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For all enquiries relating to this agenda please contact John Elliott
(Tel: 01443 864415 Email: ellioj@caerphilly.gov.uk)

Date: 26th November 2014

Dear Sir/Madam,

A meeting of the **Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee** will be held in the **Sirhowy Room, Penallta House, Tredomen, Ystrad Mynach** on **Wednesday, 3rd December, 2014** at **10.30 am** to consider the matters contained in the following agenda.

PLEASE NOTE

Arrangements have been made for a pre-meeting of the **County Borough Members only, at 10.00 a.m. in Core Meeting Room 1.3**, and **all Voluntary Sector Representatives, at 10.00 a.m. in the Sirhowy and Ebbw Combined Rooms**. All other council officers and representatives of external organisations should assemble in the reception area, for the main meeting at **10.30 a.m. in the Sirhowy and Ebbw Combined Rooms**.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Chris Burns'.

Chris Burns
INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

A G E N D A

- 1 To receive apologies for absence.
- 2 Declarations of interest.
Councillors and Officers are reminded of their personal responsibility to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interest (s) in respect of any item of business on this agenda in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution and the Code of Conduct for both Councillors and Officers.

To receive and consider the following minutes: -

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- 3 Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee Minutes - 17th September 2014.
- 4 Safeguarding Public Services- What Role Can The Third Sector Play?
- 5 Mainstreaming Community Cohesion.
- 6 The Compact Agreement and Annual Compact Action Plan.

To receive and note the following information items: -

- 7 Community Planning Quarterly Briefing - October to December 2014.
- 8 Date of next meeting: 18th March 2015 at 10.30am in the Sirhowy and Ebbw combined rooms.

Circulation:

Councillors L. Ackerman, Mrs E.M. Aldworth, J. Bevan, P.J. Bevan, D.G. Carter (Vice Chair), Mrs P. Cook, R.W. Gough, Mrs P. A. Griffiths, C. Hawker, K. James, A. Lewis, J.A. Pritchard, A. Rees, Mrs J. Summers and R. Woodyatt,

Representatives of the Voluntary Sector:

Mrs A. Palmer, GAVO
Mrs E. Forbes, GAVO
Mr A. Read, Cancercareline
Mr G. Mitchell, Graig-Y-Rhacca Communities Partnership
Mrs S. Brown, Age Concern
Mr L. Clay, Abertridwr Community Church
Mr R.H. Cooke, Caerphilly Groundwork Trust
Mrs B. Helps, Caerphilly Parents and Carers Forum
Ms M. Jones, The Parent Network
Mr P. Jones, Abbeyfield (Caerphilly) Society Limited
Ms J. Lawton, Caerphilly MIND
Mr C. Luke, Caerphilly People First
Ms J. Price, Bargoed YMCA
Ms M. Snowden, Homestart Caerphilly
Mrs C. Williams, Cruse Bereavement Care
Mr D. Brunton, Volunatry Sector Representatives
Mr M. Featherstone, GAVO
Mrs H. Williams, Disability CANDO Organisation
Mrs M. Wade, Vanguard Caerphilly
Mr J. Wade, Van Road United Reformed Church
Mr P. Mitchell, SYDIC
Mr K. Viney, The Settlement
Ms J. Morgan, New CLURV

Aneurin Bevan Health Board:

Mrs B. Bolt and Ms S. Crane

Gwent Police:

Superintendent S. Jeffries, Sergeant R. Davies and Inspector K. Childs

The Office of the Gwent Police & Crime Commissioner:

Mrs M. Chapman and Mr N. Taylor

South Wales Fire & Rescue Services:

Ms D. Crossman

Caerphilly Business Forum:

Mrs D. Lovering

Town & Community Councils Representative:

H. Llewellyn

And Appropriate Officers

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VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, TREDOMEN
ON WEDNESDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER 2014 AT 10.30 A.M.**

PRESENT:

Mr. R. Cooke – Chair

Councillors:

Ms. L. Ackerman, D. G. Carter, R.W. Gough, C. Hawker, A. Lewis, Mrs. J.A. Pritchard,
R. Woodyatt

Together with:

Abertridwr Community Church	-	Mr. L. Clay
Age Cymru	-	Ms. S. Brown
Bargoed YMCA	-	Ms. J. Price
Caerphilly Groundwork Trust	-	Mr. R. H. Cooke
Caerphilly Parents & Carers Forum	-	Mrs. B. Helps
Caerphilly People First	-	Mr. C. Luke
Cruse Bereavement Care	-	Mr. J. Moss
Disability Can Do Organisation	-	Mrs. H. Williams
GAVO – Chief Executive	-	Mr. M. Featherstone
Homestart Caerphilly Borough	-	Ms. G. Jervis
The Parent Network	-	Ms. M. Jones
The Vanguard Centre	-	Mrs. M. Wade
New CLURV	-	Mrs. J. Morgan
Van Road United Reformed Church	-	Mr. J. Wade
Vice Chair, Voluntary Sector Representatives	-	Mr. D. Brunton

Also present:

J. Dix (CCBC Policy & Research Manager), J. Elliott (CCBC Senior Research Officer),
Emily Forbes, Gina Jones, Val Jackson (GAVO), Sam Crane (ABUHB), Katy Stevenson
(Groundwork Caerphilly)

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Mrs. E. M. Aldworth, J. Bevan, P.J. Bevan,
Mrs. P. Cook, Mrs. P. Griffiths, K. James, A. Rees, P.J. Bevan, Mrs. J. Summers.

Also from, Mr .P. Jones (Abbeyfield), Mr. D. Morgan (Caerphilly 50+ Forum), Ms. P. Jones
(Caerphilly Care & Repair), Ms. J. Lawton (Caerphilly MIND), Mr. A. Read (Cancercareline),
Mr. G. Mitchell (Graig Y Rhacca Communities Partnership), Ms. J. Lawton (Caerphilly MIND),

Mr. M. Thorne (SYDIC), Mr. K. Viney (The Settlement), Sgt. R. Davies (Gwent Police), Mrs. M. Chapman (Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner for Gwent), Mrs. D. Crossman (South Wales Fire & Rescue Service), Mrs. D. Lovering (Caerphilly Business Forum Representative), Mr. H. Llewellyn (Town & Community Councils Representative).

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr. Ackerman stated a declaration of interest in the minutes from the last meeting in reference to Trinant Surgery, and also to some content of a report on Learning Disability Services, to be presented to this committee by Jo Williams, Assistant Director Adult Services. Cllr. Ackerman left for the duration of the consideration of the minutes from the previous meeting 18th June 2014, and for the presentation by the Assistant Director of Adult Services.

3. MINUTES

3.1 Sam Crane from the ABUHB said that on the subject of Trinant Surgery she had up dated Cllr. Lewis on the 15th September 2014. The application for closure is at stage 2 with questionnaires sent out widely. The results of the consultation are to be presented to the Health Board on the 17th October 2014. Cllr. Lewis discussed several solutions to the possible closure.

3.2 Cllr. Rob Gough referred to the postponement of the Compact Awareness Event scheduled for the 4th November 2014 to raise awareness of the Compact for middle managers, and stressed the importance of holding such an event for championing the Compact as a strategic document. Jackie Dix, Policy & Research Manager, replied that none of the Compact Partners (as had been requested at the previous Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee meeting) had sent her names of appropriate staff members to attend the event. While the Corporate Management Team at the Council was supportive of the Compact Partners holding an event, it was felt that the best way of raising awareness among managers of the Compact Agreement was through a presentation to the Management Network. Subsequently it has been arranged for GAVO to give a presentation to the Network on the 12th December 2014. Cllr. Gough requested that all Compact Partners should be contacted for their views on holding an event to promote awareness of the Compact in advancing commitment and delivery. This was also supported by Dave Brunton, Vice Chair of the Voluntary Sector Representatives who stressed the importance of the Compact Partners as a whole pushing the Compact forward.

3.3 The accuracy of the minutes of 18th June 2014 was agreed.

4. LEARNING DISABILITY SERVICES - REPORT BY MRS. JO WILLIAMS – ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

4.1 Mrs. J. Williams presented her report on Learning Disability Services, which was circulated with the committee papers. The report contains a number of proposals for financial savings. She said that Social Services are always willing to take on board ideas from the Voluntary Sector where financial savings could be identified.

4.2 At a series of special scrutiny committees all directorates were asked to provide reports on their discretionary services, these are services the Council currently chooses to provide but does not legally have to. One of these proposals covered day services for adults, the preference of members of the Health Social Care and Well-Being committee members was to request officers do further work on two options:-

1. Rationalise the number of buildings that day service is currently provided from. This would look to provide service on regional basis with reduction in the number of satellite centres.

2. Provide a targeted day services for people who meet critical and substantial need, which is the eligibility criteria that is likely to be introduced across Wales in accordance with the Well-Being Act.

4.3 The report contains a number of questions asked by the Voluntary Sector, with answers provided for each. Social Services are already looking at rationalisation of buildings i.e. along the lines of rents; relocation of underused Day Centres, relocated to combined locations e.g. in care homes. Members of the Voluntary Sector were happy to consider reducing transport costs by the greater use of satellite centres.

4.4 Cllr Woodyatt (Cabinet Member for Social Services) thanked Mrs. Williams for her report noting as yet nothing had been decided but everything needs to be considered as the financial settlement was likely to be severe.

4.5 Cllr. Ackerman returned to the room for the remainder of the meeting.

5. THE WORK OF GROUNDWORK IN CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH – REPORT BY KATY STEVENSON – CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF GROUNDWORK

5.1 Groundwork Communities First Projects

This suite of projects takes place within the Communities First cluster areas in the borough funded by the Communities First Programme.

- **Active in the Outdoors** - the main purpose of the project is to encourage community members to become more physically active, and improve their health.
- **Foodwise** - this project involves the Communities First Health and Wellbeing Officer and the Environmental Participation Officer working with a variety of community members, covering a wide demographic range, to raise awareness of healthy eating and practical cooking skills.
- **Green Doctor** - this project engages community members who are in fuel poverty or at risk of fuel poverty, leading to problems relating to household debt.
- **Outdoor Action** - the project engages and trains people in an outdoor setting, in the implementation of small-scale environmental projects identified by the community and partners.

In 2013 Groundwork supported Communities First Areas of Caerphilly through a **Healthy Homes Project** and received 120 referrals in just 2 months. During the life of this project the following installations were made:-

Internal Door Brushes	Shower Timer	Freestanding Clothes Airier	Window Foam Trim	Energy Efficient Light Bulbs	Reflective Radiator Panels	Bath 2 Shower Adapter	Flush Saver	Thermo meters	Letter Box Cover
100	4	29	70	233	115	7	65	9	2

5.2 **Healthy Rivers Programme** - the South East Wales Rivers Trust (SEWRT) and Natural Resource Wales (NRW) have undertaken walkover surveys that have identified issues that are impacting on fish populations and other aspects of the ecology on the Sirhowy River. The objective of Healthy Rivers is to work in partnership with South East Wales Rivers Trust and Natural Resources Wales to co-ordinate the removal or modification of barriers to fish migration.

