are still unclear.



Partnership Performance

Safer Caerphilly continues to work in partnership to reduce crime and disorder in the Caerphilly county borough. The following figures were recorded on 3rd November 2013 -

- crime has increased by 6.4% and anti-social behaviour has increased by 7.6%. Analysts state that these increases are a result of the long hot summer that has been experienced this year. Expectations at this stage are that these figures will level off by the year end. The increases are also on the back of continuing reductions over previous years such as the 54% reduction in anti social behaviour (ASB) over the last three year period.

ASB Victim/Witness Champion

The Victims Champion continues to attend all multi-agency groups to tackle anti-social behaviour, liaise closely with all departments within the local authority and outside agencies, whilst supporting victims in the community, and throughout the court process. Throughout April 2013 – October 2013, there have been 164 referrals made to the service. The victim's Champion has supported over 1000 victims and witnesses of anti-social behaviour since she has been in post from 2010. The Victims Champion (Lana Harrison) can be contacted on 01495 235441.

The Safer Caerphilly Volunteer Network

The Safer Caerphilly Volunteer Network incorporates the diverse range of individuals who are actively involved in their communities and have an interest in working alongside other partner agencies to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour. The Volunteer Network is made up of 236 individuals from groups such as Neighbourhood Watch, Crime Prevention Panels, community groups and partnerships, Street Pastors and tenants and residents associations. Recent sessions have included a variety of presentations and workshops where residents had the opportunity to discuss any crime and disorder issues in their area. If you would like to attend the next meeting or would like further information on the Volunteer Network please ring 01495 235350.

Partnership Communications

The information provided below is based on three projects that the Safer Caerphilly partners are currently working on:

Project Bernie

The Safer Caerphilly Fire Safety Action Team has now started the planning process for Project Bernie 2014. Project Bernie is based on a social marketing

concept, which aims to reduce deliberate grass fires by addressing behaviours and attitudes within the community. The project ran in the Bargoed area over the Easter period in 2011, 2012 and 2013 with great success. The project involved a multi agency response to the problem and included an advertising and marketing campaign, patrols of the area and numerous youth activities, which all focused on addressing the problem of deliberate grass fires. It is hoped that sufficient funds will be sought to extend Bernie to other areas of the borough in 2014 in addition to Bargoed.

Junior Community Safety Warden Scheme

Following on from a successful pilot scheme run throughout January – March 2013 the Junior Community Safety Warden Scheme is being rolled out to all schools across the borough. The Community Safety Wardens will be entering schools to inform young people of the Warden scheme, talk to them about anti-social behaviour issues such as littering and graffiti and promote general community safety messages. The young people will also have the opportunity to take part in a quiz and competitions that will encourage them to think about community safety issues. At the end of the session they will also receive a goody bag and a certificate and card to say that they are now a Junior Community Safety Warden. The Safer Caerphilly website has also been developed to include a specific section just for the Junior Wardens which promotes safety messages and includes interactive games.

After Dark Initiative

The Caerphilly After Dark scheme is being set up to tackle night-time economy issues. The three aims of the scheme are to:

- To reduce night time economy related crime (specifically violence, damage, and hate crime)
- Improve communication night time economy agencies and coordinate action
- Making Caerphilly and Blackwood town centres safer.

These aims will be achieved through better communication, not only between partners, but also with the staff that run the towns pubs/clubs and in particular those who provide door security. Manage take away restaurants and taxi firms, providing training and assistance when appropriate.

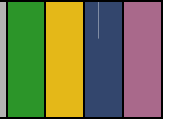
The scheme is due to be launched on the 2nd December. The launch will incorporate a publicity campaign supported with free merchandise to raise the profile of the scheme within the relevant areas.

In addition to the above Safer Caerphilly continue to deliver core activity and services, striving to reduce and prevent crime, disorder, the impact of substance misuse, domestic violence and in doing so make the Caerphilly county borough a safer place to live, work and visit.

For more information visit the Safer Caerphilly website -
<https://your.caerphilly.gov.uk/saferccb/>

Healthier Caerphilly (Lianne Dallimore)

HSCWB@caerphilly.gov.uk <mailto:hscwb@caerphilly.gov.uk>



Rhymney's new Health and Social Care Centre nears completion

The construction phase of Rhymney Integrated Health & Social Care Centre is almost complete and tenants are poised to move in over the next few weeks. The Centre will host health services from the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board and social care services provided by Caerphilly County Borough Council.

Services will include two GP surgeries; a dental practice; an optician; 12 in-patient beds in the Redwood Suite; *Oaklands* - the Council's Day Opportunities Centre; and a community pharmacy. Outpatient clinics will also be relocated to the Centre saving travel time for patients.

The Centre will also provide a base for: District Nurses, School Nurses, Health Visitors, a Community Mental Health Team, the Older People's Assessment team, and the Children's Services team. This innovative approach will bring these teams together for the first time allowing an integrated approach to Health and Social Care.

The local community have been involved since the start of the development and have taken part in activities from deciding on the location of the Centre to voting on its name. Over 50 people recently attended a series of drop in sessions, and were able to ask detailed questions about the Centre's services, facilities, parking and transport.

