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**Date: 10th June 2015**

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, 17th June, 2015** at **10.30 am** to consider the matters contained in the following agenda. **The meeting will be concluded by 12.15 p.m.**

## PLEASE NOTE

Arrangements have been made for a **pre-meeting including annual committee refresher training of the County Borough Members only, at 9.30 a.m. in Core Meeting Room 1.3, and all Voluntary Sector Representatives at 10.00 a.m. in the Sirhowy Room.** 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 Room.**

Yours faithfully,

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

**Chris Burns**  
INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

## AGENDA

- |   | Pages   |  |
|---|---|--|
| 1 | To receive apologies for absence.   |  |
| 2 | To appoint a Chair and Vice-Chair for the ensuing year.   |  |
| 3 | Declarations of interest.<br>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 |  |

A greener place Man gwyrddach



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: -

- |    |  |         |
|----|--|---------|
| 4  | Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee Minutes - 18th March 2015 (allow up to 10.35 a.m.).   | 1 - 6   |
| 5  | Launch of Compact Action Plan Annual Report 2014-15 and Grant Schemes Booklet 2015-16 - Cllr Keith Reynolds, Leader of the Council (10.35 a.m. to 11.00 a.m.).   |         |
| 6  | Introducing the Caerphilly Youth Forum and work around Domestic Abuse - Caerphilly Youth Forum Representative (11.00 a.m. to 11.10 a.m.).  |         |
| 7  | Compact Presentation and Q&A: Update on Neighbourhood Care Networks (NCNs) - Sam Crane, Aneurin Bevan Health Board (11.10 a.m. to 11.20 a.m.).   |         |
| 8  | Voluntary Sector Representatives question on how the Voluntary Sector can go about offering third sector solutions to support service delivery with the new Leisure Strategy, and to assist community centres in keeping community services running. Committee discussion on written answers submitted (11.20 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.). | 7 - 10  |
| 9  | Standing item: Budgets (11.30 a.m. to 11.45 a.m.).   |         |
| 10 | Open Discussion: What's happening in the Caerphilly borough - an opportunity for all Compact Partners to raise key issues (11.45 a.m. to 12 noon).   |         |
| 11 | Items of interest concerning the Voluntary Sector from Compact Partners (note only one question permitted on each report) (allow up to 12.15 p.m.):  | 11 - 24 |
|    | a) Aneurin Bevan University Health Board;  |         |
|    | b) GAVO;   |         |
|    | c) Digest of Caerphilly County Borough Council Committee Reports.  |         |

To receive and note the following information items: -

- |    |  |         |
|----|--|---------|
| 12 | Community Planning Quarterly Briefing - April to June 2015.                                  | 25 - 46 |
| 13 | Date of next meeting: 16th September 2015 at 10.30 a.m. in the Sirhowy Room, Penallta House. |         |

**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, G. Johnston, A. Lewis, D.W.R. Preece, J.A. Pritchard and R. Woodyatt,

**Representatives of the Voluntary Sector:**

Mr P. Jones, Abbeyfield (Caerphilly) Society Limited  
Mr L. Clay, Abertridwr Community Church  
Mrs S. Brown, Age Concern  
Ms J. Price, Bargoed YMCA  
Mr D. Morgan, Caerphilly 50+ Forum  
Ms P. Jones, Caerphilly Care & Repair  
Mr R.H. Cooke, Caerphilly Groundwork Trust  
Ms J. Lawton, Caerphilly MIND  
Mrs B. Helps, Caerphilly Parents and Carers Forum  
Mr C. Luke, Caerphilly People First  
Mr A. Read, Cancercareline  
Mrs C. Williams, Cruse Bereavement Care  
Mrs H. Williams, Disability CANDO Organisation  
Mr M. Featherstone, GAVO  
Mr G. Mitchell, Graig-Y-Rhacca Communities Partnership  
Ms G. Jervis, Home Start Caerphilly Borough  
Ms J. Morgan, New CLURV  
Mr M. Bridgman, SYDIC  
Ms M. Jones, The Parent Network  
Mr K. Viney, The Settlement  
Mr J. Wade, Van Road United Reformed Church  
Mrs M. Wade, Vanguard Caerphilly  
Mr D. Brunton, VOLUME

**Aneurin Bevan Health Board:**

Mrs B. Bolt and Ms S. Crane

**Gwent Police:**

Superintendent M. Budden, Inspector P. Morris and Sargent A. O'Keefe

**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 18TH MARCH 2015 AT 10.30 A.M.

PRESENT:

Mr. R. Cooke – Chair

Councillors:

Mrs. P. Cook, R. W. Gough, Mrs. P Griffiths, C. Hawker, K. James, A. Lewis, J.A. Pritchard, R. Woodyatt

Together with:

Abbeyfield	-	Mr. P. Jones
Abertridwr Community Church	-	Mr. L. Clay
Age Cymru	-	Ms. S. Brown
Bargoed YMCA	-	Ms. J. Price
Caerphilly 50+ Forum	-	Mr. D. Morgan
Caerphilly Groundwork Trust	-	Mr. R. H. Cooke
Caerphilly Parents & Carers Forum	-	Mrs. B. Helps
Caerphilly People First	-	Mr. C. Luke
Cancercareline	-	Mr. A. Read
Cruse Bereavement Care	-	Mrs. C. Williams
GAVO – Assistant Chief Executive	-	Mrs. E. Forbes
New CLURV	-	Mrs. J. Morgan
SYDIC	-	Mr. M. Bridgman
The Parent Network	-	Ms. M. Jones
The Vanguard Centre	-	Mrs. M. Wade

Also present:

J. Dix (CCBC Policy & Research Manager), J. Elliott (CCBC Senior Research Officer), A. Palmer (CCBC/GAVO), M. Williams (South Wales Fire & Rescue Service), S. Crane (ABUHB), H. Llewellyn (Town & Community Council Representative)

#### 1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Ms. L. Ackerman, Mrs. E. M. Aldworth, J. Bevan, P. J. Bevan, D. G. Carter, A. Rees, Mrs. J. Summers.

Also from, Ms. P. Jones (Caerphilly Care & Repair), Ms. J. Lawton (Caerphilly MIND), Mrs. H. Williams (Disability CAN DO Organisation), Mr. M. Featherstone (GAVO Chief Executive) Mr. G. Mitchell (Graig-Y-Rhacca Communities Partnership), Ms. M. Snowden (Homestart Caerphilly Borough), Mr. K. Viney (The Settlement), Mr. J. Wade (Van Road United Reformed Church), Mr. D. Brunton (VOLUME), Sgt. A. O’Keefe (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).

## 2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None declared.

## 3. MINUTES

Item 4.3 regarding the costs of transport to day services for people with learning disabilities, and the mention of a meeting to be held in February 2015, with Caerphilly People First, The Parent Network and CCBC Social Services, to discuss possible savings on further transport options. It was noted that this meeting has yet to be convened, but that it was possible that the meeting would occur in April 2015.

The accuracy of the minutes of 3rd December 2014 was agreed.