5.3 **Rural Green Doctors Programme** - helps sustain community venues, reduces carbon emissions, offers free energy advice to householders and community venues and helps them save money.

- 5.4 **Healthy Villages Programme** - healthy Villages carries out physical, economic or social benefit projects in designated rural wards of the Caerphilly county borough. It supports groups and individuals to carry out projects, attract funding and make residents feel that their communities are a better place to live.
- 5.5 **Routes 2 Life Programme** - is a skills development project that upskills groups individuals and engages them in a mentoring scheme. It offers formal and informal training from a horticulture site in Cwmfelinfach and a carpentry workshop in Aberbargoed.
- 5.6 **Community Environment Network** - promotes and support the development and delivery of community environmental and maintenance projects, and facilitating opportunities for local people and organisations to play a central part in environmental, social and economic regeneration within the Caerphilly borough, and Torfaen borough designated SRA's (Strategic Regeneration Areas).
- 5.7 **Future Steps** – January 2014 to March 2015 (Job Centre Plus Flexible Support) - the project provides a platform for young people aged 18 - 24 to engage in training and practical opportunities to enhance chances of employability across the Caerphilly, Blaenau Gwent and Merthyr Tydfil county boroughs.
- 5.8 **Greencare** - runs to a social enterprise model as a project within Groundwork Caerphilly, offering grounds maintenance services and installations.
- 5.9 **Sustainable Play** - is an all Wales programme which will commence in October 2014. The Caerphilly borough will benefit from a team consisting of one senior play worker, three play workers and two apprentice play workers who will offer outdoor play sessions to children, young people and their families, and offering training to parents, young people and partner organisations in engagement with Children and Young People with Special Education Needs and Disabilities.
- 5.10 **Go Green for Health** - will commence in November 2014 which will operate in the Mid Valleys West area, and offer, through partnership with GPs, a prescription for health using the outdoors and which offers innovative, technology based methods of tracking progress and demonstrating savings to the NHS.
- 5.11 **Ty Mynyddislwyn Environment Centre** - is Groundwork Caerphilly's base, and is a community facility available to groups and organisations within the borough to access modern office space, demo kitchen and IT training rooms and classroom for all suitable activities.
- 5.12 Cyril Luke, Caerphilly People First, said that he was most impressed at the work of Groundwork especially the grounds maintenance courses for people with learning disabilities. Although he noted it is a shame that as time goes by, on the areas of ground which had been cared for and planted out, these have fallen into decay with heavy weed growth. He found it frustrating that such good work was not maintained. This was particularly so in the grounds of Ystrad Mynach College (Coleg y Cymoedd). Ms Stevenson said that she would check on this.
- 5.13 Michelle Jones, Parent Network asked if Groundwork on taking on the sustainable play contract had engaged with existing play services providers. Ms Stevenson said it had been a commitment of securing the Welsh Government funding that there was no duplication of provision, and that Groundwork would liaise and work cooperatively with existing play providers. Ms Stevenson added that a manager for the project would be appointed in October.
- 5.14 The Chair thanked Ms Stevenson for her detailed presentation.

6. THE WORK OF GAVO IN CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH

6.1 A presentation was given by Martin Feathersone, Emily Forbes, Gina Jones and Val Jackson.

6.2 GAVO provides support for Third Sector Organisations on the following:

- Core Community Development
- Volunteering Centres
- Funding Advice
- Community Planning
- Making the Connections
- Enterprising Communities
- Community Voice Programme
- Health and Social Care Facilitator
- Voluntary Sector Representation

In 2013 – 2014 GAVO achieved the following:

- 280 Volunteers recruited and placed
- 5,142 enquiries responded to
- **33** training courses delivered with 441 participants
- **23** funding events held attracting 141 people
- 15 Third sector networks supported
- 367 local members (total membership 1400)

GAVO Key events during 2013 – 2014:

Playday – attracted 5,000 people

Volunteer Achievement Awards – jointly held with the Council celebrating the commitment of volunteers

One Beat event – with the Council showcasing the work of 90 voluntary sector organisations

Local Service Board Standing Conference – contribution to a multi-agency partnership event to tackle issues collectively within the Borough

Annual Funding day – funders meet with voluntary organisations.

GAVO working with groups in Caerphilly (non-Communities First areas) key achievements 2013-2014:

- 52 groups supported
- £2,017,434 funding obtained across Borough
- 451 Trustee enquiries received and responded to
- 45 new organisations /services developed

Hospital Sunflower project key achievements in the first 6 months:

- 40 volunteers recruited
- 2,224 patients engaged with the project
- 458 patients pampered
- 402 patients involved in other activities
- 54 prospective volunteers referred to other volunteering options

Community Voice Programme:

- Valley Voices in Caerphilly & Blaenau Gwent: Communities and service providers work together to design and deliver improved services.

- 6.3 Mr Featherstone stated that this year will be a time of great challenges for GAVO, both physically (relocation and rationalisation of offices), and financially. The GAVO AGM will be on the 14th October at 10.30 am at the Christchurch Centre, Malpas Road, Newport.
- 6.4 The Chair thanked the GAVO staff for the informative presentation.

ITEMS OF INTEREST CONCERNING THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR, FROM COMPACT PARTNERS

7. ANEURIN BEVAN UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD – PRESENTATION ON NEIGHBOURHOOD CARE NETWORKS (NCNS) - BY SAM CRANE (HEAD OF PARTNERSHIPS & NETWORKS)

7.1 Sam Crane explained the background to the establishment of the NCNs. It stems from General Practitioner contract changes relating to the Quality Outcomes Framework (QOF). The changes to the QOF requires the Neighbourhood Care Networks (NCNs):

- to work together to support sustainable general practice and new models of care led by local teams
- to lead the development of local services, allocate resources and manage delegated budgets and community staff where appropriate
- to consider relevant data to support local needs assessment and service prioritisation.

7.2 Some of the development of the NCN was explained as designed to deliver improvements in care in the 3 national priority areas: Cancer, End of Life Care and Polypharmacy (and medicines management) and improve Clinical Governance.

7.3 NCNs will also collaborate to understand local health needs and priorities, and develop an agreed Network Action Plan linked to elements of the individual Practice Development Plans. They will also work with partners to improve the co-ordination of care and the integration of health and social care, and work with local communities and networks to reduce health inequalities.

7.4 A description was provided on the process of developing a Network Action Plan and the priorities for action. GP Practices will review local need and the 'practice service provision', and develop priorities to be included in their Practice Development Plans (PDPs). At NCN Meetings, GPs, practice staff and partners attend to discuss their area's health needs and service development priorities. Discussions are informed by relevant issues identified within the PDPs. For Network Action Plans, the priorities are agreed at the Network meetings to inform the development of the first Network Action Plans. Plans will evolve over a 3 year period. For Network Action Plans – there are key themes, common in most NCN Plans:

- To better manage communication with Secondary Care and transfer of activity into Primary Care
- To review the processes for missed appointments to avoid wasted appointment slots, and Public Health Priorities such as Smoking, and Immunisations.

7.5 Network Action Plans – Local Caerphilly borough NCN Priorities for Action:

Caerphilly East:

- NCN to attempt to move towards a more sustainable model of care for patients within Care Homes.

Caerphilly North:

- The need for improved communication with the wider Primary Care Team – CRT, Primary Mental Health Team, District Nursing, Health Visitors.

Caerphilly South:

- Wound Management - Consider developing a 'Centre of Excellence' for advice and support within the Neighbourhood Care Network.
- Reconciliation of Social Services and Practice Based Learning Disability Registers.

7.6 Next Steps: each NCN will hold four further network meetings to review the implementation and delivery of the Plan. The Plan is a dynamic plan and will be updated to reflect the agreed outcomes of each network meeting. Each NCN will develop an Annual Report for submission to Welsh Government by 31 March 2015. Ms Crane stated she would come back and update the Committee on developments.

7.7 The Chair thanked Ms Crane for her presentation.

8. DIGEST OF COMMITTEE REPORTS FROM CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Information reports attached and noted.

9. CAERPHILLY BUSINESS FORUM

No update available.

10. CAERPHILLY COMMUNITY & TOWN COUNCILS

No update available.

11. SOUTH WALES FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

Information report attached and noted. However some concern was expressed at the increase in deliberate car fires, and what the Fire & Rescue Service / Gwent Police were going to do to reduce these incidents. The Parent Network asked "What can the Community do to address Fire Service numbers of fires." Ms Dix said that in the absence of the Fire and Rescue Service said she would take this back to the Service.

12. POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR GWENT

Information report attached and noted.

13. GWENT POLICE

Information report attached and noted.

14. VOLUNTARY SECTOR EVENTS – JACKIE DIX, POLICY & RESEARCH MANAGER CCBC

- For reasons given under Item 3.2 the Compact Partners Event for 4th November is postponed.
- Notification was given regarding the One Beat event, to be held on Saturday 25th October 2014, in Penallta House.

15. TO RECEIVE AND NOTE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ITEM

Community Planning Quarterly Briefing July to September 2014.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:- 3RD DECEMBER 2014

Next meeting on the 3rd December, will be held at 10.30 a.m. in the Sirhowy / Ebbw Rooms on the 1st floor, at Penallta House.

Meeting ended 12.50 p.m.



VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE - 3RD DECEMBER 2014

SUBJECT: SAFEGUARDING PUBLIC SERVICES – WHAT ROLE CAN THE THIRD SECTOR PLAY?

REPORT BY: ACTING DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 Caerphilly County Borough Council is facing significant reductions in budget and wishes to engage with the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee in considering what the third sector can do in helping the Council shape a response to these financial challenges. The views of the Committee will be considered prior to the final 2015/16 budget proposals being presented to Cabinet in January 2015 and to Full Council in February 2015.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 Caerphilly County Borough Council is facing a cut of 3.4% in the local government provisional settlement 2015/16 and will need to make an estimated saving of £39m over the next three years. The Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee is being asked to consider how the third sector can help in shaping a response to these significant financial challenges. The views expressed by the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee will be taken into consideration prior to the final 2015/16 budget proposals being presented to Cabinet in January 2015 and to Full Council in February 2015.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 The budget setting process encompasses all the resources used by the Council to deliver services and meet priorities.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 Caerphilly County Borough Council (CCBC) is facing significant financial changes and wishes to engage in discussion with the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee on how the third sector can help in safeguarding public services through alternative models of service delivery. The Welsh Government local government financial settlement for 2015/16 sees a 3.4% reduction. Although there was no indicative budget for the following two years, assumptions can be made around the 3.4% reductions continuing, resulting in total budget reductions of £39m over the next three years. It is opportune for the Committee to consider how the third sector can help mitigate against the potential loss of public service provision in helping CCBC setting its budget service proposals to Cabinet in January 2015 and to Council in February 2015.

