

COMMUNITY PLANNING IN ACTION

Appendix 1 Community Planning Quarterly Briefing April to June 2014

Welcome to this quarterly community planning briefing designed to give everyone involved with *Caerphilly Delivers - The Single Integrated Plan 2013-2017* an overview of progress on delivering the priorities of the five outcomes: Prosperous Caerphilly; Safer Caerphilly; Learning Caerphilly; Healthier Caerphilly and Greener Caerphilly. Information has been supplied by the officers coordinating delivery on the outcomes, so please feel free to get in touch directly with the named officers for further information.

Community Planning (Jackie Dix, Alison Palmer & Howard Rees)

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Caerphilly Delivers - The Single Integrated Plan 2013-17

Work is focusing on the delivery framework for implementing the Single Integrated Plan. Monthly meetings are now taking place of the delivery group of officers who are responsible for the five outcome themes of: Learning Caerphilly; Prosperous Caerphilly; Safer Caerphilly and Greener Caerphilly under the direction of the outcome leads. All of the themed outcomes now have score cards in place for monitoring both quantitatively and qualitatively progress with their priorities.

Caerphilly Local Service Board

The Board last met on 7th May 14 and looked at all the score cards from the five themed outcomes. The Board received various other papers including an update on the European Social Fund project on Vulnerable Intelligence. The full set of papers can be accessed at:

<http://your.caerphilly.gov.uk/communityplanning/content/local-service-board-current-minutes-0>

Caerphilly Local Service Board Standing Conference 13th June 2014

The Standing Conference focused on tackling poverty. The Conference was addressed by Maureen Howell, Welsh Government Deputy Director (Tackling Poverty Division). Presentations were received from Robert Hartshorn, Caerphilly County Borough Council Head of Public Protection & Anti Poverty Champion on *Tackling Poverty – the Caerphilly perspective*, and Jan Channing, Caerphilly & Blaenau Gwent Citizens Advice Bureau, Operations Manager on *It All Adds Up – tackling poverty through partnership*. A full report of the event is available.

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



Voluntary Sector Involvement in Caerphilly Local Service Board ESF Project
GAVO has been involved in a European funded Local Service Board project led by Caerphilly County Borough Council, on improving the sharing of personal information across the Caerphilly borough. This is through the development of WASPI (Wales Accord on the Sharing of Personal Information) Information Sharing Protocols and a framework for training, which will assist with both regular and routine sharing, and particularly around safeguarding issues. Other partners are Gwent Police and the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board.

The development of an e-learning package is now at pilot stage. Once the pilot and its evaluation has been completed, training will be formally launched and GAVO will be encouraging wider third sector take up to continue to raise awareness.

Prosperous Caerphilly (Antony Bolter)

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COMMUNITY REGENERATION

Building Resilient Communities – Taking Forward The Tackling Poverty Action Plan (July 2013) sets out the Welsh Government's plans to help people out of poverty, including a proposal to create 5,000 training and employment opportunities for people living in workless households by the end of the 2017. Caerphilly Basin has been chosen as one of eight cluster areas to employ two *LIFT* Family Employment Mentors to help people from workless households into training or employment opportunities.

Youth Hubs continue in youth unemployment hotspots in Senghenydd, Abercarn, Crumlin and Rhymney in partnership with Job Centre Plus, Careers Wales and Communities First. Young people are able to drop in to get employment advice and support on issues such as adult education, gaining work experience, creating a CV and applying for Jobs Growth Wales placements. Caerphilly has received an additional 52 Jobs Growth Wales opportunities as part of the Communities First programme. Opportunities are available for young people living in Communities First areas. Educ8 are managing the opportunities on behalf of the programme in the borough.

To find out more about the opportunities email: commfirst@caerphilly.gov.uk or telephone: 01443 864139.

Communities First have developed a number of *That Works* programmes providing individuals with the skills and training needed for a career in a specific sector of work. Routes into Care, Construction and Retail have been delivered along with a two day workshop based on the contact centre industry that gives

individuals the skills to handle calls, be an active listener and work towards targets.