## 4. VOLUNTARY SECTOR REPRESENTATIVES QUESTIONS – CHRIS BURNS, INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE CCBC

- a) Could CCBC highlight some specific services which require third sector support?
- b) What is CCBC's policy on asset transfer, particularly in relation to library and community services and the role the third sector can play?

Chris Burns noted that since he last spoke to the committee in December 2014 that CCBC Full Council in February 2015 approved the budget, which provided £12.3 million savings. £7 million were made from administrative and back office functions, and £1 million from highways maintenance savings.

The Council is aware that there will be tough times ahead in budgeting not just for 2015-16, but for 2016-17 and 2017-18. The final budget settlement from the Welsh Government to Local Government for 2016-17 will not be known until December 2015. It is estimated that savings for CCBC will need to be in a region of £14 million for 2016-17, and £12 million in 2017-18. The Council will need to shrink by 20% over the next two years.

Discussions with Departments across all Directorates are continuing, with each service looking at reducing management and administrative costs, while protecting frontline services as far as possible. The planned closure of Pontllanfraith House will avoid hitting front line services. Other ways of protecting public services are also being looked at, such as reducing opening hours of libraries. There will be a Members workshop on proposed budget savings options in July 2015, to be followed by a period of public consultation over the autumn.

Mr Burns alerted the committee to the Welsh Government's White Paper for Local Government "Devolution, Democracy and Delivery Reforming Local Government: Power to Local People", which highlights a key role for the third sector around the greater mutualisation of public services, and the role of the third sector in community asset transfer.

Mr Burns noted there is no prescriptive list that can be brought to this meeting, or any future meeting on possible CCBC services to transfer to the third sector. However, he said the Council would welcome and encourage any suggestions for greater co-operative working and taking on services. He noted the Council has transferred assets to the third sector in the past, and is open to further suggestions on asset transfer.

Mr Burns thanked the committee for the opportunity to speak, and informed them that he would welcome the opportunity to come to future meetings to give updates on budgetary issues.

The Chair thanked Chris Burns for his frank presentation on the difficult financial times ahead.

**5. COMPACT PRESENTATION AND QUESTIONS & ANSWERS:- DELIBERATE FIRES AND ARSON RELATED ISSUES – MARK WILLIAMS (STATION MANAGER, FIRE CRIME UNIT, SOUTH WALES FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE)**

Mark Williams stated that the deliberate setting of fires is a crime. From the PowerPoint presentation slides, the location of each deliberate fire was highlighted for the Caerphilly County Borough Area. These fall into two categories:- Vehicle Fires of which there were 27 in the CCBC area over the last six months. There were also 127 deliberate grass or refuse fires for the same period. These statistics do not show that the CCBC area is any worse or any better than other local authorities in South Wales.

Analysis shows that most car fires are deliberate, and are carried out for a number of reasons. In some cases vehicle crime is related to the stealing of the vehicle keys, and the vehicles, from burglaries of homes or businesses. Others relate to breaking into cars and driving away. These thefts generally can be categorised as being for:- 'Joy Riding', intent to commit crime at other premises, other unlawful purposes e.g. petrol station drive-offs, selling of stolen goods, drug dealing related, or insurance fraud. Typically the cars are burnt out to destroy evidence.

In an attempt to reduce these thefts and fires, the Fire Service is working in partnership with Gwent Police, and much work is being done with the help of Youth Workers in the area. This concentrates on explaining to young people about the dangers involved with the stealing and burning of vehicles. Some work is also being undertaken with Natural Resources Wales (Formerly the Forestry Commission) to ensure vehicular access is made very difficult for some remote forestry tracks. This reduces the possibility of car fires in remote forest locations, which could also set fire to grassland and forest areas.

Local Authorities have cuts to their finances which affects some service delivery. With the reduction in some services affecting reduced refuse collection, particularly of rubbish bags and wheeled bins, there has been an increase in the fly tipping of domestic waste. Fly tipping attracts fines to those carrying out the fly tipping, so the perpetrators, in an effort to destroy the evidence, take the waste to a remote site and set fire to the waste. Fly tipping, if not cleared up just attracts even more tipping at some sites. Depending on the amount of accumulated rubbish, deliberately set fires can be quite large. The Fire & Rescue Service has recently dealt with a Housing Association in Cwmbran, where 15 tons of rubbish was removed from a housing estate. Unfortunately there are signs of more accumulation of rubbish on the same site.

The recent dry weather has encouraged some setting of grass fires already, in this Local Authority area. Mark Williams is working with the project called 'Operation Bernie', which has been operating in South Wales for a number of years. It is an initiative running from the 27<sup>th</sup> March to 12<sup>th</sup> April which provides diversionary activities and education for youngsters, on not setting grass fires. Working in conjunction with CCBC, GAVO, Gwent Police, and Youth Groups there are activities at Aberbargoed Fire Station working with children, other youngsters and young people in their 20's, where they are encouraged to dress up as fire fighters and operate equipment etc. It has been recognised that 'Operation Bernie' may need to run for a longer period in future to possibly cover the summer school holidays. If funding becomes available, thoughts have been given to encouraging youngsters to attend soccer tournaments, with notable celebrity soccer players. There is also a big push in the comprehensive schools to better educate pupils on the effect of deliberately setting of grass fires, including not just the costs of extinguishing those fires but the damage it does to wildlife and even farm animals.

Peter Jones (Abbeyfield) asked what equipment the Fire Service uses in remote areas. Mr Williams replied that access to some remote areas can extend up many steep hills and some fire suppression equipment needs to be carried to these often remote sites using a small all terrain vehicle such as the Argocat. The use of helicopters can be effective but is extremely costly and there are difficulties in finding a suitable water source for refilling the

water release device. The Fire Service also operates a 'Wild Fire Team', who will identify overgrown areas, and grass areas regularly targeted by arsonists, sometimes near dwellings. These areas undergo controlled burning. Use is also made of individuals who come under Probation Orders, and working with National Resources Wales, these people assist in cutting fire breaks in undergrowth and in tree plantations.

The Chair thanked Mr Williams for his informative presentation.

**6. VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP SURVEY – JACKIE DIX (CCBC POLICY & RESEARCH MANAGER)**

Jackie Dix introduced this item. She said that although the response to the committee membership survey was disappointing (only 11 of the 46 members of the committee responded) that helpful information was obtained from a variety of Compact Partners to enable improvements to be introduced to the running of the committee meetings. It was agreed that committee meetings would finish before or by 12.15 pm, and that the Chair will be given discretion to extend that time to 12.30 pm if deemed necessary.

Compact Partners were reminded that they should provide written reports in advance to go out with the committee's papers. This is a requirement in the Compact Agreement that all Compact Partners sign up to in becoming a Compact Partner. There have been problems with Compact Partners not submitting these reports, and instead presenting verbally at meetings. Verbal reports tend to take up a lot of the committee's time, and written reports are also easier for committee members to read and understand prior to the meeting. Only one question will be permitted in future on each Compact Partner written report, which are intended as an item of information only.

Following the suggestion of Peter Jones (Abbeyfield) at the December committee meeting budgets will become a standing item on the agenda.