- 4.2 The Committee is asked for their views on new ways of providing services, as an alternative to making cuts to services through their shared knowledge of the capacity of local communities. Here are some pointers to facilitate this discussion:-
- What knowledge is there of what is currently working well through community led provision and could this be replicated on a larger scale?
 - Could communities run their own libraries, perhaps incorporated into a variety of local services provided through a community/cultural hub?
 - Thoughts around shifting from traditional models of adult social care to support in and by local communities?
 - Could communities play a leading role on environmental improvements in their areas and ensuring community pride in the local environment?
 - Thoughts on feasibility of Social Enterprise, Co-operatives and Mutuals, Community Trust/ Development Trust models of delivery?
 - Any other views on how to approach re shaping public services in the face of cuts in funding?
 - Any further thoughts on how the third sector can help to mitigate the impact of tough decision by the public sector?
- 4.3 CCBC is committed to working with the local communities, the third sector and Compact Partners to explore and develop new models of delivery. It is to be noted that CCBC is setting up a working group of officers to undertake a review of alternative models of service delivery. Joint work is also being undertaken between CCBC and GAVO in building the procurement capacity of the local third sector to take on large scale projects, particularly through collaborative working and consortium bidding by the sector.
- 4.4 CCBC is most receptive to any ideas from the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee on alternative ways of service delivery. Following the committee meeting a write up of the discussion will be produced to feed into budget discussion. Members will be also given to 24th December 2014 to submit any further ideas to Jackie Dix (Policy and Research Manager) for these budget discussions.
- 4.5 In addition Members are advised that the Council is holding a Have Your Say Saving Proposals 2015/16 Consultation until 2nd January 2015. To access the online survey please visit www.caerphilly.gov.uk. Hard copies of the survey are also available, with written responses welcome. For a hard copy please contact the Consultation and Public Engagement Officer on telephone: 01443 864354, at the Communication Unit, Caerphilly County Borough Council, Penallta House, Tredomen Park, Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed, CF82 7PG

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Budget decisions at this level affect every resident in the County Borough, regardless of their individual circumstances and backgrounds

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The funding pressures facing the Council are noted in the report.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There will be significant personnel implications, but these are not the subject matter of this report.

8. CONSULTATIONS

- 8.1 consultees are noted at the end of the report. The views of consultees have been incorporated into the drafting of this report.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 For the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee to discuss at their meeting new ways of providing services, as an alternative to making cuts. The views expressed by the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee will be taken back to the Council for consideration prior to the final 2015/16 budget proposals being presented to Cabinet in January 2015 and to Council in February 2015.
- 9.2 Jackie Dix, Policy and Research Manager, will also take any additional comments from Committee Members to be considered by the Council in budget discussions up to 24/12/2014.

10. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 For the views of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee to be able to feed into further budget discussions by the Council prior to the setting of the final 2015/16 budget.

11. STATUTORY POWER

- 11.1 The Local Government Act 1998 and 2003.

Author: Jackie Dix, Policy and Research Manager, CCBC
Consultees: Chris Burns, Interim Chief Executive
Colin Jones, Head of Performance and Property Services
Martin Featherstone, Chief Executive, GAVO
Bob Cooke, Chair of Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee
Cllr. Carter, Vice Chair of Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee
Emily Forbes, Deputy Chief Executive, GAVO
Alison Palmer, Community Planning Co-ordinator, GAVO/CCBC
Howard Rees, Programme Manager, CCBC
Liz Sharma, Consultation and Public Engagement Officer, CCBC
Mandy Sprague, 50+ Positive Action, CCBC
John Elliott, Research Officer, CCBC

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VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE- 3RD DECEMBER 2014

SUBJECT: MAINSTREAMING COMMUNITY COHESION

REPORT BY: CHRIS HUNT COMMUNITY COHESION CO-ORDINATOR (WEST GWENT)

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To raise awareness of the community cohesion agenda and promote the emerging need to embed cohesion within both the statutory and voluntary sector.
- 1.2 The background to the development of the community cohesion agenda lies in lessons learned from the 2001 civil disturbances in Northern England - Bradford, Burnley and Oldham and in Wales 2003 - Wrexham. In the aftermath of these public disturbances the government took two approaches with regards to community cohesion: targeted community interventions and mainstreaming. The first refers to projects specifically relating to community cohesion i.e. that aim at directly bringing people together and on creating a sense of belonging. The second refers to introducing the principles of community cohesion to all the work undertaken by government at local, regional and national levels.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 Following those disturbances, listed above, a series of reports were commissioned to analyse the causes of the unrest in each area and to suggest actions to address these causes. The findings are detailed within the report titled *Community Cohesion: A Report of the Independent Review Team*, often referred to as the 'Cantle Report', which set out the broad parameters of much of the agenda. In 2009 the Welsh Assembly Government also published an All Wales national strategy (detailed below) along with funding to each of the 22 Local Authorities of Wales to support the agenda.
- 2.2 *Why mainstream community cohesion?* We are living in increasingly diverse communities which can often present challenges in the way people get on together; immigration, deprivation, prosperity can all impact the way communities integrate with each other and on rare occasions these factors can create community tensions which can disrupt cohesion. Recognising local cohesion priorities (such as the growing influence of far right extremism or the intolerance of some communities towards diversity or difference) and strategically embedding cohesion in the way we provide services and support communities will encourage communities to become more cohesive, particularly with regards to tackling intolerance, and to develop greater community resilience to violent extremism.
- 2.3 There is no single universally shared understanding of what community cohesion means, but at its simplest, the term 'community cohesion' is used to describe how everyone in a geographical area lives alongside each other with mutual understanding and respect. No matter what our background, religion, or political persuasion, we all share some fundamental values: foremost among them being respect, tolerance and freedom of speech. By reinforcing those common values, by supporting chances for people to come together, learn more about each other, and overcome misperceptions, we can reinforce those shared values and

strengthen our communities.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 Community Cohesion agenda is linked with the Single Integrated Plan, Caerphilly Delivers, within its Safer Caerphilly strand, cohesion priorities such as Hate Crime and tackling intolerance is also linked within the CCBC's Strategic Equality Plan.
- 3.2 For in-depth information see link to **Mainstreaming Community Cohesion Guidance for Local Authorities in Wales**
[Local Authority Mainstreaming Community Cohesion Guidance](#)
Hard copies of this document can be made available on request.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 The Welsh Assembly Government launched 'Getting on Together' the national community cohesion strategy for Wales along with the first of its funding streams in 2009, this was part of the Welsh Assembly Government's One Wales commitment to achieve a 'fair and just society, a place where all citizens are empowered to determine their own lives and shape the communities in which they live'. *Getting on Together*, recognised that community cohesion is a cross-cutting agenda, relevant to all policy areas. Forming part of this mainstreaming approach, in 2012 Welsh Government funded Regional Cohesion Coordinators across Wales to support and encourage authorities and partnerships to mainstreaming the agenda, and in 2014 a national community cohesion plan was developed which outlined 7 key cohesion objectives to be mainstreamed.

- 4.2 These include:-

<p>Outcome 1: Departments, organisations and people understand hate crime; victims make reports and get appropriate support</p> <p>Outcome 2: Departments, organisations and people understand slavery; victims make reports and get appropriate support</p> <p>Outcome 3: Increase awareness and engagement across Gypsy and traveller Communities (where appropriate)</p> <p>Outcome 4: Increase awareness and data established on immigration</p> <p>Outcome 5: Communities First (CF) Staff are knowledgeable about community cohesion issues and communities across the protected characteristics are involved in the CF programme</p> <p>Outcome 6: Key policies and programmes through relevant plans are embedded</p> <p>Outcome 7: Policies and service are responsive to changes in communities</p>

- 4.3 *What is Mainstreaming?* The following is taken from the *Mainstreaming Community Cohesion Guidance for Local Authorities (Sheffield Hallam University)* 'mainstreaming involves infusing the principles and priorities of the community cohesion agenda into the collective consciousness of a local authority or partnership so that responsibility for building cohesion is embedded within the everyday duties and functions of all departments and partners. The aim is to build consideration of cohesion issues into strategies and plans, policy and practice from the outset in a bid to maximise the benefits and minimise the costs for community cohesion. Practically, it is about asking the right questions so that you can see how best to actively promote, and avoid undercutting, community cohesion through your plans and activities. It is also a way of improving the effectiveness of mainstream policies by making visible their cohesion consequences. Central is the assessment of the implications for cohesion of any planned action'.

4.4 Tangible benefits of Community Cohesion

4.4.1 Promoting cohesion has wider benefits to individuals, groups and communities such as:-

- Community empowerment including people helping each other, coming together to solve problems and trusting one another
- Volunteering
- Equalities and perceptions of fair treatment
- Preventing crime and anti social behaviour and necessary interventions
- Sense of belonging and having friends from different backgrounds, which will bring other benefits
- More efficient use of public resources
- Enhancing the quality of life of everyone in the community
- Community gets involved in solutions as well as public agencies
- People from all generations have a sense of hope and positivity about their lives.

4.5 The potential role of the voluntary sector in developing community cohesion

4.5.1 The voluntary sector has been recognised as a key stakeholder in helping to achieving the principal aims of community cohesion, thus, while responsibility on community cohesion has been linked to both local and national government, the third sector is regarded as an important partner in developing the agenda.

4.5.2 Whilst the public sector has the potential to influence policy-making and service delivery, especially on issues such as housing and policing, the role of the third sector (in relation to the cohesion agenda) can be seen more in terms of liaising directly with communities, especially those defined as hard-to reach communities and communities of interest. Therefore, recognising the role the third sector can play in mainstreaming community cohesion is of particular importance to ensure the agenda is appropriately embedded.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The Equality Duty clearly overlaps with the aims and ambitions of the community cohesion agenda. The Equality Duty focuses on issues of discrimination and inequality, which are well known to undercut community cohesion. Furthermore, Community cohesion emphasises the importance of positive attitudes and good relations between groups, which are critical to the pursuit of tolerance and equality.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 N/A

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 N/A

8. CONSULTATIONS

8.1 N/A

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 To ensure there is consideration given to the community cohesion agenda within the delivery of third sector provision, particularly in relation to areas of engagement/participation where barriers may be experienced by those community members who have different backgrounds or protected characteristics.
- 9.2 To reflect the impact of community cohesion on future project proposals. Where need arises to liaise with the Regional Community Cohesion Coordinator (Christopher.hunt@torfaen.gov.uk) to support those bidding processes.
- 9.3 Community events and ongoing activities such as advocacy services, community festivals, sports clubs for children and young people, community outings and other such events, are reflective and carefully planned to take account of differing cultural needs/ practices and build on shared interests.

Author: Chris Hunt (West Gwent Regional Community Cohesion Co-ordinator)



VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE – 3RD DECEMBER 2014

SUBJECT: THE COMPACT AGREEMENT AND ANNUAL COMPACT ACTION PLAN

REPORT BY: ACTING DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is threefold:-

- to update members on the purpose of the annual compact action plan as requested by the Voluntary Sector Representatives sitting on the Committee
- to feedback on the consultation on holding a Compact Awareness Event targeted at middle managers as requested by the Committee
- to present for the Committee's endorsement a proposed Compact Action Plan for 2015-16.

2. SUMMARY

2.1 The Compact is an agreement between organisations and the Voluntary Sector in the Caerphilly County Borough. The Compact recognises the mutual benefits that can be gained from close co-operation and sets out guidelines for how all parties should work together. The Compact is delivered and monitored through an annual compact action plan, which provides a detailed programme of work for shared activities, with further detail given in this report as to the compact action plan's purpose. Following a consultation with Compact Partners and contributors to the Compact Action Plan this report also presents a Compact Action Plan for 2015-16 for the Committee's endorsement.