In addition, Communities First in the Upper Rhymney Valley have also worked in Partnership with Head4Arts to hold an *Art that Works* project aimed at 16 to 18 year olds who are Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) or at risk of becoming NEET. The project used art activities to help improve employability (for example creating digital CVs, improvisation skills for interviews, craft activities that can be used in the course of a care career) as well as the development of transferable skills including numeracy, customer care and team work. At the end of the programmes individuals are supported to make the transition into employment, training and/or volunteering opportunities in the short and longer term.

Upper Rhymney Valley Cluster has established a new venue in Rhymney - *Hafod Deg*, for helping residents to access activities and projects to support their well being and skills to gain employment.

A community *pop up* work club has been running in Markham Community House, bringing the services of the centrally based work clubs out into the smaller communities. The next community work club will run through July in Cwmfelinfach.

EUROPEAN FUNDING

Progress in Wales with the European funding convergence successor has been caught up in delays in England, and subsequent submission of key documents, such as the Operational Programme and Partnership Agreement by the UK Government. These were submitted in late April, and detail the priorities, allocations and delivery. The Commission will have four months to review and sign off these documents, and this dictates a late 2014 Programme start. It is anticipated that this will allow the submission of projects pre Christmas, which will receive approvals in early 2015.

Developing processes, and perhaps more pertinently potential projects, continue within the activity of the South East Wales Directors of Environment and Regeneration Working Groups, who contribute to negotiations through the Welsh Local Government Association. There is a clear steer that projects will need to be regionally based and delivered.

The Council is represented on all ten groups, and if you have any questions please contact Antony Bolter, Strategy and Funding Unit on telephone: 01443 866251.

Rural Development Programme

The current programme is nearing conclusion and projects will finish in September 2014. The new programme is still in development and many details still need to be agreed. Caerphilly Partnership sent in a response to a consultation in April. The Welsh Government is working towards formally submitting a Draft Rural Development Programme for Wales to the European Commission in June 2014. When this is agreed, there will be clearer picture on the shape of the new programme.

There will be a change in the way that the programme is delivered in the 2014-2020 period. The Local Action Group (LAG) will replace the current structure for running the programme. The Expression of Interest to form a LAG for the Caerphilly borough has been approved in principle by the Welsh Government. The next stage starts in June, when a decision will be made on indicative allocations for each area. In addition, each LAG will be asked to prepare their Local Strategy to be submitted in the autumn.

TOURISM

Latest tourism figures (April 2014) show a 3% increase in visitor expenditure in the county borough. This equates to nearly £104m being spent in the local economy. Tourism now supports 1,575 people locally, both directly and indirectly. Visitor numbers also show a 4% increase, with over 1.6 m visitors to the Caerphilly county borough in 2013. A recent International Passenger Survey (conducted by the Office for National Statistics) further reveal the borough received the biggest increase in overseas visitors in 2013 out of all the local authorities in Wales of +57%.

Events

The Bargoed Spring Fair took place in April and was a success, increasing footfall in the town centre by 101%. Despite being affected by high winds and heavy rain showers the Caerphilly Food Festival still attracted a fair crowd with the attendance of Great British Bake Off winner, Frances Quinn generating positive media interest.

Registration for the Caerphilly 10k is up on the first event held in 2013 at this stage, and has attracted many club runners, potentially drawn to the event by its status as the 10k Welsh Road Running Championships, part of the Run Wales series.

Industrial Units

Industrial Occupancy stands at nearly 98%. This is an exceptionally high figure bearing in mind weak local economic growth. The property portfolio supports 220 businesses that employ nearly 1500 local people.

Healthier Communities

The Caerphilly borough has 130 trained Community Health Champions who share information on health services and ways to improve health with friends, family and neighbours. Anyone interested in leading a healthier lifestyle over the age of 16 can become a Community Health Champion, and join a growing network across Gwent to take part in training and awareness sessions on a number of lifestyle factors, including healthy eating, alcohol consumption, smoking and managing long term health conditions.