There will be a new slot for open discussion on 'What's happening in the county borough'. This may consider any issues of concern on matters pertaining to the county borough. Consideration will be given to any requirement to hold special committee meetings throughout the year on areas of specific interest e.g. Health etc. Attendance at these meetings could be open to non committee members with an interest in the subject.

**7. OPEN DISCUSSION: WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE COUNTY BOROUGH (AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL COMPACT PARTNERS AND COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES TO RAISE KEY ISSUES)**

A query was raised regarding recent publicity from the WCVA on funding. The reply was that the WCVA was commissioning a Third Sector funding data collection exercise, arising out of research soon to be undertaken by the Wales Audit Office, on Council funding of third-sector services. In the last survey commissioned by the Wales Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA) in 2009-10, it was found that the total funding by way of grants or payments for services to the third sector by local authorities (councils, police and national park authorities) amounted to £171 million. This is the equivalent of around £57 per head of population.

The Data Unit has been commissioned by WCVA to collect data and report on Local Authority funding of the Third Sector in 2013-14. This is essentially a repeat of the previous collections the Data Unit have undertaken on behalf of the WCVA, the last being for 2009-10. All Welsh Local Authorities have recently been sent a fairly complex survey to complete on funding to the Third Sector, which contains guidance information on providing the data, which the Data Unit will aggregate up to compile a whole Wales picture, from individual local authority submissions.



Cyril Luke (Caerphilly People First) asked if a representative could be asked to attend from Caerphilly Youth Forum given the excellent work of the Forum on issues concerning Compact Partners. Jackie Dix to follow up through officers at CCBC.

**8. STANDING ITEM: BUDGETS**

It was felt by the Chair and the Committee that this item had been comprehensively covered following the Interim Chief Executive's verbal report in Agenda Item 4.

**9. ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR COMPACT PARTNERS (ONE QUESTION ONLY FOR EACH REPORT – UP TO 15 MINS)**

**a) Aneurin Bevan University Health Board – Neighbourhood Care Networks (NCN'S)**

A verbal update was given, with following written report circulated following the committee meeting. Sam Crane apologised for not circulating the written report with the committee papers. She said that she would like to give a presentation at the next VSLC meeting in June.

**NCN Annual Reports 2014/15 and Plans for 2015/16**

NCNs are in the process of signing off their annual reports which provide details of how they have progressed their NCN plans this year. Achievements to date in the Caerphilly borough include:

- Improvement in Smoking Cessation services support signposting and referrals
- Improved liaison between Primary Care Mental Health Services and the Third Sector
- Increasing referrals from GPs into the Communities First Foodwise Scheme based in the Rhymney Integrated Health and Social Care Centre

Once signed off by the NCNs in March, the annual reports will be circulated to stakeholders.

Work is also commencing on developing NCN plans for 2015/16.

**Signposting to community services**

NCNs across Gwent are scoping the development of an online directory which will improve signposting to third sector, advice, support and information. This has been raised as a priority by both Third Sector Partners and GPs.

**Primary Care Funding**

NCNs are developing proposals against the new Welsh Government Primary Care funding for NCNs in Wales. The funding focussing on improving the planning of care locally, ensuring access is equitable, improve access and quality of services, and developing a skilled local workforce.

**Rhymney Integrated Health and Social Care Centre (RIHSCC)**

The services provided in Rhymney Integrated Health and Social Care Centre are making a real difference to the communities in the North of Caerphilly County Borough and complements the range of health and social care services currently provided from Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr.

Work is progressing to provide a more integrated way of working between community services and other organisations within the Resource Centre, to anticipate future care needs of patients to promote independence and improve their health and wellbeing.

Integrated Care Funding (ICF) was secured to employ a Band 7 Nurse to help support the RIHSCC Beds. This has had very positive results and it is hoped that funding will continue with the ICF funding proposals that have to be submitted by 26 March.

**Building Stronger Bridges (BSB) Facilitators**

Meetings are being held with BSB Facilitators to work through a new model of service delivery for this programme.

**b) GAVO** – a written report was provided with the committee papers. There were no questions raised on the written report.

**c) Digest of Committee Reports from Caerphilly County Borough Council** – a written report was provided with the committee papers.

Mike Bridgman (SYDIC) raised a question on the surplus in the Grants to the Voluntary Sector budget. Cllr. Rob Gough referred to the fact that indeed there was surplus funding in the Grants to the Voluntary Sector budget but the Panel would welcome more applications as numbers submitted were low. Publicity is given regarding this funding from a number of sources including through the GAVO development officers, the Council's Newslines, information in the Grant Schemes Booklet which is available in hard copy and from the Council's web site. Mr Bridgman said there was a need to increase publicity for Voluntary Sector funding.

**d) Caerphilly Business Forum** – there was no written report submitted.

**e) South Wales Fire & Rescue Service** – presentation as described in agenda item 5.

**f) Police & Crime Commissioner for Gwent** – there was no written report submitted.

**g) Gwent Police** – there was no written report submitted.

**10. COMMUNITY PLANNING QUARTERLY BRIEFING – JANUARY – MARCH 2015**

Item for information only.

**11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

17<sup>th</sup> June 2015 at 10.30am in the Sirhowy Room.

Meeting ended 12.10pm.



## VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE - 17TH JUNE 2015

**SUBJECT: VOLUNTARY SECTOR REPRESENTATIVES QUESTION**

**REPORT BY: ACTING DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES**

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### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To provide a response from Caerphilly County Borough Council (CCBC) to question proposed from Voluntary Sector Representatives sitting on the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee.

### **2. SUMMARY**

- 2.1 The report presents the CCBC response to a question received from the Voluntary Sector Representatives sitting on the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee on how the Voluntary Sector can be proactive and supportive in engaging in dialogue with Heads of Service in relation to budget cuts in offering solutions to support service delivery, particularly in relation to the new Leisure Strategy, and around community centres.

### **3. LINKS TO STRATEGY**

- 3.1 Compact Partners are signed up to the Compact Agreement entitled *Delivering Together 2013-2017 Working with the Voluntary and Community Sector in the County Borough of Caerphilly*. The Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee brings together the Voluntary Sector with the Compact Partners in providing a means of working together recognising the complementary and distinct role the Voluntary Sector plays in meeting the needs of local communities.
- 3.2 The Compact Agreement is delivered and monitored through an annual Compact Action Plan, which provides a detailed programme of work for shared activities. The Compact Agreement and Compact Action Plan align with the five outcome priorities of *Caerphilly Delivers the Single Integrated Plan 2013-2017*, which are: Prosperous Caerphilly, Safer Caerphilly, Learning Caerphilly, Healthier Caerphilly and Greener Caerphilly.

### **4. THE REPORT**

- 4.1 The Voluntary Sector Representatives note that at previous meetings of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee there were two positive Voluntary Sector offers to work with CCBC around Learning Disability Day Services and Care Homes regarding service delivery. The clear commitment is noted from the Interim Chief Executive for open dialogue to look at joint solutions to budget cuts and the Voluntary Sector is keen to be proactive and supportive and engage in dialogue with the relevant Head of Service.