2.2 The report further provides feedback following a consultation of Compact Partners on holding a Compact Awareness Event targeted at middle managers. While Compact Partner were generally supportive of the event, organisations felt they would have difficulties in fielding staff to attend this event, particularly as two of the Compact Partners noted they were going through a period of change, and questioned if holding an event was the best approach in raising awareness. Following discussions at a Voluntary Sector Representatives meeting convened by Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations (GAVO) it was felt a more targeted approach would be better where GAVO directly met individually with the Compact Partners in advancing commitment and delivery of the Compact Agreement in 2015-16.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

3.1 The Voluntary Sector makes an important contribution to public service provision across the County Borough, and has a key role in **Caerphilly Delivers - The Single Integrated Plan 2013-17**.

3.2 The Compact Action Plan is integral for operationalising the strategic, high level document **Delivery Together Compact Agreement 2013-17** into practical shared work activities by the Compact Partners, which is reviewed on an annual basis for the four year period of the

Compact Agreement.

4. THE REPORT

4.1 The Annual Compact Action Plan

4.1.1 The Compact Agreement between organisations and the Voluntary and Community Sector in the Caerphilly borough is delivered through the annual compact action plan. This annual plan provides a detailed programme of work for shared activities by the Compact Partners, with progress monitored through the quarterly meetings of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee on which all the Compact Partners sit. Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations (GAVO) signs up to the Compact Agreement as a Compact Partner representing the Voluntary and Community Sector in the Borough. The other Compact Partners with GAVO are:-

- Caerphilly County Borough Council
- Gwent Police
- Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner Office
- Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
- South Wales Fire and Rescue Service
- Caerphilly county borough Community/Town Councils
- Caerphilly Business Forum.

4.1.2 Together with GAVO as the Compact Partner on the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee sit an additional 25 Voluntary Sector Representatives elected every three years (numbers may vary slightly following elections) through GAVO's membership.

4.1.3 The Compact annual action plan focuses on activities around the five outcome areas of **Caerphilly Delivers – the Single Integrated Plan** which are: Prosperous Caerphilly, Learning Caerphilly, Safer Caerphilly, Healthier Caerphilly and Greener Caerphilly. Other key areas of focus for the compact action plan are volunteering and funding. A compact action plan annual report is produced every year, and launched at the June meeting of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee, and thereafter distributed widely by the Compact Partners. The annual report serves to highlight the tangible achievements of working in partnership, with the Compact Action Report 2013-14 reporting on over 70 action areas.

4.1.4 Through the Voluntary Sector Representatives quarterly meetings convened by GAVO the representatives select activities from the Compact Action Plan that they would like to receive quarterly progress reports on.

4.1.5 Every autumn both the Compact Partners and officers contributing information on the activity areas across the Compact Partner organisations are consulted on what they would like to see in the compact action plan for the next financial year. The results of the consultation form a suggested template for the compact action plan which is presented to the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee for approval.

4.2 Compact Partners Feedback on Holding a Compact Awareness Event targeted at Middle Managers

4.2.1 At the last Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee (17th September 2014) there was discussion around the postponed Compact Awareness Event (4th November 2014) which was to be targeted at middle managers across the Compact Partner organisations. The Committee asked for all Compact Partners to be contacted to seek their views on holding such an event aimed at advancing commitment and delivery of the Compact in 2015-16. An email (with hard copy sent to committee members not on email) was sent seeking views on the following:

1. Does your organisation as a Compact Partner feel there is a need for such an event?
2. If such an event is to be held what do you think the scope should be and the target audience?

3. Would your organisation support such an event?
4. Would you be willing to help in developing the event?

4.2.2 Responses have been received from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent, Gwent Police, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, with discussions held with the Corporate Management Team (CMT) at the Council. The responses were remarkably similar:-

- All the Compact Partners asserted their commitment to the Compact agreement and felt there was awareness among their officers of the Compact Agreement.
- All of the Compact Partners noted their support of such an event, but were unable to help in developing the event because of capacity issues. Two Compact Partners noted they were going through a transitional stage with staff changes in terms of partnership working.
- Three Compact Partners noted that they would have difficulties in select an appropriate audience from within their own organisations to attend the event
- Three Compact Partners queried whether the event is necessary at this time with one querying whether the same information could be delivered/shared via a different medium.

4.2.3 The Council, while supportive of the event, felt the best way to raise awareness of officers to the Compact Agreement is through the management network and it has been arranged for GAVO to address the management network on the 12th December 2014.

4.2.4 The Voluntary Sector Representatives have considered these findings and it was felt that the best approach would be for GAVO to meet up individually with each of the Compact Partners to discuss how best to advance support for the Compact Agreement and Compact Action Plan 2015-16 through their organisations.

4.3 Proposed Compact Action Plan for 2014-15

4.3.1 Appendix 1 presents the proposed Compact Action Plan for the endorsement of the Committee following a consultation with Compact Partners and Compact text contributors over the autumn.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Promoting equalities is a fundamental part of the work of Compact Partners and features throughout the annual compact action plan. Equalities is embedded into all work around community planning and in implementing **Caerphilly Delivers the Single Integrated Plan**.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 None arising.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 None arising.

8. CONSULTATIONS

8.1 **Compact Action Plan 2015-16** - a consultation has been undertaken on the proposed Compact Action Plan with Compact Partners and Compact contributors from across the Compact Partner organisations over the autumn.

8.2 **Compact Awareness Event** – a consultation was undertaken with Compact Partners.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 For members to:-

- note the purpose of the annual Compact Action plan
- to receive feedback from the Compact Partners on holding a Compact Awareness Event targeted at middle managers in the Compact Partner organisations, and the subsequent suggestion for GAVO to meet directly with each of the Compact Partners in advancing commitment and delivery of the Compact Agreement and annual action plan in 2015-16
- to endorse the proposed Compact Action Plan for 2015-16.

10. STATUTORY POWER

10.1 Local Government Act 2000.

Author: Jackie Dix, Policy and Research Manager, CCBC
Consultees: Bob Cooke, Chair of Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee
Cllr. Carter, Vice Chair of Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee
Martin Featherstone, Chief Executive, GAVO
Emily Forbes, Deputy Chief Executive, GAVO
Alison Palmer, Community Planning Co-ordinator, GAVO/CCBC
Maria Chapman, Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner Office
Inspector Ben Bond, Gwent Police
Sam Crane, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
Donna Crossman, South Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Cllr. Howard Llewellyn, Caerphilly borough Community/Town Councils
Denise Lovering, Caerphilly Business Forum
Natalie Whyatt, Caerphilly Business Forum

Appendices:
Appendix 1 Compact Action Plan 2015-16

CAERPHILLY VOLUNTARY SECTOR COMPACT ACTION PLAN APRIL 2015 TO MARCH 2016

NB Please note for ease of identification that proposed changes are underlined and in italics and bold

AREA OF ACTIVITY	COMMITMENT TO ACTION	SPECIFIC ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE BODIES	PROGRESS
A) Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee	1. Continued, regular meetings of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee	Four meetings and pre-meetings (June, September, December, March)	Policy Unit, Caerphilly County Borough Council (CCBC) & Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations (GAVO)	
	2. Pre-meetings for voluntary sector representatives on Committee	Four meetings (February, May, August, October)	GAVO	
	3. Voluntary Sector to be kept informed of relevant issues by Compact Partners	<i>Items of interest</i> reports prepared for each Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee	Reports from All Compact Partners	
	4. Progress on Compact targets to be monitored and publicly reported	12 month Compact Annual Report to be submitted to the June Committee meeting, with quarterly meetings receiving reports on specific areas of Compact activity	Reports from All Compact Partners	
	5. Consultation with the Voluntary Sector over changes to national and local policies and services affecting the Sector	Reports and presentations to Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee	Reports from All Compact Partners	

AREA OF ACTIVITY	COMMITMENT TO ACTION	SPECIFIC ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE BODIES	PROGRESS
B) Caerphilly Delivers The Single Integrated Plan 2013-2017	1. Involvement of voluntary sector organisations in implementing the Single Integrated Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Caerphilly Local Service Board (LSB) ● Standing Conference 	Progress reports on voluntary sector involvement to be prepared for Committee by the Making the Connections Officer (GAVO) to support the involvement of the Voluntary Sector in LSB projects and Single Integrated Plan development/implementation	Reports from Policy Unit, CCBC & GAVO	
	2. BIG Lottery Community Voice Programme promoting the involvement of voluntary organisations in the design and delivery of local services	Administration of scheme in the Caerphilly borough	GAVO	
C) Safer Caerphilly	1. Promotion of community safety	1. Fire Service awareness work to voluntary sector and community groups	Report South Wales Fire and Rescue Service	
		2. Increase services for Victims and Witnesses of anti-social behaviour.	Report Safer Caerphilly Delivery Group	
		3. Further develop the Safer Caerphilly Volunteer Network	Reports Safer Caerphilly Delivery Group	
		4. Street Pastor Scheme to explore and identify other areas and towns which may benefit from the scheme. Additional training support when required	Gwent Police & Safer Caerphilly Delivery Group	

AREA OF ACTIVITY	COMMITMENT TO ACTION	SPECIFIC ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE BODIES	PROGRESS
		5. Cadets – to develop and enhance the role of cadets deployed within the borough	Gwent Police & Safer Caerphilly Delivery Group	
		6. <u>PCC & Gwent Police to support local crime prevention activities provided by Neighbourhood watch and crime prevention groups</u>		
D) Funding	1. Joint production of <i>Grant Schemes</i> booklet	Next booklet to be produced May 2014	GAVO & Policy Unit, CCBC	
	2. Organise funding day and hold further funding surgeries (if required)	Funding day to be organised May 2014	Policy Unit, CCBC, GAVO, ABuHB	
	3. Technical Assistance Scheme (£28k)	Effective delivery of fund	Policy Unit, CCBC	
	4. Community Regeneration Fund	Effective delivery of fund	Business Enterprise Support, CCBC	
	5 a) South East Wales Community Economic Development Programme	Effective delivery of a grant scheme and support for the sector via a Development Officer – this is a programme to encourage community/ voluntary organisations to become self sustaining and less reliant on grant support	Business Enterprise Support, CCBC	

AREA OF ACTIVITY	COMMITMENT TO ACTION	SPECIFIC ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE BODIES	PROGRESS
		GAVO officer to support groups to become financially sustainable social enterprises	Voluntary Sector Community Economic Development Officer, GAVO	
	b) Increase the economic contribution of the Voluntary Sector within Caerphilly	Provide advice, developmental support to organisations that have the potential to develop into Social Enterprises	Business Enterprise Support, CCBC & GAVO	
	c) Develop local networks that engage local communities.	To establish, facilitate and co-ordinate a social economy network within the borough	Business Enterprise Support, CCBC & GAVO	
	d) Financially support Voluntary Sector organisations.	GAVO Community Economic Development Officer will support organisations in the grant application process	Business Enterprise Support, CCBC & GAVO	
	<u>6. Raising awareness of Police and Crime Commissioner's Partnership Fund that is available for community groups and voluntary organisations to bid into on an annual basis to fund activities that support the delivery of the Commissioner's police and crime priorities</u>	<u>Reporting by the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office through raising awareness when its coming up and its outcomes / who received funding etc on bi-annual basis</u>	<u>Police and Crime Commissioner's Office</u>	