Two new Street Games sites at Wattsville and Cwmfelinfach have been launched in the Mid Valleys East Cluster. Local volunteers have been identified to run the sites and will be supported by Sports Development Coaches during the first few months until they are fully established.

Mental Health Support Groups continue to operate on a weekly basis in Panside and Ty Sign.

Extension to Local Investment funding

The Local Investment Fund (LIF) has operated in collaboration with 5 other authorities from 1999 to date and has been a major contributor to employment and investment in businesses in the borough. The initial fund was £2,000,000 with an additional £200,000 added in January 2014 and this created 414 jobs and safeguarded 3883. This clearly addresses the Single Integrated Plan priority to -

Improve local employment opportunities including access to opportunities across a wider geographical area (P1)

The Caerphilly County Borough Council Business Enterprise Support Team has consistently outperformed other authorities in the partnership by being responsive to business needs and being proactive in its marketing and follow up with business. Following the success of the scheme a further bid was submitted to WEFO in January 2014. If approved the likely scheme start date will be July 2014.

GWENT ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

Supporting the Voluntary and Community Sector in the borough

Support has been given to approximately 80 community groups and organisations across the borough outside of the Community First designated areas. The support has varied from advice and guidance on governance issues, project planning and monitoring, finance, charity applications, training and practical help with applications for funding.

Funding has become increasingly difficult to obtain (especially for the smaller groups) as the current economic climate seems to have reduced the amount of money available. Many funders have changed their criteria to link to the poverty agenda, and also expect groups to demonstrate a high level of sustainability.

Despite this there have been several successes. These have included: Cwmfelinfach Allotment Association, who were awarded Lottery grants to improve facilities and create a wildlife area for the children; Blackwood Little Theatre who have gained funding to carry out renovations, and also have a survey and plans drawn up for future improvements, and Newbridge Tabernacle Church, who were awarded various grants to improve their kitchen facilities, and now have a successful luncheon club.

GAVO Caerphilly Volunteer Centre

The Centre has received many customers referred from agencies in helping unemployed people on their path to employment, with volunteering seen as an important step in that direction. Strong links have been established with Job Centre Plus, Working Links, Want to Work, local Job Clubs, Peer Mentor Scheme and Social Services. The Centre works closely with the GAVO Community First Officers who actively promoting volunteering in their areas. It is clear when interviewing potential volunteers just how important it is for them to feel valued and to occupy their time in a meaningful way. Between January to May 2014 the Centre has placed 105 people into volunteering.

The Volunteering Information Officers are organising and holding block interview sessions in public libraries, community cafes and supermarkets, which are proving successful. A different area of Caerphilly is visited each week, ensuring easy access to potential volunteers. The Youth Volunteer Officer also visits local schools and colleges to hold interviews with pupils. This has proved useful as the pupils are able to access volunteering information whilst on site. The number of young people who have signed up for the Millennium Volunteering Programme this period is 15, and they are all working towards gaining their 200hr Award of Excellence.

Increasingly more and more businesses are supporting their employees to become actively involved in community volunteering, and seek out the Centre for support. This year the GAVO's Volunteering Team at Caerphilly have worked closely with Lloyds Banking and SSE (SWALEC) who encourage their employees to take a day away from their usual job to undertake a worthwhile activity to support a community project of their choice. Due to the close links the Centre has with voluntary and statutory sector organisations in Caerphilly, the Centre is in a perfect position to link this offer of support to organisations that genuinely require their help. So far, in 2014, the GAVO Volunteering Team has organised four volunteering activities out in the Community:

- a team of volunteers from SSE (SWALEC) painted all wood features and buildings with wood preserve on the TARAGGAN Educational Garden Site
- volunteers from Lloyds Banking worked at the graveyard at Penmaen Chapel (the base of Mynyddislwyn Male Choir) to remove surplus stone to enhance the graveyard's appearance and enable safer access for users to reach graves and public walkways

- Lloyd's Banking employees also helped with activities in Oakdale on behalf of the Oakdale & Penmaen Community Partnership clearing wasteland of overgrowth and rubbish, painted wood features at the memorial chapel and carried out a litter pick in Penmaen Wood. Lloyds Banking volunteers were joined on the day by volunteers from the Partnership, local residents and the Police Community Support Officer and cadet
- SSE (SWALEC) volunteers rubbed down and painted the school perimeter fence and weeded a playground at a Primary School in Crosskeys.