4.2 The Voluntary Sector Representatives have proposed the following question to CCBC:

*How can the Voluntary Sector go about offering third sector solutions to support service delivery with the new Leisure Strategy, and to assist community centres in keeping community services running?*

4.3 **Written Response from Jeff Reynolds (Sports & Leisure Facilities Manager)**

Many thanks for the Voluntary Sector Representatives Question. I am delighted to hear that the Voluntary Sector has shown such an interest in the future of Sport & Leisure Services. With regards the Leisure Facilities Strategy, the document is a ten year strategy aimed at ensuring that the facilities provided are not only fit for purpose but also meet the needs and ever changing requirements of the residents of the county borough.

4.4 The strategy focuses around the authority delivery of a four leisure centre model. The leisure centres would be situated at Newbridge, Risca, Caerphilly and a new facility in the Upper Rhymney Valley area (Northern Connection Corridor). The primary focus for the service at present is the future of Caerphilly Leisure Centre and that forms the initial stages of the strategy. Newbridge and Risca Leisure Centre's are already in place and the longer term element of the strategy focuses upon the development of a new facility in the Upper Rhymney Valley (or Northern Connection Corridor) area.

4.5 Regarding the facilities that fall outside of the strategy document, the service is exploring alternative delivery models in the first instance. Examples of this include discussions with Bedwas High School around transference of the leisure element of the campus to school management. A further example is the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools strategy that will see the development of a new secondary school in Oakdale supported by appropriate leisure facilities. This will support the closure of Pontllanfraith Leisure Centre but allow for all existing users to be seamlessly transferred.

4.6 As stated above, the strategy aims to develop a new facility in the Upper Rhymney Valley area in the longer term to replace the outdated facilities that currently support this area of the county borough. There is the potential for Voluntary Sector involvement in the delivery and management of stewarding at the new Centre for Sporting Excellence, Ystrad Mynach. The facility hosts a range of high level sporting events, for example, Wales v Australia Schoolboy Football International, supported through two 600 seat stands and associated standing areas. There is a requirement for these events to be appropriately stewarded in line with the facilities licensing requirements. As a service we are in a position to provide appropriate training to any volunteers who may wish to be involved.

4.7 I trust this clarifies the position and I am also more than happy to answer directly any questions that the group may have. My contact details are telephone: 01495 235225 / 07903426600 Email: [reynoj@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:reynoj@caerphilly.gov.uk)

4.8 **Written Response from Steve Hawkins (Community Centres Service Manager)**

Each of the Caerphilly borough's 38 community centres are managed on a day to day basis by voluntary management committees, all of which are Charities. Each committee has on average 10 -12 members, so throughout the network, we have in the region of 400 volunteers (all trustees) involved in the delivery of the service. Unlike professional staff, it is not normal for volunteers to have any specific knowledge of facility management, charity law, health and safety, maintenance and other statutory requirements. Therefore, my main responsibility is to advise, guide and support every committee to ensure that they manage each facility safely and correctly.

4.9 Although the quality and ability of each committee is far more important than its size, there is no doubt that it is becoming much harder to recruit new members. The problem is exacerbated by the proliferation of volunteer groups in recent times which has diluted the volunteer base. This is widely acknowledged throughout the third sector media.

4.10 Therefore, the greatest help would be in the recruitment of new committee members by whatever means. If we have those, the rest will take care of itself. For further discussions my contact details are telephone: 01443 863348 Email: [hawkisw@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:hawkisw@caerphilly.gov.uk)

## **5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 Equalities are fully embedded into the shared values and principles of the Compact Agreement. Promoting equalities and compliance with the equality legislation are shared activities areas in the annual Compact Action Plan.

## **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 None directly arising.

## **7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 None directly arising.

## **8. CONSULTATIONS**

8.1 Not applicable as report is a response to question submitted to CCBC from the Voluntary Sector Representatives sitting on the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee.

## **9. RECOMMENDATIONS**

9.1 To note CCBC officers' response to question submitted to CCBC from the Voluntary Sector Representatives sitting on the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee.

## **10. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

10.1 Report is for information only.

## **11. STATUTORY POWER**

11.1 Local Government Act 2000.

Author: Jackie Dix - Policy & Research Manager, CCBC  
Consultees: Jeff Reynolds, Sports & Leisure Facilities Manager, CCBC  
Steve Hawkins, Community Centres Service Manager, CCBC

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## **VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE - 17TH JUNE 2015**

**SUBJECT: ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR**

**REPORT BY: UPDATE FROM ANEURIN BEVAN UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD**

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### **1. NCN PLANS FOR 2015/16**

- 1.1 The NCNs have finalised their Annual Reports for 2014/15.
- 1.2 NCNs are in the process of developing their Plans for 2015/16.
- 1.3 These will be signed off by NCNs in September 2015.

### **2. SIGNPOSTING TO COMMUNITY SERVICES**

- 2.1 Signposting to services which can provide support, advice and help on issues relating to poverty can massively reduce the burden on families
- 2.2 There is a wealth of excellent community based support services in Caerphilly and Neighbourhood Care Networks we are working with Communities First and the Third Sector in Caerphilly, to raise awareness of these and simplify signposting and referral into them.
- 2.3 Many Communities First programmes are being delivered from health venues. The XPod Programme is currently being delivered in Gelligaer Surgery and at the North Rhymney Integrated Centre.
- 2.4 Discussions are being held regarding setting up the Communities First Physical Activity Project in partnership with the National Exercise Referral Team at the North Rhymney Integrated Centre in the near future. The Foodwise programme, also based there, continues to go from strength to strength.
- 2.5 LEAP (Listen, Engage, Act, Participate) – a multi-agency mental health and wellbeing team made up of health and social care professionals has been established in some of the GP practices in the North of Caerphilly Borough (the Lawn, Victoria and White Rose, serving a total population of 18,600). The main reasons for referral to the team by GPs and other professionals were depression, low mood, anxiety, self harm, suicidal thoughts/risks, sleep difficulties, stress, anger issues, alcohol use. The Team are helping and supporting people with mental health issues and referring and signposting them into community based support, building excellent working relationships and networks with these services.

### **3. SMOKING CESSATION SUPPORT SERVICES**

- 3.1 Smoking cessation services are being set up in the North Rhymney Integrated Centre, increasing the availability of community based smoking cessation support.

- 3.2 A local priority for Caerphilly South, a learning disability register is being developed with NCN lead for the area and Social Services working together to implement an action plan.