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board's Chair, David Jenkins said –

We are all very excited about this development. To have a range of services in one setting gives a very firm foundation for the future delivery of health and social care services. We would like to thank everyone who has been involved in this development over many years, I am sure that the new centre will be a real benefit for local people.

Cllr Robin Woodyatt, Caerphilly County Borough Council's Cabinet Member for Social Services said –

Work has progressed at quite a pace on this fantastic new facility, which will help enhance the capacity of existing community services and bring together a number of health and social care teams under one roof. As the development enters its final phase, I greatly look forward to seeing this impressive facility open its doors to the residents of the North of our county borough in the very near future.



Rhymney Integrated Health & Social Care Centre

SPORTS CAERPHILLY

School Sport Survey - Sport Wales have published the results of their national School Sports Survey, the largest survey of any kind of young people in the UK. The opinions of 110,000 schoolchildren from almost 1000 schools across Wales were collected and collated to highlight the numbers of young people taking part in sport or physical activity three or more times a week, and how many children enjoy school sport.

In the Caerphilly county borough 96% of schools participated in the survey, with 4798 primary school pupils, and 3692 secondary school pupils having their say. The report revealed that 63% of children in schools across the borough said they enjoy P.E. lessons *a lot*, which is 3% more than the Wales average. The survey also showed that in the borough 74% of pupils took part in sport at a club outside of school, and 72% are confident in trying new activities without worrying.

The figures collected show what is possible when sport and education sectors work together. They also help in understanding how to encourage the younger generation to participate more in sport and physical activity. The survey was distributed by Sport Caerphilly.

A full overview of the survey can be found at - <http://www.sportwales.org.uk/research--policy/surveys-and-statistics/school-sport-survey.aspx>

SmartRewards for SmartCard customers

A new loyalty rewards initiative for SmartCard customers was launched on Monday 21st October at Newbridge Leisure Centre, which will see regular visitors to Caerphilly County Borough Leisure Centre's gaining points for leading healthy and active lifestyles. SmartRewards has been developed by Caerphilly County Borough Council's Sport and Leisure Service to reward loyal Leisure Centre customers, with the basis that the more active you are, the more points you can gain. Officers worked alongside young people from the Youth Forum, who chose improving Leisure Services, as their priority last year.

The new loyalty system will see all SmartCard customers gaining points whenever they take part in a sporting activity at any of the borough's Leisure Centres. Points that have been earned can be redeemed for any leisure activity. Customers will not only reap the health benefits of taking part in more physical activity, they will also discover that the more activities they take part in, the more points they will receive and the more rewards they will see.

The launch event also gave the Youth Forum a chance to showcase the work they have done over the past year addressing their priority issue.

SmartCard customers can check their points and what they can be redeemed for through a newly developed website. When they sign up to this website they will automatically receive 25 points on their SmartCard

<https://ccbc rewards.smartcitizen.net/public/login.aspx>

The Youth Forum also produced a short film explaining SmartRewards, which can be viewed at <http://youtu.be/vnoVuSSgWOY>.

Sport Caerphilly Volunteer Award Evening

On the 27th November 2013 at Bryn Meadows Golf, Spa and Resort, Sport Caerphilly celebrated the work of volunteers and coaches who work so hard across the borough to improve the health and wellbeing of local people, and promote the benefits of sport and physical activity with a special awards ceremony. A full report will be given in this next quarterly briefing.

HEALTH CHALLENGE CAERPHILLY

Smoke Free Schools - 69 schools, within the borough, are now displaying *Smoke Free Zone* signs on their perimeter gates. Parents and visitors are being asked to think twice before lighting up. This initiative builds upon the success of the Smoke Free Playgrounds project, which has seen all playgrounds within the borough become smoke free. Both initiatives strive to make non smoking the norm.

It's time to talk about drinking

Did you know: People who work are more likely to drink alcohol than those without jobs? – and people over 45 are three times as likely to drink alcohol every day?

The trouble is that drink gives the body a hard time. The good news is that there's no need to stop drinking altogether – just stick to the advice below – drinking less now can make a big difference to your health later on.

- Have at least 2 alcohol free days a week
- Stick to the recommended daily guidelines (men 3-4 units; women 2-3 units)

Can you stay off the booze for 31 days? Go Dry for January?

For more information and to register for Dry January visit

www.healthchallengecaerphilly.org.uk

Keep Well This Winter

It is important to stay fit and healthy throughout the winter months. Here are 5 top tips for keeping well and warm:

- 1) **Heat your home well** - keep your rooms heated to a temperature between 18 + 21degrees C (64-70 degrees F)
- 2) **Dress well for warmth** - several thin layers of clothing will keep you warmer than one thick layer. Clothes made from wool, cotton or fleecy material are best. If you need to go out remember to wrap up warmly and wear a hat
- 3) **Get financial support** - there are grants, benefits and sources of advice available to make your home more energy efficient; improve your heating or help with bills. If you are worried about the cost of heating your home you can call NEST on 0808 808 2244 or click [NEST](#)
- 4) **Eat well** - food is a vital source of energy which helps to keep your body warm. Try to make sure you have hot meals and drinks throughout the day
- 5) **Get a flu jab** - you can get a free flu jab from your GP if you are over 65, have a long term health condition or are the main carer for an elderly or disabled person.