Once more the annual Caerphilly Voluntary Sector Achievement Awards Evening has been organised and will take place on 2nd July 2014 at Penallta House, Caerphilly County Borough Council headquarters. Nomination packs were distributed throughout the borough in March and April and nominations were received for each of the 10 categories, which are Young Volunteer of the Year, Record Breaking Volunteer, Environmental Volunteer, Parent Volunteer of the Year, Inspirational Volunteer, Retired Senior Volunteer, Practical Service Adult Volunteer (Individual & Group), New Volunteer and The GwirVol Award.

The GAVO Caerphilly Volunteering Centre can be contacted on email - caerphillyvolunteering@gavowales.org.uk

Safer Caerphilly (Kathryn Peters & Natalie Kenny)

saferrccbc@caerphilly.gov.uk

New Anti-Social Behaviour Legislation

The Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 received Royal Assent on 13th March 2014, and is likely to be enacted October 2014. The Act will introduce a range of new tools, which will replace the existing tools to tackle anti-social behaviour (ASB) such as the ASBO. The new tools aim to be more victim focused and more flexible for practitioners to use.

Two measures will be introduced to give victims and communities a say in the way ASB is dealt with. The **Community Trigger** will give victims the ability to demand action, starting with a review of their case, where the locally defined threshold is met. The **Community Remedy** will give victims a say in the out-of-court punishment for low-level crime and ASB. These two new measures could potentially place a burden on existing work loads of partners. If the Community Trigger is used, agencies including councils, the police, local health teams and registered providers of social housing will have a duty to undertake a case review. A panel of these agencies will need to be set up to consider each case that meets the threshold.

Other tools that will be introduced by the Act include the **Injunction to Prevent Nuisance and Annoyance** and the **Criminal Behaviour Order** which will both replace the current ASBO. A task and finish group is currently being set up to

look at the current policy to address ASB and how the Four Strike ASB Process can be adapted for the introduction of the new legislation.

The legislation can be viewed via the following link:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/12/contents/enacted/data.htm>

The Development of the Safer Caerphilly Channel Panel

The Government's national counter-terrorism strategy CONTEST has four components: Prevent, Pursue, Protect and Prepare. The Prevent component of the strategy is a partnership responsibility with local authorities playing a key role in identifying and supporting at risk individuals. Prevent primarily focuses on preventing individuals who are vulnerable to radicalisation from being drawn into extremism.

A key element of the Prevent strategy is Channel, which is a multi-agency approach to protect people at risk from radicalisation. Channel uses existing collaboration between local authorities, statutory partners and the Police to:

- Identify individuals at risk of being drawn into terrorism
- Assess the nature and extent of that risk and
- To develop the most appropriate support package to safeguard those at risk.

The Home Office Channel guidance states that every local authority area should have in place a recognised Channel Lead, a Channel Panel and an identified single point of contact for Channel referrals. The Safer Caerphilly Channel Panel was established in October 2013 and is a multi-agency meeting. The Channel lead and single point of contact for the Caerphilly county borough is Natalie Kenny, Community Safety Officer.

Staff training on Prevent and Channel is currently being rolled out across various departments of Caerphilly County Borough Council. If you would like any more information on Prevent or Channel please contact Natalie Kenny on telephone: 01495 235442 or email: kennyn@caerphilly.gov.uk

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 to March 2014, there have been 332 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 telephone: 01495 235441 or email: harril5@caerphilly.gov.uk

Criminal Damage Campaign

A Safer Caerphilly Criminal Damage Campaign has been developed to be delivered to comprehensive school pupils across the county borough. The campaign will involve Police Officers attending schools during a lunch hour and engaging with pupils and educating them on the costs of criminal damage. At each event children will be encouraged to complete a questionnaire in order to be entered into a prize draw. This will encourage young people to think about the true cost of criminal damage. The campaign was launched on 7th April and will run over the next few months and the competition prizes will be awarded in July.