AREA OF ACTIVITY	COMMITMENT TO ACTION	SPECIFIC ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE BODIES	PROGRESS
	7. Funding Code of Practice (contained in Compact Agreement)	The continued review and implementation of the good practice guidance contained in the Compact Agreement	All Compact Partners	
	8. GwirVol Youth Led small grant scheme (£4k for Caerphilly borough)	Effective delivery of pan Gwent fund	GAVO	
	9. Health Social Care and Wellbeing Grant	Regular review of eligibility criteria and ensure successful organisations address sustainability of schemes given fixed term funding rules.	GAVO, ABuHB, Social Services, CCBC	
	10. Mental Health Grant	Effective delivery of fund	GAVO	
	11. CCBC Voluntary Sector Small Grants Scheme	Effective delivery of fund	Corporate Finance, CCBC	
	12. Welsh Church Fund	Effective delivery of fund	Corporate Finance, CCBC	
	13. Supporting People In 2013/14 the Voluntary Sector accounted for 60% of supporting people funding (£4,206,098). For 2014/15 the budget is being increased by £65,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Maximise involvement of Voluntary Sector in delivering programme ii. Commissioning of supporting people services 	<p>Caerphilly Supporting People Planning Group and Gwent Regional Collaborative Committee</p> <p>Caerphilly Supporting People Planning Group and Gwent Regional Collaborative Committee</p>	

AREA OF ACTIVITY	COMMITMENT TO ACTION	SPECIFIC ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE BODIES	PROGRESS
E) Publicity and Communications	1. Organisation of annual voluntary sector achievement awards	Organisation of nominations process and awards evening for June 2014 at Penallta House Organisation of <i>One Beat</i> event October 2014 at Penallta House	Communications, CCBC, GAVO & Voluntary Sector Committee Representatives Communications, CCBC, GAVO & Voluntary Sector Committee Representatives	
	2. Organisation of voluntary sector awareness day aimed at the general public, council members, health service and social services			
F) Prosperous Caerphilly	1. Joint delivery of community development across county borough covering Community First cluster areas of Upper Rhymney Valley, Mid Valleys East, Mid Valleys West and the Caerphilly Basin	Joint working in supporting Communities First cluster areas, and voluntary sector organisations, community groups and community forums	Reports from Regeneration, CCBC, GAVO, ABuHB	
	2. Training and Education Forum	Ensure Voluntary Sector participation and provide 12 month progress reports to Committee	Regeneration, CCBC	
	3. Joint support to set up community enterprise across borough	Key areas are:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training • Funding • Governing documents • Work with Voluntary Sector on change 	All Compact Partners	

AREA OF ACTIVITY	COMMITMENT TO ACTION	SPECIFIC ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE BODIES	PROGRESS
	<p>4. The Caerphilly Business Forum (CBF) are the voice of business members, and are the conduit for these voices to be heard either back to the Council or Welsh Government or the communities. A key part of the local role is to promote employment, training, give business advice and assist social enterprises</p>	<p>The CBF will form a partnership with the Policy Unit, CCBC to raise awareness of the Equalities and Welsh Language Awareness Training to the CBF members.</p> <p>The CBF is holding it's annual Caerphilly Business Awards in November 2014 recognising and celebrating the best businesses in the borough</p> <p>The CBF is actively recruiting businesses to join the Forum, giving a greater voice for the business community</p> <p>The CBF will support the Work Clubs through provision of support aimed at getting individuals work ready</p> <p>The CBF will provide mentors and business advice to assist social enterprises develop</p>	<p>Caerphilly Business Forum working together with the Voluntary Sector</p>	

AREA OF ACTIVITY	COMMITMENT TO ACTION	SPECIFIC ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE BODIES	PROGRESS
		<p>The CBF holds Private Sector meets the Youth Forum event and plan to roll that event out to Comprehensive schools. The CBF offers advice and guidance to young people through the schools and the Community First cluster areas on CV's, mock interviews to help young people gain employment with local companies.</p> <p>The CBF are active supporters of the Caerphilly Passport Scheme and will identify work placement and job opportunities for young people with Forum Members</p> <p>The CBF role on LAG (Local Action Group) Panel</p>		
	<p>5. Enhancing accessibility to transport.</p> <p>Connect2 is currently providing bus services to rural areas and services to local industrial estates enabling people to access employment and employment opportunities.</p>	<p>CCBC to deliver service 'in house', working closely with voluntary sector partners and other organisations.</p>	<p>Engineering Division, CCBC</p>	

AREA OF ACTIVITY	COMMITMENT TO ACTION	SPECIFIC ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE BODIES	PROGRESS
	6. Developing complementary role of voluntary sector transport schemes e.g. through GAVO and Phoenix	12-month progress reports on the provision of voluntary sector transport schemes.	GAVO	
G) Healthier Caerphilly	1. Neighbourhood Care Networks (NCN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure appropriate involvement of Voluntary Sector at Single Integrated Plan (SIP) and Neighbourhood Care Networks (NCN) levels • Agree and ensure priorities for the Voluntary Sector are fed through the SIP and NCN structures for delivery. 	ABuHB to lead through Single Integrated Plan (SIP) and Neighbourhood Care Networks structures and as Healthier Caerphilly SIP theme lead for Caerphilly	
	2. Rhymney Integrated Health and Social Care Centre to enhance access to services in the north of the borough	Ensure Voluntary Sector participation including providing services at the Health & Social Care Centre	ABuHB to lead on 12 month progress reports with contributions from GAVO and Social Service, CCBC	
	3. Gwent Frailty Project delivery in Caerphilly borough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build upon existing core services such as primary care, homecare and district nursing • Develop additional services to 'fill the gaps' • Work in a more coordinated and integrated way to ensure people have a seamless experience 	ABuHB and Social Services, CCBC to provide 12 month progress report through the Single Integrated Plan and Neighbourhood Care Networks structures	

AREA OF ACTIVITY	COMMITMENT TO ACTION	SPECIFIC ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE BODIES	PROGRESS
	4. Learning Disability Services	Implementation of the Learning Disability Strategy	Mental Health and Learning Disability Partnership Board including Social Services, CCBC, GAVO, ABuHB	
	5. Building Strong Bridges Project	<p>Action plan and network objectives to reflect the key themes in Welsh Assembly Government (08) <i>Designed to Add Value – a third dimension for One Wales.</i></p> <p>In addition to:</p> <p>Further develop and sustain a Voluntary Sector provider network and source representatives for engagement in joint planning</p> <p>Work with partners to plan and organise Voluntary Sector contributions to strategic planning and the Single Integrated Plan priorities</p> <p>Organise and assist with the engagement and participation of communities and seldom heard groups</p>	GAVO (Health and Social Care Co-ordinator) reporting through the new joint contracting operations across ABuHB and local authorities	

AREA OF ACTIVITY	COMMITMENT TO ACTION	SPECIFIC ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE BODIES	PROGRESS
		Involve the Voluntary Sector in development activity and consultations in relation to the commissioning agenda, procurement process, and practice improvement		
	6. Improvements to mental health services	Mental health services to work in partnership with the Voluntary Sector to promote the social inclusion of mental health service users within mainstream facilities and services including the ABuHB Mental Health Strategy	CCBC (Adult Services), GAVO ABuHB	
	7. Tackling substance misuse	12 month progress reports on the delivery of the Substance Misuse Action & Communications Plan	Safer Caerphilly and GAVO in conjunction with the APB as the Regional Lead	
H) Learning Caerphilly	1. Improvements to Leisure Services	12 month report to be provided on improving facilities for Sports Associations and other voluntary sector groups	Education & Lifelong Learning, CCBC and GAVO	
	2. Holiday Scheme Project	12 month report to be provided on schemes within the borough	GAVO the lead with contributions from CCBC	

AREA OF ACTIVITY	COMMITMENT TO ACTION	SPECIFIC ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE BODIES	PROGRESS
	<p>3. New Big Lottery Play Project</p>	<p>Maximising Participation of Big Lottery play work team working in Newbridge, Pontllanfraith, Bargoed and Tir y Berth offering play opportunities locally to children and young people</p>	<p>GAVO and Tri-County association</p>	
	<p>4. Delivering community education</p>	<p>Partnership work with the Voluntary Sector to ensure a wide curriculum is available to all age groups. This is enhanced by the Caerphilly Festival planning group, which includes voluntary organisations. This group plans learning activities throughout the year against assessed need within communities.</p> <p>A range of partners from the Voluntary Sector provide referrals to Bridges into Work and Working Skills for Adults in order to secure additional support and educational and training opportunities for local people.</p>	<p>Education and Lifelong Learning, CCBC</p> <p>Caerphilly Festival Planning Group</p> <p>Caerphilly Community Education</p>	

AREA OF ACTIVITY	COMMITMENT TO ACTION	SPECIFIC ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE BODIES	PROGRESS
	<p>5. The County Borough Library Service recognises the important role that the Voluntary Sector should play in shaping the future provision of Public Library Services across the authority</p>	<p>Establish a working group of voluntary organisation representatives across the borough Library Service to investigate how the Voluntary Sector can play a more active role in the development, evaluation, and commissioning of Public Library Services to local residents</p>	<p>Caerphilly County Borough Library Services</p> <p>Voluntary Sector Committee representatives (GAVO)</p>	
<p>I) Greener Caerphilly</p>	<p>1. Delivering on the 3 key working group areas of the Greener Caerphilly outcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LE Quality • Environment for Health • Climate Change 	<p>Ensure Voluntary Sector participation/Involvement on the 3 working groups, and provide 12 month report</p>	<p>CCBC lead</p>	
	<p>2. Education for Sustainable Development Project</p>	<p>Ensure Voluntary Sector participation/Involvement. 12 month progress report to be provided</p>	<p>CCBC lead</p>	
	<p>3. Delivery on LE & SD work programme not already covered</p>	<p>12 month progress report on actions involving the Voluntary Sector</p>	<p>CCBC lead</p>	

AREA OF ACTIVITY	COMMITMENT TO ACTION	SPECIFIC ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE BODIES	PROGRESS
J) 50+	1. Involvement of the Voluntary Sector in delivery of 50+ Positive Action Strategy	Working in partnership in raising and meeting the needs of people 50+ in the borough to:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maximise Income • improve Information and Engagement • improve Dignity, Respect and Age Equality 	A range of Compact Partners including the Police CADRU team, Neighbourhood Care Networks, GAVO, Development Officer for Older People, CCBC	
K) Training	1. Provide training packages to meet needs of the Voluntary Sector and community groups across the borough	12 month progress report on training	GAVO's learning and development team	
	2. To provide Equalities and Welsh Language Awareness Training in line with the Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations, to partner organisations under the Compact Agreement	12 month progress report on training provided	Policy Unit, CCBC	
L) Networking	1. Facilitation of GAVO's Voluntary Sector Forums and networks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Upper Rhymney Valley & Mid Valleys West Forum -Caerphilly Basin & Aber Valley Forum -Islwyn & Mid Valleys East Forum 	Forum/alliance meetings held per year. <p>Actions from meetings circulated with key areas fed through to Local Service Board</p>	GAVO	