#### **4. PARTNERSHIP WORKING WITH THE LOCAL SERVICE BOARD**

- 4.1 Public Health Wales advise that overwhelming evidence shows that a handful of health behaviours, underpinned by mental wellbeing and influenced by the wider determinants of health, cause the vast majority of premature mortality and morbidity. Smoking, obesity, poor diet, physical inactivity and alcohol misuse, are the major causes of years of life lost or of years lived with a disability.
- 4.2 Caerphilly county borough has some of the poorest levels of health in Wales, and significant inequalities between and within individual wards. 26.3% of the population have a limiting long-term illness, the fifth highest proportion in Wales, with the highest proportions being in the north, and the lowest in the south. Premature (under 75 years of age) death rates remain significantly higher than the Wales average.
- 4.3 With this in mind, the Caerphilly Wellbeing Improvement Network (WIN), responsible for taking forward the health and wellbeing agenda has drafted a revised/refreshed action plan based on best practice and public health advice. This Action Plan complements and builds on the community based partnership components of the NCN Plans and ensures further congruence between the wider partnership networks and the work of the Neighbourhood Care Networks.

#### **5. IMPROVING ACCESS AND QUALITY OF SERVICES**

- 5.1 NCNs have signed off their developments which are being funded with the new Welsh Government Primary Care funding for NCNs in Wales. Projects that will be implementing using these monies focus on improving the planning of care locally, ensuring access is equitable, improving access and quality of services, and developing a skilled local workforce.

Author: Catherine Gregory (ABUHB – Planning)





## VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE - 17TH JUNE 2015

**SUBJECT: ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR**

**REPORT BY: GWENT ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS**

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### **1. GAVO QUARTER 4 REPORT**

#### **1.1 Total Data for April 2014 – March 2015 Delivery**

266 Volunteers placed  
80,872 Website Visitor sessions  
5615 enquiries received and responded to  
3204 trustee enquiries received and responded to  
299 funding advice enquiries received and responded to  
13 trustee events held with 63 participants  
11 funding events held with 102 participants  
26 new organisations / services developed  
33 Third Sector Networks / Forum meetings supported

### **2. OVERVIEW**

- 2.1 GAVO's core delivery between January and March kept up with the pace set in previous quarters, overachieving on a number of targets including placement of volunteers and responding to general and trustee enquiries.
- 2.2 Following the restructuring of GAVO the volunteering team developed new methods of working to ensure that a visible presence is maintained within the communities in the borough. Working relationships have been enhanced and further developed in order to facilitate better remote working for the volunteering staff. This approach has maintained the levels of engagement of potential volunteers and consistent levels of referrals to our partner organisations. Engagement with the various organisations has also enhanced their ability to provide better managed opportunities by providing them with training in the effective use of the Volunteering Wales web site.
- 2.3 Community Development has been exceptionally busy with lots of enquiries for funding advice, requests for help with funding applications and project planning as the majority of larger applications now require a Business Plan. Several new groups have been set up this quarter.
- 2.4 Time has been spent planning the Voluntary Sector Achievement Awards and One Beat events which will be taking place across four areas this year. Disability Can Do have been supported with the Investors in Volunteers quality assurance process and their assessment is now underway. Caerphilly's Senior Development Officer attends the LSB Delivery Group, RDP and ABuHB Partnership Board meetings.

- 2.5 The Sunflower project has undergone a small expansion and now has 2 volunteers involved in a Parkinson's disease awareness scheme. This involves raising the profile of Parkinson's across the hospital wards and befriending those patients with the condition. The Big Lottery has agreed to fund a 15 hour post dedicated to succession planning and expansion of the Sunflower project.
- 2.6 Play Development Officer delivered, and assessed, accredited playwork training within GAVO and to Menter Iaith, the total number of learners - 25. Attendance at Play Sufficiency meetings, provision of updates and monitoring of Play Sufficiency Action Plan. Attendance at the CSSIW Childcare Regulations consultation with the Holiday Scheme Co-ordinator.
- 2.7 Holiday Scheme Co-ordinator continued to support voluntary sector youth provision and also worked with several groups to submit funding bids for summer provision. Information disseminated to the sector via a quarterly newsletter. Attended D of E taskforce meeting (Caerphilly) and also contributed to BERNIE (South Wales Fire and Rescue Service and Safer Caerphilly County Borough). Supported community activities during half term holidays.
- 2.8 Senior Play Officer has attended ISCAN (Integrated Services for Children with Additional Needs) panel meetings on a weekly basis. Following a successful presentation at the WASPI conference the SPO was asked to make a DVD of the presentation which will be shown at the Welsh Government conference in May. The play teams delivered 124 sessions for children and young people during the quarter and inclusive playworkers attended the sessions to provide 1:1 support for disabled children and young people to enable them to be active participants.

### 3. STRATEGIC WORKING

- 3.1 Representatives from GAVO's Senior Leadership Team meet with CCBC's Policy Unit on a quarterly basis and GAVO provides representation to the LSB, Leads Group, Delivery Group, and other thematic groupings.
- 3.2 GAVO's Community Planning Co-ordinator continues to work as part of the Policy Unit on the LSB / Single Plan / Citizen Engagement work and spends time weekly in Ty Penallta, attending policy unit meetings and other partnership meetings.

#### **One Beat Roadshows 2015/16**

- 3.3 'One Beat' symbolises the tremendous partnership that exists between the Council, Gwent Police, Aneurin Bevan Health Board, South Wales Fire and Rescue Service and the Voluntary Sector who all work together to improve our living environment. This year, 'One Beat' will hit the road as we take the popular event into the heart of the community for 4 exciting new 'One Beat Roadshows'.
- 3.4 Working In partnership, Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations and Caerphilly County Borough Council, agreed more could be done to engage the local community so that residents can find out more about the vibrant voluntary sector within the county borough. The roadshows are planned over the next 12 months at four locations in different parts of the county borough. These new events will replace the annual event previously held at Penallta House. Please see below for details:

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2015 - **BLACKWOOD** (Methodist Church, Blackwood)

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2015 – **RHYMNEY** (St David's Community Centre, Rhymney)

February 2016 (date to be confirmed) – **CAERPHELLY** (Twyn Community Centre)

April 2016 (date to be confirmed) - **RISCA** (Moriah Baptist Church, Risca).

## **Caerphilly LSB Standing Conference**

- 3.5 Planning is underway for the next Standing Conference on 12th June. The conference is taking place at Llancaiach Fawr, Nelson and will follow the poverty theme with a focus on investment, employment and growth. Speakers and workshops are being planned at present. The report of the previous Standing Conference in January 2015 and presentations can be found at:

<http://your.caerphilly.gov.uk/communityplanning/content/standing-conference>

## **LSB Support – Making the Connections (MtC) Officer**

- 3.6 Quarter 4 saw the project closure stage of this project, for which European funding ceased on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015.
- 3.7 A national evaluation of the programme can be found here: <http://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/independent-evaluation-wales-council-voluntary-actions-making-connections-project/?lang=en>
- 3.8 Final newsletters and closure reports from WCVA can be found here: <http://www.wcva.org.uk/what-we-do/policy-latest/2015/03/collaborative-working-project-comes-to-a-close>
- 3.9 The Community Planning Co-ordinator will pick up some of the functions of the MtC post including attending the Anti-Poverty Network and will maintain support to the LSB.