After Dark Initiative

The Safer Caerphilly After Dark initiative has been developed to address night-time economy issues. Organisations who have signed up to the scheme include numerous departments within Caerphilly County Borough Council, Gwent Police, and volunteer agencies including the Street Pastor Scheme. The three agreed aims of the scheme are to:

- To reduce Night Time Economy (NTE) related crime (specifically violence, damage, and hate crime)
- Improve communication with NTE agencies and coordinate action
- Make Caerphilly and Blackwood town centres safer.

The project was officially launched by the Police and Crime Commissioner on the 2nd December 2013 at Caerphilly Castle. Since the launch the initiative is continuing with Townsafe operations in Blackwood and Caerphilly town centres. Engagement with partners working in the night-time economy is ongoing e.g. Street Pastors, Community Safety Wardens, Door staff etc. Further promotional work was also conducted around the Six Nations campaign.

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.

At the last session in February the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent attended to give an overview of his role and hold a question and answer session. The meetings are now held every six months with a newsletter being sent to members in between meetings. If you would like to attend the next meeting or would like further information on the Volunteer Network please contact the Safer Caerphilly office on telephone: 01495 235350.

Project Bernie

The Safer Caerphilly Fire Safety Action Team has now implemented *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 was officially launched at the Morrison's store in Bargoed on 28th March and was attended by the Police and Crime Commissioner. Nearly 500 shoppers supported the scheme and signed up to the Bernie pledge. The project then ran for a further six weeks in the Bargoed area of the borough. The project included an advertising and marketing campaign, patrols of the area, and youth activities throughout the Easter school holidays, including a three day rugby camp run by the Welsh Rugby Union. All of the activities focused on addressing the problem of deliberate grass fires.

For more information visit the Safer Caerphilly website at:

<https://your.caerphilly.gov.uk/saferccb/>

Learning Caerphilly (Lynne Bosanko Williams)

cyp@caerphilly.gov.uk

There have been a number of successful initiatives which are benefitting children, young people and families in the Caerphilly borough:

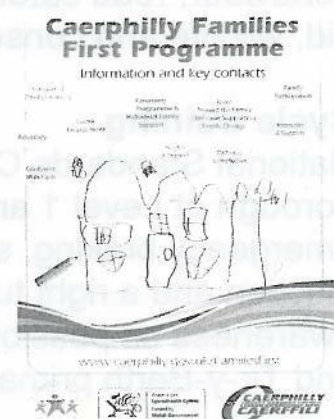
- **Joint working between Education Welfare and community police officers to manage truancy operations** - working together to tackle truancy is crucial so that the well-being of vulnerable groups of children and young people are supported and to improve levels of personal safety for those young people who are absent from school without authority. This partnership approach with Heddlu Gwent Police and British Transport Police has been providing an effective response to truancy and has resulted in improved attendance in Bedwas, St Martin's & St Cenydd schools where this initiative has focused. Throughout the borough, Community Police Officers & Police School Liaison Officers have also been contributing to improving attendance and engagement of young people, by supporting the Education Welfare Officers with presentations to groups in school and home visiting, particularly where young people are known as regular truants and/or involved with anti-social behaviour.
- **Bespoke packages of support are being offered for parents** - through the Families First Parenting Programmes and Individual Support Project, as well as generic group parenting programmes. This involves providing tailored individual sessions for parents who are struggling just that little bit more. Included in the package is an assessment, use of a tool to measure progress, as well as going back to the family three months after the support has stopped to see if everything is going well and the improved parenting has been maintained. These programmes are well attended, and evaluations and feedback from parents show that these Programmes are making positive differences and outcomes to their parenting.