Christmas Dinner – Swap it, don't stop it!

The average person consumes approx. 6000 calories on Christmas Day. Christmas dinner can contain 1500 calories on its own. With a few little changes you can make a delicious, indulgent but more healthy Christmas dinner and cut out over 500 calories.

Check out www.healthchallengecaerphilly.org.uk to find out how as well as healthy ideas for those leftovers.

Thinking about your New Year's Resolution?

Let's Turn Obesity Around

National Obesity Week runs from 13th – 19th Jan 2014 and they are asking the nation to join in with a National New Year's Resolution to tackle obesity. Small changes can make a huge difference to your health and well being.

Can you make one small promise to yourself? – a resolution to do something differently in 2014 – to eat more vegetables, eat less junk food, to cook more of your meals from scratch; to join a sports club or a slimming club, to take the stairs instead of the lift...however small the change, it is a direct step to a healthier 2014. Make your resolution at <http://www.noaw2014.org.uk>

Greener Caerphilly (Paul Cooke)

sustainabledevelopment@caerphilly.org.uk

Outcome G1 – Improving local environmental quality

The Living Environment Partnership has approved 3 projects for 2013/14 through its Community Assets funded, Caerphilly Environmental Quality small grants fund. This fund is aimed at maximising the benefits of joint working on environmental projects in the county borough:

- **Pride in your pitch**

The project, which aims to engage with local sports clubs to encourage and enable them to take greater ownership of the condition of their own pitches, was formally launched at an event at Penallta House on the 18th September 2013 with presentations from the RFU, and from the well-known referee Nigel Owens.

Dog fouling and litter on the sports pitches in the borough has been identified as a major issue, affecting the health of those participating in sport, and preventing others from taking part in sport. Through the project information and guidance will be sent to every club, to raise awareness of the health and environmental issues. Packs will be provided containing litter pickers, gloves, bags, poop scoopers etc to allow clubs to clean their pitches effectively and safely.

- **River Schools**

The River Schools Project, a partnership co-ordinated by Groundwork Caerphilly with South East Wales Rivers Trust, Natural Resource Wales and Caerphilly County Borough Council co-ordinates the removal or modification of barriers to fish migration. The funding is allowing the provision of environmental education/promotion workshops, classes and events. The programme will educate local communities on the function and health of the river, including the impact it has on the ecology. September saw the completion of a project to remove Gibbs Weir in Pontllanfraith, the largest single barrier to salmon migration on the River Sirhowy. The 3 metre high weir has been removed and the riverbed

re-graded to allow fish migration. Hopefully salmon will now navigate up the river the river - watch this space!

Outcome G2 – Reducing the causes of, and adapting to the effects of Climate Change

Climate Change Woodlands.

Three new Climate Change Woodlands are being planned for the coming planting season (November to March). The Climate Change Woodland concept was developed to enable individuals, families, organisations, businesses or schools to plant a tree as a long-lasting and publicly-visible sign and commitment to combating climate change. Eight Climate Change Woodlands have been planted across the borough since the initiative began in 2010. If you would like to plant a tree or have an area which could become a climate change woodland e mail livingenvironment@caerphilly.gov.uk

50+ Positive Action (Mandy Sprague)

50plus@caerphilly.gov.uk

Maximising Income:

- October's 50+ Smarter Working key stakeholder event this year looked at the **Caerphilly Delivers** Single Integrated Plan theme of reducing Poverty. The *Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day, teach him to fish and feed him for life!* workshop was well attended and received. The outcomes have given the 50+ Maximising Income group (MIG) and other stakeholders some pragmatic and tangible priorities and ideas to address. A full report from the event is available.
- Following the priorities identified at the above workshop the MIG are now proactively collaborating with Communities First in developing a proposal to provide information and support to 50+ residents and their families through GP surgeries. This proposal will be considered by the Caerphilly County Borough Council Reducing Poverty Champions, the Poverty group and the Neighbourhood Care Networks strategic planning group.

Dignity, Respect and Age Equality (DRAE)

- 50+ PA - Dignity In Care action plan:
 - The 50+ Peer to Peer delivery of Protection of Vulnerable Adults awareness training is progressing well, that more older people need to be recruited as volunteers to be supported to deliver this training. Welsh speaking residents in particular are being targeted to enable training to be delivered to older residents whose first language is Welsh.
 - The development of a Dignity and Respect code of practice for residential homes in the borough is progressing well and will be launched in the New Year. In the spring, work will commence with

Caerphilly County Borough Council residential home managers to ensure the code of practice has meaning to them, their staff and residents.

Information and Empowerment

- Social Services Commissioning and the Council's Procurement teams have been supported in putting together a Service User Panel. The Panel played a key role in the recent tendering process for the Extra Care contract in the Caerphilly county borough. This gave service users a chance to not only identify what was key to them in service delivery, but a chance to interview potential suppliers.

For more information please contact Mandy Sprague on 01443 864277 or email spragm@caerphilly.gov.uk