## **4. GOVERNANCE**

- 4.1 A number of GAVO meetings were held in the period supporting GAVO's Governance Framework including:
- GAVO wide Team Meeting
  - 4 x Local Team meetings
  - 4 x Local Committees
  - Executive Committee
  - Finance and Personnel Sub- Committee
  - 4 x Thematic groups taking forward Business plan objectives including
    - Volunteering
    - Marketing
    - Health, Social Care and Wellbeing
    - Business Development and Income Generation

## **5. CONTRIBUTION TO SIP**

- 5.1 GAVO undertakes a range of core and project work which contributes to the outcomes of Caerphilly's Single Integrated Plan as reported below under each theme:

### **Prosperous**

#### **Regional Community Asset Transfer Support**

- 5.2 GAVO has recently received funding directly from the Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty to pilot a new and unique regional post in Wales. Richard Davies has been appointed to support Third Sector organisations and public bodies who are, or wish to be, engaged in the Community Asset Transfer Process,

- nationally, through representation at National Assets Working Group (NAWG) and Third Sector Reference Group on Community Assets;
- regionally, through developing relationships with public and third sector organisations across the regional Greater Gwent footprint;
- locally, by scoping the needs of clients at a local level, and delivering tailored support to assist the Community Asset Transfer process

### **Core Development work**

- 5.3 GAVO's Senior Development Officer supported 36 groups throughout the reporting period which included offering funding advice and supporting applications, mediation, governance and trustee issues amongst others. This has resulted in submitting 7 funding applications in quarter 4. Many governance enquiries have been generated, including increased requests for support with policies and procedures and arranging safeguarding, first aid and food hygiene training.
- 5.4 Funding continues to be limited and many groups are requiring much more dedicated support due to the increased amount of supporting documents required by funders.

### **Volunteering**

- 5.5 Good quality placements for volunteers enhance their employability considerably. It provides individuals with a sense of pride and achievement, whilst enhancing their access to support such as training and references. In order to increase the understanding of the benefits of volunteering a working practice has been developed where Volunteering staff regularly attend Job centres and are available all day to provide assistance and guidance, not only to potential volunteers but also to work advisors. This has increased the understanding of the benefits of volunteering and also ensured that those that are referred to organisations are better placed to have a greater understanding of what is expected of them and their potential gains. Similarly regular contact is made with schools and colleges throughout the borough to promote and develop the understanding and benefits of volunteering.
- 5.6 This approach has also been targeted at managers of organisations where opportunities may potentially exist but have not been realised or developed. The objective is to raise the understanding of volunteering at a more strategic level, which will then be cascaded throughout organisations, reducing the fear of staff believing that volunteers are used to replace paid roles.

### **Community Voice Programme**

- 5.7 The Community Voice Portfolio projects continue to work with strategic partners to develop engagement processes which include minority and disadvantaged groups (listed in previous reports). The programme has provided support and guidance to projects facing challenges within the portfolio in Caerphilly such as guidance and assistance with the recruitment and induction of new project officers.
- 5.8 All of the Community Voices Portfolio projects (Valley Voices) have been established in Caerphilly. However, a few have had to re-recruit officers which has affected the delivery momentum – the new officers are working hard to cover lost ground. There has been progress made towards the strategic engagement of beneficiaries with statutory partners, including the Local Authority, which needs to be strengthened and developed.
- 5.9 An independent mid-term evaluation of the programme has been commissioned and should be available at the end of July.

### **Communities First**

- 5.10 Development Officers continue to work within the local community, promoting all CF projects on a regular basis when meeting with community groups and at local functions.

5.11 Key activities and events delivered in the last quarter including:

- Volunteering Celebration Event MVE
- Successful Delivery of Catwg Project MVW
- Development of Local Community Action Group URV
- Development of resources at the Lansbury Office, Credit Union & Drug Aid CB
- FAST Works Groups in Cwm Ifor and St James CB
- Referral strategy in place with Play - Four Cluster areas.

### **Healthier**

#### **Sunflower Hospital Volunteering Project**

5.12 Following on from the recent success of the project winning an award at ABuHB's Nursing and Midwifery Conference, the project was nominated for an NHS award but was not successful. Instead the Health Board has nominated the project for the Betsi Cadwaladr Scholarship Award and the Wales Volunteer of the Year Awards.

5.13 From Jan to March, the project at Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr had:

- 27 active volunteers
- 1706 befriending
- 338 activities

5.14 The project continues to receive praise from key health board staff, patients and their relatives and the team is looking to organise further activities for the patients over the summer months.

#### **Health and Social Care Facilitator (HSCF)**

5.15 Quarterly meeting on the third sector Caerphilly Health and Social Care Alliance was held on the 6<sup>th</sup> February. Guest speakers included;

- The ISP Lead CCBC to inform and engage the providers with information sharing protocols and the training and support available
- A representative from the Greater Gwent Transformation Partnership implementation team (Thematic Lead) to give an update on progress on the programme of work and the citizen engagement and provider forum developments.
- The HSC Facilitator supported the thematic lead with mapping and scoping of the third sector across Gwent to provide the service and support information in relation to availability of Information assistance and advice agencies (SSWB ACT)

#### **NCN's**

5.16 The HSC Facilitator contributes to the 3 Neighbourhood Care Networks North, South and East providing third sector service information and updates.

- A presentation was given to the membership on the third sector and this resulted in more awareness of third sector activity, increased referrals and signposting particularly in relation to dementia, befriending and advocacy support.
- The HSC Facilitator also consulted with the third sector HSC organisations to identify priorities to inform the NCN's review process.
- A rolling presentation on advocacy and third sector advocacy services in the borough was designed for a South NCN practice to be shown in the patients waiting area.

## **Commissioning and Procurement**

- 5.17 Members of the Caerphilly Health and Social Care Alliance we effectively engaged with the Provider Fair held at Ty Penallta providing an opportunity for members to interact with the public sector commissioners.
- 5.18 Designed and delivered two seminars to third sector organisations on:
- E procurement
  - Contracts Service Level agreements, competitive grants

## **SSWB Wales Act**

- 5.19 The HSC Facilitator is a member of the steering group established to develop a provider forum for Gwent. A consultation day with third sector provider was held in March which was well attended by organisations in Caerphilly. The Facilitator is informing the development of terms of reference for the Gwent Provider Forum.

## **Consultations**

- 5.20 The HSC Facilitator and Caerphilly Health and Social Care member contributed to the following consultations;
- Social Services and Wellbeing Wales Act 2014 Regulations and Codes of Practice
  - Welsh Government White Paper 'The Future of Regulation and Inspection in Wales'
  - A consultation paper prepared by the CEO SCVS (on behalf of a WG reference group) on the proposed National Institute for Care and Support
  - The Health and Social Care Facilitator also worked with the Wales Audit Office to engage third sector organisations with the consultation on older people and support to live independently.
  - Aneurin Bevan University Health Board Mental Health Commissioning Strategy

## **Other**

- Worked with the lead for Continuing Healthcare WG to engage third sector advocates with the CHC Foundation Level national training pilot
- Actively involved with the Dementia Friendly Communities steering group and just completed Dementia Awareness Training. A 'Dementia Friendly Communities' lead will be presenting to the Caerphilly Health and Social Care Alliance meeting in May.