- **The Family Engagement Project** – has had their project extended through Families First so that they can provide a dedicated service in communities where there is most need. The project now has a team in the Upper Rhymney Valley and continues to work closely with the rest of the Families First projects. The Project uses outreach and innovative methods to engage and signpost families until they are ready to move on to universal services. In addition, they have worked with young people with the aim of supporting them and their family to build an improved relationship. Over the last year the Project provided 1544 outreach sessions and 1303 home visits, 848 families were contacted and 486 of those engaged. A total of 97% of families reported beneficial outcomes and 74% were further engaged within their community. Furthermore, six new and expecting parents achieved 16 GCSEs between them.

Hard copies as well as electronic versions of the new Families First Programme Information leaflets are available upon request from the Families First Team in Penallta House.

For further information on the Families First Programme and the projects which have been commissioned to deliver services for children, young people and families, please see the Families First website:

www.caerphilly.gov.uk/FamiliesFirst



Healthier Caerphilly (Lianne Dallimore & Rhianon Urquhart)

HSCWB@caerphilly.gov.uk

Listening to you: Your health Matters

Welsh Government Consultation on the proposals for a Public Health Bill

This consultation presents a number of proposals for legislation to address public health issues which impact greatly on the health and well being, including tobacco, alcohol misuse and obesity. Previous responses on the Green Paper on Public Health indicated a strong support for legislation as a means of driving forward health improvements in Wales.

The consultation runs until 24th June 2014, and further details can be found at: <http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/healthsocialcare/?lang=en>

The Future Generations Bill

The proposed Future Generations Bill (previously the Sustainable Development Bill) will legislate to direct the Public Sector in Wales to consider health in policy development in contributing to healthy thriving communities. The current Single Integrated Plans will become Well-being plans and as such, will become the mechanisms for delivering the Future Generations Bill at the local level.

Caerphilly pupils learn about safety

More than 2,000 children from the borough's primary schools have received important lessons in safety, crime and health at this year's Crucial Crew event. The Crucial Crew programme educates children aged ten and eleven how to keep themselves safe when tackling everyday dangers.

Featuring theatre-style, interactive scenarios to help pupils learn about the importance of safety workshops were delivered by Caerphilly County Borough Council Trading Standards/Building Services/Road Safety, Gwent Police, South Wales Fire and Rescue Services, Food Standards Agency, Western Power, the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, British Red Cross and Crime Reduction Initiatives (CRI). Year 6 pupils attended the event working their way around scenarios with ten-minute practical sessions covering safety messages in each of the exhibits. These included advice around underage drinking and antisocial behaviour, road safety, substance misuse awareness, fire safety messages, first aid, wildlife and conservation issues.

Cycle training

National Standards Cycle Training is delivered to primary school children in the borough at Level 1 and Level 2. Skills include, safe mounting and dismounting, emergency braking, safe road position, turning in the road, left turn in and out of a junction and a right turn into a junction and also maintaining as much traffic awareness as possible throughout. Pupils at Ysgol Y Castell, Gilfach Fargoed and Tir-y-Berth primary have recently been involved.

For further information contact Gerwyn Harris (Health Improvement Officer) on telephone: 01495 235401

Stub out the bad habit

Early years and Childcare settings across Caerphilly County Borough showed their support for No Smoking Day 2014 by committing to become smoke free zones. These settings are participating in the National Healthy and Sustainable Pre School scheme and have now joined schools across the borough by proudly displaying *Smoke Free Young Lungs at Play* window stickers. The window stickers replicate signage used in the majority of school and community playgrounds and are aimed at encouraging parents, carers and visitors to think twice before lighting a cigarette.

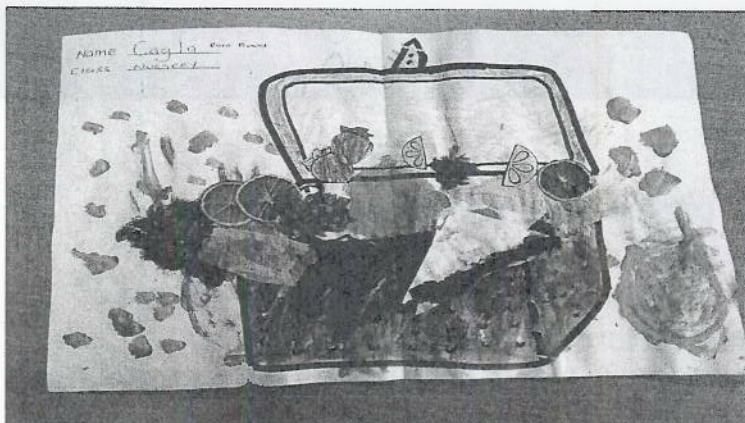


Cllr David Poole, Caerphilly County Borough Council's Cabinet Member for Community & Leisure Services, said:

It is pleasing that we're now seeing a blanket approach to the Young Smoke Free Lungs at Play campaign at nurseries, playgroups and schools across the county borough - it is only right that children attending these settings can enjoy a smoke free environment. Smoking comes at a huge cost to both the smoker's health and their pocket too. I hope that No Smoking Day encourages smokers to kick the habit and live healthier, smoke free futures.

Downing Street visit for young prize-winner

An artistic young Caerphilly county borough pupil has taken a trip to 10 Downing Street after winning outdoor play equipment for her school playground. Four-year-old Cagla Kaya, a pupil at Risca Primary School, secured top spot in a national healthy living art competition, promoted through Caerphilly Healthy Schools as part of National Obesity Awareness Week 2014, with her healthy lunchbox design. In doing so Cagla won funds to carry out improvements to her school's playground.



As part of her prize Cagla, who attends the school's nursery class, visited 10 Downing Street for a reception hosted by the Prime Minister's wife, Samantha Cameron.

Mrs Jayne Arthur, Headteacher at Risca Primary School, said:

We were delighted that Cagla had won such a prestigious award. We are all very proud of her. She had a fantastic day and we look forward to making some super change to our playground.

Cllr Rhianon Passmore, Caerphilly County Borough Council's Cabinet Member for Education & Lifelong Learning, added:

I'm thrilled to hear that Cagla's design has won this competition encouraging youngsters to have healthy, well balanced diets. It's fantastic that her artwork has won improvements to the school's playground, which will benefit the whole school community now and in the future.

National Obesity Awareness Week ran from January 13th-19th, encouraging the public to take action after reports that half of the UK population could be obese by the year 2050.

Getting involved events this Spring

Include:

- The Colour Run @ Bedwas Rocks
- Caerphilly 10K run
- Women's 6K run
- The Great Cheese Race
- Circus Workshops
- Bushcraft
- Walks around the county borough.

For more information visit: www.healthchallengecaerphilly.org.uk

50+ Positive Action (Mandy Sprague)

50plus@caerphilly.gov.uk

Maximising Income:

- The Neighbourhood Care Network pilot is progressing well, as is the purchase and fitting of notice boards with support from partners in Community First and Care & Repair. Administration support has been identified, and it is intended that partner organisations will provide information to surgery visitors over the coming year. It is aimed to have the pilot up and running by July, with the impact reviewed in 9 months to assess the value of providing information in this way.
- Following the success of previous Bill and Babs Calendars work is underway with Care & Repair to see if funding can be sourced to print calendars for the New Year.

Dignity, Respect and Age Equality (DRAE)

50+ PA – Dignity In Care action plan:

- To mark world Elder Abuse awareness day on June 15th two short films were launched *Keeping Safe ... what is abuse and who can help?* and *They Really Helped Me...* a services users story on how the protection team help him. To view go to: - <http://www.youtube.com/user/CaerphillyCBCTV>
- Caerphilly County Borough 50+ Forum is working in partnership with the Royal Voluntary Service (RVS) on the RVS big lottery Community Voice Project *Care to listen... listen to Care*. This project is supporting residents in residential care to have a voice on how their service is delivered and what matters to them.

Information and Empowerment

- This quarter has seen a significant amount of work on the development and prototype testing of the new Caerphilly County Borough Council's website, which will be launched in the autumn. The new site will help residents to help themselves, and will make it easier to find and *do* things on the Council's website, and will also now provide access to information about services and support in the local community.
- An important piece of work is taking place to identify and bring together the various befriending and volunteering services to ensure a more coordinated approach

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