AREA OF ACTIVITY	COMMITMENT TO ACTION	SPECIFIC ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE BODIES	PROGRESS
	-Health & Social care Alliance -Volume Network Note this is an area under review			
M) Engagement	1. To take forward the Local Service Board's Citizen Engagement Strategy and action plan	To implement the LSB Citizen Engagement Strategy To deliver on the actions in the LSB Citizen Engagement Strategy	Communications, CCBC lead with All Compact Partners represented on the multi agency working group	
N) Volunteering	1. To provide volunteering opportunities targeted to increase the involvement of young people aged 14-25 years, and adults over 25	To encourage organisations to offer volunteering opportunities aimed at 16-25 year olds & adults over 25	GAVO volunteering team	
	2. To work alongside the Young Dragons project, whose aim is to offer volunteering opportunities and accreditation to young people in Wales through the uniformed services	To continue to forge links with Gwent Young Dragons group to help devise, develop and recruit new volunteer opportunities for volunteers aged 14-25	GAVO volunteering Advisor	

AREA OF ACTIVITY	COMMITMENT TO ACTION	SPECIFIC ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE BODIES	PROGRESS
	<p>3. To seek to provide volunteering opportunities for people referred via organisations such as Jobcentre Plus, Careers Wales, Want to Work and Community Work Clubs</p>	<p>To interview customers in order to establish volunteering interest. Contact organisations with view to a placement</p>	<p>GAVO volunteering team</p>	
	<p>4. To provide an outreach volunteer service in JCP Offices and community venues across Wales</p>	<p>GAVO Volunteering Outreach Officer will continue to provide this service in conjunction with GAVO Volunteering Centre staff</p>	<p>GAVO volunteering team</p>	
	<p>5. To provide and oversee a befriending service at Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr initially on the stroke ward</p>	<p>Recruit and support volunteers and provide relevant training. Provide and extend service to additional wards. Establish stimulating activities for the enjoyment and well-being of the patients</p>	<p>GAVO Sunflower Project Co-ordinator</p>	
<p>O) Procurement</p>	<p>1. Procurement Services are committed to ensuring that local businesses & voluntary sector organisations are given every chance of success when tendering for goods, works and services</p>	<p>The department has a dedicated Supplier Relationship Officer to provide guidance and support to all organisations in relation to procurement processes, to ensure more local organisations (whether private sector or voluntary sector) are successful in</p>		

AREA OF ACTIVITY	COMMITMENT TO ACTION	SPECIFIC ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE BODIES	PROGRESS
		securing contracts with the Council following fair, clear and transparent procurement processes	Procurement, CCBC	
	2. GAVO procurement activity	To raise awareness of tendering opportunities and support organisations in the tendering process	GAVO (Health and Social Care Co-ordinator), & GAVO Economic Development Officer	
P) Equalities, Welsh Language and Community Cohesion	1. The Compact partners are committed to ensuring that all of the agreed actions are undertaken in a fair and equitable manner, which respects the individual needs and circumstances of the people and organisations they deal with.	Different statutory duties apply to the different Compact Partners but this cannot lead to a less equitable service provision under the Compact by any partner than would have been in place individually.	Policy Unit, CCBC, Police, ABuHB, GAVO	
	2. The Compact Partners commit to working to make sure that various groups within the community treat each other with mutual respect to lessen the instances of hate crime and hate incidents.	Annual reports are required from organisations by both the Equalities and Human Rights Commission and the Welsh Language Commissioner's Office. Achievements under the Compact can be included as relevant information in these reports.	Partners to provide relevant information.	

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VOLUNTARY SECTOR COMMITTEE – 3RD DECEMBER 2014

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY PLANNING QUARTERLY BRIEFING OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2014

REPORT BY: ACTING DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Committee Members for information the Community Strategy Quarterly Briefing October to December 2014.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The briefing reports the activities of delivering the outcome areas of **Caerphilly Delivers** the Single Integrated Plan for community planning between October to December 2014.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 The Community Strategy is the pre-eminent partnership document for the county borough, which sets out a 15-year plan for improving quality of life for local people and communities. **Caerphilly Delivers** is the Single Integrated plan for delivery the Community Strategy, which came into being on 1st April 2013. The Single Integrated Plan focuses on five outcome areas: Prosperous Caerphilly, Safer Caerphilly, Healthier Caerphilly, Learning Caerphilly and Greener Caerphilly. A wide range of public, private, voluntary and community organisations are engaged in the community planning process.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 Appendix 1 contains the Community Planning Briefing for October to December 2014. 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 delivering on the Community Strategy and implementing the Single Integrated Plan *Caerphilly Delivers*.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Promoting equalities is a fundamental part of community planning, and is an integral part of **Caerphilly Delivers** the Single Integrated Plan for delivering the Community Strategy.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The Council is a major contributor in both financial and human resources to the community planning process.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 None arising.

8. CONSULTATIONS

8.1 The report is for information and not consultation.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 The report is for information only.

10. STATUTORY POWER

10.1 Local Government Act 2000.

Author: Jackie Dix (Policy & Research Manager, CCBC)

Consultees: The information provided in the briefing is supplied by officers for the *Caerphilly Delivers* outcome areas.

Appendices:

Appendix 1 Community Strategy Quarterly Briefing October to December 2014



Appendix 1 Community Planning Quarterly Briefing October to December 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)
communityplanning@caerphilly.gov.uk

Local Service Caerphilly Delivers Standing Conference 30th January 2015

This is the 30th Standing Conference, and will be focusing on tackling poverty in the Caerphilly borough, following up on the previous Standing Conference, which introduced this subject. The event will take place at the Dance Centre, Ystrad Mynach between 9.30am and 12.30pm. To register you please contact Alison Palmer, Community Planning Co-ordinator on telephone: 01443 864409 or email: alison.palmer@gavowales.org.uk

The report of the previous Standing Conference held on poverty in June 2014 is now available on the Local Service Board Community Planning website – <http://your.caerphilly.gov.uk/communityplanning/content/standing-conference>

Caerphilly Local Service Board - met on 19th November 2014 at the Hafod Deg Building in Rhymney, which is a new multi agency resource centre hosting Communities First, Jobcentre Plus, and other community services. The Local Service Board undertook a site visit to Rowan Place, Rhymney, where a multi-agency regeneration project is underway.

The Caerphilly Local Service Board Annual Report 2013-14 is now available from Alison Palmer (see contact details above).

Further information on Caerphilly Local Service Board is available at the website - <http://your.caerphilly.gov.uk/communityplanning/content/welcome>

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 Page 41

One Beat Voluntary Sector Awareness Event 25th October 2014 – this annual partnership event between Caerphilly County Borough Council and Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations showcases the work of the voluntary sector in the Caerphilly borough. This year 70 local voluntary sector organisations displayed their work. Bob Cooke, Chair of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee, was Master of Ceremonies for the day, with Cllr. David Carter, Mayor of Caerphilly County Borough Council warmly welcoming the organisations attending. The guest speaker was David Roberts CBE, Welsh Paralympic Swimmer and representative of Caerphilly County Swim Squad, who delighted the audience in showing just a sample of the eleven gold medals he has won. Other speakers were: Cllr. Keith Reynolds, Leader of Caerphilly County Borough Council, Martin Featherstone, Chief Executive Officer, Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations and Alison Palmer, Community Planning Co-ordinator.

Welsh Government Local Service Board Support meeting 4th November 2014

The Welsh Government pulls together Local Service Board support staff to share latest policy developments and good practice in the workings of the respective Local Services Boards. The latest meeting focused on the Well-being of Future Generations Bill. The meeting was addressed by Peter Davies, Sustainable Development Commissioner. The Commissioner said the Bill is all about putting sustainable development at the centre of what the Public Sector does. The challenge is around the Public Sector taking ownership of the eight national goals: A Sustainable Wales; A Prosperous Wales; A Resilient Wales; A Healthier Wales; A More Equal Wales; A More Equal Wales; A Wales of Cohesive Communities; A Wales of Vibrant Culture and thriving Welsh Language - and for a common language, purpose and vision of well-being to be developed across the Public Service.

Under these national goals it was noted there would be indicators forming a national score card for Wales in measuring progress towards obtaining these long-term goals. This will be done through revisiting the current indicators on sustainable development, along with further wider work around developing well being indicators. The USA model of *Genuine Measures* is being looked at. This work will align with the United Nations setting global sustainability goals in 2015.

It is the intention of the Bill for Local Service Boards to take the lead in becoming *Public Service Boards* in planning for these intergenerational challenges. Local well-being plans will be about shaping the local place and gaining local ownership. Collaboration is seen as the way forward in meeting these future challenges particularly in tackling poverty and ill health. The Bill is about integration at both a Welsh Government and local Public Service level in delivering the eight national wellbeing goals. The Wales Audit Office will have a key role in ensuring this is embedded into the way the Public Sector does its business planning.

This work is being informed through a national conversation. The present conversation will conclude in March 2015 with a report on future generations being published by the Commissioner. There will be a requirement for the

Commissioner to publish this report every five years before an election, with the focus for the next five years to be then on improving. The Commissioner emphasised the importance of organisations registering to the National Conversation website *The Wales We Want* - <http://thewaleswewant.co.uk/>

Tim Peppin, Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) discussed the WLGA *Early Adopters of the Well-being of Future Generations Bill* initiative. He described the Bill as providing the potential for a good framework for the Public Sector to work together. He saw the process as central in continuing to provide public services post local government reorganisation, such as in prioritising public service provision. Eleven local authorities, including Caerphilly County Borough Council, together with the 3 National Parks have signed up to be early adopters.

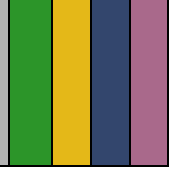
The WLGA is working with consultants in developing a diagnostic tool of what organisations need to have in place to prepare for meeting the requirements of the Bill. Ten building blocks have been developed. This tool has captured good practice from the early adopters, which will be used to develop the guidance. To date over 100 examples of good proactive has been generated. These examples will be placed on the WLGA website. It is noted that the diagnostic tool is a means much to an end in getting organisations prepared for the Bill. The WLGA is developing a critical path with each of the early adopters.

The need to develop strong leadership is coming out as particularly important in this early work. Other findings so far have stressed the importance of organisations working collaboratively in delivering the eight national goals, and holding Full Council debates on developing long-term strategies. The WLGA is currently considering undertaking sessions with local authority auditors on how to internally audit the provisions of the Bill are being met.

The link below is to the National Assembly for Wales (October 2014) **Bill Summary The Well-being of future Generations (Wales) Bill** -

[http://www.assemblywales.org/Research%20Documents/14-40%20The%20Financial%20Education%20and%20Inclusion%20\(Wales\)%20Bill%20-%20Bill%20Summary/14-043edit.pdf](http://www.assemblywales.org/Research%20Documents/14-40%20The%20Financial%20Education%20and%20Inclusion%20(Wales)%20Bill%20-%20Bill%20Summary/14-043edit.pdf)

For further information on Caerphilly County Borough Council signing up to the Early Adopters process contact Paul Cooke (Team Leader, Sustainable Development & Living Environment) Email: cookepa@caerphilly.gov.uk
Telephone: 01495 235183.