## **Learning**

- 5.21 GAVO's Play Service provided a variety of user friendly workshops at the Caerphilly Early Years and Childcare conference. The workshops were based on using elemental play with children and young people. Over 150 delegates attended the conference and feedback to GAVO on the workshops was excellent.

## **Safer**

- 5.22 During this quarter, the Police and Crime Commissioner agreed funding for a Third Sector Development Officer to maximise the contribution of the sector to the Police and Crime Plan for Gwent. This is a joint post between GAVO and TVA (Torfaen Voluntary Alliance), covering the Greater Gwent footprint. Janine Reed has been appointed in GAVO to this post, to develop a closer relationship between the oPCC and third sector service delivery and to develop GAVO's broker role in setting up consortia or other delivery models.
- 5.23 GAVO's Deputy CEO attended the Safer Caerphilly Delivery group in Qtr 4, which will be attended in the future by Janine in her new role outlined above.

## 6. CONTACTS

6.1 For further information or to discuss any of this information in more detail please contact:

[martin.featherstone@gavowales.org.uk](mailto:martin.featherstone@gavowales.org.uk)

CEO

[emily.forbes@gavowales.org.uk](mailto:emily.forbes@gavowales.org.uk)

Deputy CEO

[janine.reed@gavowales.org.uk](mailto:janine.reed@gavowales.org.uk)

**new** Regional Third Sector Development Officer

(OPCC)

[richard.davies@gavowales.org.uk](mailto:richard.davies@gavowales.org.uk)

**new** Regional Asset Transfer Support Officer

Head Office Tel: 01633 241550

Author: Emily Forbes, Assistant Chief Executive, GAVO

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## VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE – 17TH JUNE 2015

**SUBJECT: DIGEST OF CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**REPORT BY: ACTING DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES**

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### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 This report from Caerphilly CBC contains a digest of committee reports of items of interest for the voluntary sector. If there are reports of particular interest Members can request the committee report author to attend a future meeting of the Voluntary Sector Committee to prepare a further report/take questions.

### **2. SUMMARY**

- 2.1 A quarterly summary of Caerphilly CBC committee reports selected as they contain areas of interest for the voluntary sector.

### **3. LINKS TO STRATEGY**

- 3.1 All Caerphilly CBC reports relate to aspects of the Caerphilly County Borough Community Strategy.

### **4. THE REPORT**

- 4.1 The following reports have been selected as having particular interest on voluntary sector issues (note Members can request a full hard copy of any of the reports included) :-

#### **CABINET – 15TH APRIL 2015**

**PROPOSAL TO INCREASE FIXED PENALTY NOTICE FINES FOR LITTER AND DOG CONTROL ORDER OFFENCES AND TO SET FIXED PENALTY NOTICE FINES FOR COMMUNITY PROTECTION NOTICES AND PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDERS**

The level of fine for Fixed Penalty Notices issued in relation to littering offences under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 is increased to £100 (or £75 if paid within 7 days of the issue).

The level of fine for Fixed Penalty Notices issued for breaches of Dog Control Orders under the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 is increased to £100 (or £75 if paid within 7 days of the issue).

The level of fine for Fixed Penalty Notices issued for Community Protection Notices and Public Space Protection Orders offences under the Anti-social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 is set at £100 (or £75 if paid within 7 days of the issue).

## **CRIME AND DISORDER SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 19TH MARCH 2015**

### **DOMESTIC ABUSE PROCESSES FOR VICTIMS**

The Safer Caerphilly Community Safety Partnership (SCCSP) addresses domestic abuse and support to victims through direct intervention by Gwent Police in supporting victims and investigating crimes, and through the support and refuge provision provided by third sector and funded agencies.

This report summarises the level of domestic abuse across the county borough and how victims are dealt with and supported by statutory and third sector agencies. In particular the support available outside normal working hours is set out in the body of the report.

The cross-government definition of domestic violence and abuse is: any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. The abuse can encompass, but is not limited to:

- psychological
- physical
- sexual
- financial
- emotional

Controlling behaviour is: a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour.

Coercive behaviour is: an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten their victim. This definition includes so called 'honour' based violence, female genital mutilation (FGM) and forced marriage, and is clear that victims are not confined to one gender or ethnic group. Whilst this definition of domestic abuse is both gender neutral and age specific the overwhelming majority of the most severely affected victims are women (British Crime Survey 2004) and an increasing proportion of incidents refer to younger people both within their familial and intimate relationships.

## **EDUCATION FOR LIFE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 20TH MAY 2015**

### **PHYSICAL ACCESS STRATEGY FOR SCHOOLS**

The First Physical Access Strategy for Schools was produced in 2009, this document was reviewed in January 2015 with the revised Strategy detailing the current access status of all Caerphilly Schools in line with the requirements of the Equalities Act 2010. The Strategy has previously concentrated on the accessibility arrangements for pupils and employees in line with legislative duties, however this version of the strategy includes advice on the provision of access for disabled parents, this is increasingly an area of discussion, with parents seeking adjustments to be made to accommodate their disabilities. Although all schools seek to support parents with disabilities and provide safe access to the school site to ensure participation in their child's education, the access provided must not compromise the safety of children or others on the school site. With this in mind the scope of reasonable adjustments for disabled parents in line with the Equalities Act 2010 is included in the revised version, in addition specific reference is made within the strategy to cover parents who use mobility scooters.

The amended strategy shows a great improvement since 2009 in the number of schools which are able to accommodate pupils with physical and medical needs, this is due to investment in school buildings and consultation at the planning stage with relevant officers to ensure that accessibility is a key factor in school design, whether designing a new school building or refurbishment of an existing site.

## **5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Equalities implications have been taken into account for a number of reports submitted to Cabinet and other committees.

## **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 None, this is an information paper only on the contents of Caerphilly CBC reports which contains items of interest for the Voluntary Sector Committee.

## **7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 None arising.

## **8. CONSULTATIONS**

- 8.1 Not applicable.

## **9. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 9.1 Members are invited (if they feel appropriate) to select any report for further consideration by the Committee by requesting the report author to attend a future meeting of the Voluntary Sector Committee to take questions/prepare another report.

## **10. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 10.1 To ensure Members are fully briefed on items of interest for the Voluntary Sector.

## **11. STATUTORY POWER**

- 11.1 Local Government Act 2000.

Author: John Elliott, Senior Research Officer  
Consultees: Jackie Dix, Policy & Research Manager

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## VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE - 17TH JUNE 2015

**SUBJECT: COMMUNITY PLANNING QUARTERLY BRIEFING APRIL TO JUNE 2015**

**REPORT BY: ACTING DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES**

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### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Committee Member with the Community Strategy Quarterly Briefing April to June 2015 for information.

### 2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The briefing reports the activities of delivering the outcome areas for the Community Strategy through *Caerphilly Delivers* the Single Integrated Plan for community planning from April to June 2015.

### 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 April to June 2015. 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.