Priority 1 Improve local employment opportunities including access to opportunities across a wider geographical area

- Phase 1 build on the Bargoed Retail Plateau is now completed and one of the unit shops has been let. One more is at signing lease stage and two units are under offer.
- Additional ERDF (European) money has been secured for further improvements to both Bargoed and Newbridge. A number of projects for each town are now at either detailed design stage or are out to tender. Works on all schemes will be completed by the summer of 2015.
- The industrial estate occupancy rate remains encouragingly high (on target), but there is an ongoing challenge to increase the occupancy of office premises.
- The number of visitors and tourists to the parks, countryside, destinations and venues is 24% above target, primarily due to new events, facilities and offers at the venues.
- Despite the Council's decision not to support the Tour of Britain and the Proms in the Park, a number of highly successful events were held in the County Borough over the summer period. The Blackwood Summer Festival and Big Cheese were notable successes which were well received by both businesses and visitors.
- An extension to the Local Investment Fund was approved by Welsh Government in July. This has enabled the continued financial support to local businesses. The number of jobs created was 20% above target in Quarter 2. The Commercial Improvement Grant budget is now fully committed for this financial year.
- The Passport Programme team had to use all the allocated Jobs Growth Wales placements by the end of September 2014 so all trainees are completed by the end of March 2015. The team filled 247 of the 250 placements. There is a potential opportunity to gain a few more placements through the Workbased Learning Provider. 673 young people have been referred into the programme since it began. In this financial year the team have delivered 84 placements (target 150), created 12 apprenticeship opportunities (target 25) and created 38 employment opportunities (target 40). The percentage of positive outcomes from the programme is 78%.
- The CCBC Town Centre Management Team has:
 - Launched the *Choose the High Street* campaign to encourage people to use the town centres and businesses to locate in them
 - Produced a Guide, which sets out the process by which someone can start a pop up shop on the high street

- Introduced *Choose the High Street @ Christmas*, the second phase of the wider campaign and uses a Voucher Booklet to drive retail sales over the festive period. All retailers in the five town centres will be given the chance to participate by submitting an offer.

Priority 2 Improve standards of housing and communities giving appropriate access to services across the County Borough

- In response to the welfare reform agenda and the need to increase the supply of smaller properties, the Welsh Government funding for the Smaller Properties Programme will deliver 28 units of 1 and 2 bed accommodation at Tyn y Wern Terrace and Cefn Fforest. A further £20m funding has been allocated by the Welsh Government and a bid will be submitted as soon as the guidance is issued.
- The Energy Compliance Obligation bid is being prepared in anticipation of an imminent tender invite. This will mainly attract funding for Welsh Housing Quality Standards works. A separate bid is being prepared for private residents in Senghenydd.
- The in-house assessment of the housing market has been completed, with a report to be submitted to Scrutiny committee during Quarter 4.
- The Arbed 2 programme has now been completed in Fochriw. It is 98% complete in Hollybush where Arbed installed a gas main and provided new central heating systems to residents. Recently, the Arbed scheme for Phillipstown was provisionally approved, although the project size has been reduced due to budget constraints.
- Three schemes to deliver 60 new homes are being funded by the Housing Finance Grant (HFG) programme. All are currently on site and are due for completion by October 2015. The Bridge Street development has commenced and the scheme is due for completion in October 2015. There is a further HFG2 programme of around £250m and the Welsh Government will issue guidance on this programme over the forthcoming months.
- Awareness raising on affordable warmth is progressing with advice passed to residents on request. Green Deal / ECO are currently going through a number of changes in the way they are being delivered. Government recently carried out a consultation on proposed changes.
- In relation to the activity to improve the use of housing stock, a draft common allocation policy has been produced and an internal consultation exercise was undertaken with partners. An external consultation exercise is to be undertaken in Q3. An assessment of the ICT requirements of the common housing register has been completed. This showed the requirement to procure a new IT system to manage the register. The procurement exercise is expected to commence in Q3.
- There is a requirement for all new affordable housing developments to complete the Value Wales Toolkit and this is evaluated by the Welsh Government.
- Through the Passport scheme, Seren have recently placed a number of trainees on affordable housing developments. United Welsh Housing

Association have a dedicated community investment team and this team works in partnership with Caerphilly County Borough Council to maximise the opportunities for local business and the creation of new jobs.

- In an effort to increase the capacity of affordable homes in the private sector, the Council will develop an In House Social Lettings Agency, following a Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee recommendation to Cabinet on 1st October 2014. In addition, regular meetings are held with local authority partners, with Property Services working to identify strategic development opportunities. The Leased Model is currently in the final stages of development and could deliver approximately 250 units over two sites.
- In terms of Welsh Housing Quality Standard activity, a social enterprise development pilot initiative is about to be launched with Gofal to provide a gardening service to residents in Lansbury Park and Panside.

Priority 3 Provide support to enable local people to compete for all employment opportunities

Transport highlights include:

- In accordance with Welsh Government guidance, local authorities are preparing Local Transport Plans (LTP's) to replace the current Regional Transport Plans (RTP's) in April 2015. This will set out the Council's transport strategy and priorities for the next 5 years. Consultation on the draft LTP will be undertaken in October/ November.
- Welsh Government recently issued an update report on the Metro proposals and the ES&T Minister announced her preferred option for the new M4 proposal. It remains to be seen how and when these will be taken forward and what role there might be for local authorities.

Employment support (primarily via Communities First) highlights:

Building Resilient Communities – Taking Forward The Tackling Poverty Action Plan, published in July 2013, set 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 calendar year. Caerphilly Basin has been chosen as one of 8 cluster areas to employ two *LIFT* Family Employment Mentors to help people from workless households into training or employment opportunities. People living in households where no one has worked for more than 6 months and are not on the work programme should get in touch to see how they can benefit. The programme is only eligible for people living in the following areas: Senghenydd, Abertridwr, Trecenydd, Penyrheol, Churchill Park, Lansbury Park, Porset Park, Mornington Meadows, Trethomas and Graig Yr Rhacca.

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. The youth employment officers have supported 35 young people back into work since April, 58 have gained a JGW placement and 53 have completed an employment related qualification. To find out more, contact Greg or Lindsey on telephone: 01443 864139.

Communities First have developed a number of*That Works* programmes to provide individuals with the skills and training needed for a career in a specific sector of work. Routes into catering, outdoor skills and call centres have been delivered. 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. Since April, 30 people have gained employment and 132 have gained relevant qualifications to help secure work.

Basic IT courses have been run in Partnership with Get Caerphilly Online to support people to increase computer literacy levels and improve employment prospects. Get Caerphilly Online have also developed an effective partnership with Libraries to run Digital Fridays, a drop in session for any IT related query, in libraries across the borough weekly.

Caerphilly and Blaenau Gwent Citizen Advice Bureau provide outreach advice surgeries for residents to drop in to gain information on a number of social welfare topics including managing debt, housing, employment and accessing benefits.

Outreach Venues and Opening Times		
Venue	Day	Time
Community first Cefn Fforest Community Centre	Mondays	9.00 – 11.30
Community first office Lansbury Park	Wednesday afternoons	1:30-4pm
Community First Trecenydd Community Centre	Mondays closed until the 2 nd June	9:30-11:30
Community First Cefn Hengoed Youth Centre	Wednesdays	9.15 – 11.30
Graig y Rhacca Resource Centre	Suspended at present	
Bedwas Council Chambers	Alternate Wednesday from 29/1/2014	9:30-12.00
Newbridge Tabernacle Church	Thursdays	9.30 - 12.00
Senghenydd Community Centre	Thursdays	9:30-12.00

Rhymney Day Centre	Fridays (except last Fri of Month)	9:30 -12:00
Customer first Pontlottyn Customer first Office	Last Friday in Month	9:30-11.00
Rhymney Valley Food bank St Dingat's Church, Church Terrace	Thursdays	10:30-12:30

Green Doctors focuses on engaging with community members who are in fuel poverty or at risk of fuel poverty, and are struggling with balancing their household debt. Through workshops and home visits community members will be given specialist impartial advice on energy saving measures and review the community's current energy providers. The key purpose of this project is to increase participants' confidence in managing their fuel bills, reducing their level of household fuel poverty and subsequently contributing to reduced household debt and improved mental health.

Healthier Caerphilly (Lianne Dallimore)

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

Healthier Communities

The four Communities First Health and Well Being Officers have been trained to deliver the *X-pert Health Prevention of Diabetes Programme (X-POD)* and are now trained educators. The Programme is an evidence-based, quality-assured intensive lifestyle-change programme that fully meets National Institute Clinical Excellence (NICE) guidance. It involves the delivery of person-centered, empowering lifestyle education, initially over six consecutive weekly sessions, with follow up at three to six months, 12 months and thereafter every year by trained educators.

The course is aimed at those who are considered at risk of developing Type 2 diabetes if they fail to make significant lifestyle changes, and until recently was not being delivered in South Wales. The courses will begin to be rolled out across the Caerphilly borough in the New Year. Meetings are firstly being held with local Dieticians and Diabetes UK to discuss how to encourage referrals and clarify specifics around delivery.

Bouncing Back from Cancer

These are weekly exercise sessions led by the National Exercise Referral Scheme team with individuals who are recovering from cancer and deemed well enough to exercise. Classes are currently held in the Bargoed area, but open to all borough residents.

Foodwise

This eight-week weight management programme is delivered in various locations across the borough. Sessions last for one hour and the programme helps people who are overweight to gain knowledge on portion sizes, dealing with hunger and craving, understanding food labels, moving more and swapping certain food. Individuals attending Foodwise are then offered practical cookery sessions to improve their confidence with cooking from scratch and to show how fun and easy healthy eating can be. To find out more, please contact Rachel on telephone: 07776194001.

Healthy Hearts

This 6-week British Heart Foundation course is designed to help individuals reduce the risk of heart disease through looking at their lifestyle and how small changes to their diet and physical activity levels can make a world of difference. Sessions last 1-2 hours and are run in community venues.

An Exercise Referral class (funded by Communities First) continues to run in Bargoed (pilot area) to offer a level four led session to those recovering or recovered from cancer. Patients can be referred in via Macmillan, Velindre or their Healthcare Professional.

Streetgames sites run in the following locations:-

- Markham (run by Soul Fitness twice a week)
- Wattsville (Tuesday evenings)
- Cwmfelinfach (Wednesday evenings)
- Trinant (Us Girls session)
- Gelligaer
- Cefn Hengoed
- Lansbury
- Trecenydd
- Senghenydd
- Aberbargoed
- Bedwas
- St Cenydd
- Pontlottyn
- Rhymney

Physical Activity sessions take place in the following areas:-

Dance Class - White Rose - New Tredegar (Mondays)

Boxing Club - Rhymney Leisure Centre/Comp (Tuesdays & Thursdays)

Women only aqua Swim - Heolddu Leisure Centre - Bargoed (Tuesdays)

Parent & Toddler Swim - Cefn Forest Leisure Centre (Wednesdays)

Disability Horse riding - Haylemma Riding School - Rhymney (Wednesdays)

Low Level Exercise Class - White Rose - New Tredegar (Thursdays)

Sport and Leisure Services

- Tots Play, a new physical literacy initiative, has been launched at a number of leisure centres. These activity sessions are aimed to provide 3-6 year olds with the skills, confidence and competence to encourage physical activity to be a habit for life.
- Caerphilly Adventures have recently launched a promotional campaign to encourage greater use of the outdoors. A wider range of activities are available for adults who want to broaden their horizons, learn new skills, experience a new hobby all with qualified accredited instructors. Activities range from hill walking, mountain biking, kayaking, climbing and rafting all in our wonderful natural environment. Sport Development are also working collaboratively with Caerphilly Adventures to provide the students selected as part of the *Coach of the Future* scheme to also benefit from gaining the highly recognised Duke of Edinburgh Awards.
- In an effort to encourage more female participation and address the gender gap in provision, a number of new programmes have been introduced exclusively for Women & Girls. A new scheme called *LOL* (Love Our Lives) is an example of an initiative particularly targeting the drop off in levels of participation amongst teenage girls.

Learning Caerphilly (Lynne Bosanko Williams)

familiesfirst@caerphilly.gov.uk

GCSE and school successes

Provisional data from the Welsh Government has shown that schools in the Caerphilly borough are making positive improvements both in schools and regarding GCSE results. At Foundation Phase, when children are in their final year of Infants, all the indicators are above the Welsh average.

When pupils leave Primary school they are expected to gain a Level 4, with the following achievements in the borough:

- 88% in English
- 89.9% in Welsh
- 89% in Maths
- 90.4% in Science

At Key Stage 3, before pupils begin their GCSEs, they are expected to gain a Level 5. This year 82.2% achieved this in English, 89.5% in Welsh, 83.9% in Maths and 88.8% in Science.

Additionally, there has been good progress in the GCSE results. Pupils achieving 5 GCSE's at A* to G Grade and pupils achieving 5 GCSE's at A* to C Grade has improved.

Supporting Family Change Launch

October saw the launch of a Families First project, *Supporting Family Change*. It incorporates the Team Around the Family (TAF) model and delivers support to families with a range of needs, to make sure they are supported as early as possible and in the most appropriate, holistic way.

Supporting Family Change is crucial to the Families First Programme which complements the other Key National Programmes – Communities First and Flying Start. The project is designed to improve outcomes for children, young people and families with a focus on prevention and early intervention, particularly for those living in poverty.

When a family has more than one need and requires multi-agency support, *Supporting Family Change* will co-ordinate the support provided and ensure that it is tailored to the family. Furthermore, they will make certain that the right support is given at the right time, and that the family is at the centre of the decision making process.

The project is now welcoming referrals. For additional information contact:
sfc@caerphilly.gov.uk

Interact

This is the regular and popular Children and Young People Partnership engagement and participation event aimed at all organisations who work with children, young people and families in the Caerphilly borough.

The most recent Interact was held on 21st November and was attended by around 60 practitioners from projects across all sectors. The event saw the launch of *Supporting Family Change* (see above section) to raise awareness of the project throughout the Caerphilly borough.

The event also focused on mental health and the effect it has on young people. The Aneurin Bevan University Health Board presented on Infant Mental Health and Action for Children and spoke of the work they do regarding Young People and Mental Health. The group discussions which followed were thought provoking and raised awareness for all.

Interact continues to be positively regarded for its Learning Set approach and the opportunities to network with a diverse range of practitioners and agencies from different sectors.

Further details can be obtained from the Families First team email:
familiesfirst@caerphilly.gov.uk.

Petra the Penguin

Members of The Parent Network in Park Primary, Bargoed, have written their own storybook called *Petra the Penguin*. Various funders have supported the group including Flying Start, Communities First, Families First, Caerphilly Arts

Development and Literature Wales. Parents and carers reported that they have thoroughly enjoyed the experience of writing and producing a storybook, which they are proud to share and read to their children and grandchildren. The project has improved the literacy and communication skills of some of the parents and helped to raise their aspirations.

The next phase will train the parents to become volunteer storytellers so they will be able to work in partnership with communities, schools and libraries, to read their book to other families. The community story writing will be a continuing programme with a series of books in both Welsh and English. A second book called *The Gorilla and The Mouse* is currently in the process of being written.

Confident with Cash

As a result of the new, Families First *Confident with Cash* project, many people in the Caerphilly borough are receiving specialised support regarding debt management and financial budgeting. The project provides a proactive and preventative programme to assist families with short-term crisis situations and develop their financial knowledge.

Since the project began in July, it has worked with 43 families to help them clear £3385 worth of debt, and has also been able to identify benefits for those in crisis who were unaware of their eligibility. In particular, the Warm Home Discount will be of great use in the winter months. Additionally, *Confident with Cash* has been working in partnership with organisations such as Llamau, to reach the most vulnerable families.

For further information regarding *Confident with Cash* email Jan Channing:
channingj@caerphillycab.org.uk

For more information on the Families First Programme and the projects which have been commissioned to deliver services for children, young people and families, please visit the Families First website -
www.caerphilly.gov.uk/FamiliesFirst

Safer Caerphilly (Kathryn Peters & Natalie Kenny)

saferrccbc@caerphilly.gov.uk

Anti Social Behaviour Victim Services Manager - 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. During the second quarter (July 2014 – September 2014) a total of 77 referrals have been received and contacted. The Victim Service Manager has supported over 1000 victims and witnesses of anti-social behaviour since she has been in post from 2010. The Victim Services Manager (Lana Harrison) can be contacted on 01495 235441 or e-mail:
harril5@caerphilly.gov.uk

After Dark Initiative - has been developed to address nighttime economy (NTE) 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:-

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

Since the project launched the initiative is continuing with Townsafe operations in Blackwood and Caerphilly town centres. Engagement with partners working in the NTE is ongoing for example; Street Pastors, Community Safety Wardens and Door staff.

New CCTV signs have been purchased for the Blackwood & Caerphilly areas using the Safer Caerphilly After Dark logo informing members of the public that the area is monitored by CCTV.

Further promotional work is planned around the lantern parade and *Bleak Friday* when once again the Safer Caerphilly After Dark Logo will be beamed on to the side of Caerphilly Castle promoting the scheme.

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 229 individuals from groups such as Neighbourhood Watch, Crime Prevention Panels, Community Groups and Partnerships, Street Pastors and Tenants and Residents Associations.

At the last meeting in September 2014 Rebecca Haycock, Domestic Abuse Coordinator attended to give an overview of her role and speak about domestic abuse and the upcoming White Ribbon Day. Community Safety Warden Supervisor, Paul Wallen, spoke to members about the *Ten Years of Community Safety Wardens* events being held throughout the month of September. Finally Kathryn Peters, Community Safety Manager, provided a presentation regarding the changes to anti-social behaviour legislation.

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 Community Safety office on 01495 235350.

White Ribbon Day - is The United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and falls on the 25th November every year. The White Ribbon Campaign aims to prevent Violence Against Women and Girls and promote respectful relationships. Caerphilly County Borough Council was successful in obtaining White Ribbon Status in July 2014. The White Ribbon

Campaign Town Award is for Councils demonstrating their commitment to the aims of the White Ribbon Campaign:

- In particular involving men and boys in prevention activities. By mobilising men the anti-violence message increases in effectiveness and reach.
- Addressing and altering social norms that led to violent behaviour against women.
- Increasing awareness on the issue and providing services aimed at reducing the incidence of domestic violence.
- Mobilise the entire community under the goal of ending violence against women and girls.

An action plan has been submitted outlining all the work being carried out in the borough around domestic abuse as well as further work to be achieved; working groups have been established. Much of the work is around; awareness raising and engagement, recruiting male ambassadors (including youth), training, workplace policies and increased access to services. The following 16 days of activity were carried out up to 25th November:

- Awarding the glass plaque at meeting of Full Council
- Awareness raising within schools
- Presentations to community groups
- *Walk a Mile in Her Shoes* Event
- Domestic Abuse Services stands at Council buildings
- Re-Launch of Caerphilly Multi-Agency Centre
- Beaming a White Ribbon onto Caerphilly Castle up to and including 25th November

In addition there is a planned poster campaign for Spring 2015 as well as a Regional Award Event planned for the 5 Gwent Authorities in February 2015.

For more information please contact the Community Safety Team on: 01495 235350.

10 Years of Community Safety Wardens - the Council's team of Community Safety Wardens celebrated their tenth anniversary in September. The service was launched in 2004 to provide a uniformed presence in Caerphilly county borough communities, and to reduce levels of crime, anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime. Over the last ten years the team of ten Community Safety Wardens have:

- Carried out 23,364 targeted patrols to address anti-social behaviour and environmental concerns.
- Spent 69,764 hours on high visibility patrol, helping to reassure residents.
- Given 8,790 words of advice to people committing minor offences.
- Attended 1,056 Partners and Communities Together (PACT) meetings.
- Attended and helped enforce road closures at 72 Remembrance Day services and parades.

- Confiscated 4,722 items of alcohol from under-age drinkers and those drinking in areas covered by a Designated Public Place Order (DPPO).

For more information on the Community Safety Warden service please visit the Safer Caerphilly website: www.caerphilly.gov.uk/saferccb

50+ Positive Action (Mandy Sprague)

50plus@caerphilly.gov.uk

Dignity, Respect and Age Equality

- **Protection of Vulnerable Adults DVD pilot:** the feedback from those who have seen the DVD's is proving interesting and positive. It clearly shows people are finding the DVD of use.
- In October a **Dignity and Dementia Resources Briefing** was held for residential care home staff and key partners from across the borough to show the 6 new Reminiscence Pods. The POD's will be rotated around care homes on loan for 6 weeks slots and can be booked by emailing Social Services at: kedwacm@caerphilly.gov.uk Social Services also purchased a range of books called *Pictures to Share* which are specifically designed to assist communication with those living with dementia these books are available on loan via libraries in the borough.

Information and Empowerment

- The twitter account [@50plus_AgeWell](https://twitter.com/@50plus_AgeWell) goes from strength to strength. It now has 118 followers. Tweets about benefits advice reached 45,000 within 45 minutes of tweeting - such is the power of Twitter!
- The new Caerphilly County Borough Council website has been launched with people are saying how much easier it is to find information. Have a look at: www.caerphilly.gov.uk
- Work is taking place with the Caerphilly County Borough 50+ Forum to redesign their WWW.CaerphillyOver50.co.uk website to meet the changing information needs of the Forum. The Forum will be holding their AGM in conjunction with a consultation on the Caerphilly Council Borough Council budget proposals on the 14th January 2015.
- Following the launch of the National Ageing Well in Wales programme key staff have attended a conference looking at good practice from across Wales with a view to considering how to develop this work across the borough. The first key Ageing Well in Wales project will bring the Council's Communities First team and the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board together to look at how to help make Rhymney a Dementia friendly community.

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

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