### 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 April to June 2015



## Appendix 1 Community Planning Quarterly Briefing April to June 2015

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](mailto:communityplanning@caerphilly.gov.uk)

### CAERPHILLY LOCAL SERVICE BOARD

***Not Standing Still...Economic Recovery in Caerphilly*** – was the title of Caerphilly Local Service Board Standing Conference on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2015 at Llancaiach Fawr Manor. The Conference received a keynote presentation by Peter Slater, Director of the Industrial Communities Alliance in Wales on *Closing the Prosperity Gap*. Further presentations included:

- *Development Planning for Growth* - Rhian Kyte Team Leader, Strategic & Development Planning, Caerphilly County Borough Council
- *The Local Business Perspective* - Denise Lovering, Chair of the Caerphilly Business Forum

Workshop sessions also took place exploring working better together in supporting and attracting businesses within the Caerphilly borough.

For further information on Caerphilly Local Service Board, and implementing *Caerphilly Delivers* the Single Integrated Plan visit –

[Caerphilly Local Service Board | Caerphilly County Borough ...](#)

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 27



## KEY COMMUNITY PLANNING LEGISLATION

**Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015** - the Act is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, and received Royal Assent on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2015. The 44 public bodies listed in the Act (including all Local Authorities) will need to make sure that when making decisions account is taken for the impact they could have for future generations, and public bodies will also be expected to:

- work together better
- involve people reflecting the diversity of communities
- look to the long term as well as focusing on now
- take action to try and stop problems getting worse - or even stop them happening in the first place.

The Welsh Government have produced the following quick easy read glance at the key essentials of the Act –

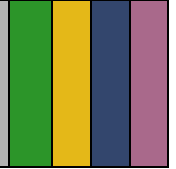
<http://gov.wales/topics/people-and-communities/people/future-generations-bill/?lang=en>

The Welsh Government will be consulting on statutory guidance on implementing the Act over the summer. The intention is for Public Service Boards to come into force from April 2016.

**Environment (Wales) Bill** - has been designed to support and complement the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The Bill will put in place the legislation needed to plan and manage Wales' natural resources in a more proactive, sustainable and joined-up way. The Bill is expected to receive Royal Assent by spring 2016.

**Historic Environment (Wales) Bill** – complements goals set out in the Planning Bill and the Well-being of Future Generations Act. The Bill proposes measures that will protect against unauthorised works to scheduled ancient monuments and listed buildings as well as creating a statutory register of Wales' historic parks and gardens. Further provisions include automatic *interim protection* for any building being considered formally for listing or scheduling and clarity over the future of historic environment records. The Bill is expected to come into force in 2016.





## NEW EUROPEAN FUNDING

Following a meeting with the Welsh European Funding Office (WEFO), the Department for Economy, Science and Transport (DEST) and Local Government on the implications of the Regeneris Report on grants for Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs) the Welsh Government cannot see a role for a Local Investment Fund type grant support scheme or a Social Enterprise Support grant support scheme to be funded under the new European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Programmes for Wales. The Council however, will still be able to offer Start up and Business Development Grants to local businesses, although the funding available will be limited.

## EVENTS

The Events and Marketing Team are gearing up for their busiest time of the year. The Caerphilly Food Festival was held on Saturday the 9<sup>th</sup> May, a free event filling the town with over 60 stalls offering a range of food products, crafts family entertainment and street theatre.

The Caerphilly 10K is on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June. There are over 1000 entrants so far. This event will also hold a junior run for those aged 8.

Following the Caerphilly 10K is Blackwood Beach Party on Blackwood High Street on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June. The free event includes an urban beach, promenade style fun photo booth, children's favourite TV costumed characters, food and craft stalls and family entertainment and funfair rides.

The annual Big Cheese Festival returns on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July until Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July. The weekend starts with the Great Cheese Race, traditional funfair and fireworks display on Friday. Saturday and Sunday offers over 150 food and craft stalls, traditional funfair, entertainment, dance, music and lots of activities for the whole family to enjoy.

All the events are listed on [www.visitcaerphilly.com](http://www.visitcaerphilly.com)

## PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES

**LIFT Family Employment Mentors** continue to help people from workless households into training or employment opportunities. People living in households where no one has worked for more than six months and are not on the work programme should get in touch to see how they can benefit. Please note this

support is only available for people living in the Upper Rhymney Valley or Caerphilly Basin.

**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 seek 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 34 young people into employment since April: 16 have secured Job Growth Wales placements, and 48 have completed an employment related qualification. To find out more contact Greg or Lynsey on 01443 864139.

Communities First have developed a number of ...*That Works* programmes which 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.

Work clubs continue to provide weekly drop in opportunities across the borough to offer one to one support, advice and guidance.

The Employment Support Officers now offer **1-2-1 appointments** for customers requiring more in-depth support, such as to create a CV or complete an application form. Please email [commfirst@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:commfirst@caerphilly.gov.uk) for further details.

**Literacy and numeracy classes** are held in the White Rose Resource and Information Centre on a Monday 6-8pm, and a Thursday 10.30-12.30pm.

**Get Caerphilly Online** has now helped over 5,000 people to get online since the start of the project, with over 1,000 people benefiting from the Digital Fridays drop in sessions alone. A lot of work this quarter is taking place in sheltered housing schemes across the borough with sessions currently taking place in Wattsville, Ynysddu, Rhymney and Bedwas. Work with people over 50 has included Internet Safety, Tablets and Social Media workshops.

Thanks to the support of Digital Champion volunteers, **Digital Fridays** sessions are continuing across six library locations in the Caerphilly borough every Friday. New volunteers are actively being sought all the time to ensure effective delivery across the borough.

**Caerphilly and Blaenau Gwent Citizen Advice Bureau** provides 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. Since April, 1124 people have accessed the outreach service, of which 551 have accessed benefits they are entitled to.

<b>Caerphilly and Blaenau Gwent Citizen Advice Bureau Outreach Venues and Opening Times</b>		
<b>Venue</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>
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 <sup>nd</sup> June	9:30-11:30
Community First Cefn Hengoed Youth Centre	Wednesdays	9.15 – 11.30
Graig YRhacca 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 Friday of Month)	9:30 -12:00
Customer First Pontlottyn Customer First Office	Last Friday in Month	9:30-11.00
Rhymney Valley Food bank <b>St Dingat's Church, Church Terrace</b>	Thursdays	10:30-12:30

## **COMMUNITY EDUCATION EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND PROJECTS**

### **Bridges into Work and Working Skills for Adults**

In April 2015 the two projects closed following six highly successful years of operation. The projects were based together in the Bargoed Institute. This location provided easy public transport access for participants, a fully equipped training room and on site Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW) registered crèche facilities.

The project teams provided one to one mentoring, advice and guidance through a team of specialist Learning Advisors. This support was delivered in the Caerphilly borough through a network of Libraries and Adult Community Education centres. These facilities have been a key part to the project's success in breaking down the

barriers of disengaged adults by providing easily accessible, informal and welcoming learning environments.

In close partnership with the Adult Community Education team a wide programme of courses were delivered including essential skills, vocational qualifications, ICT, employability skills and the Pacific Institute STEPS programme. The crèche allowed participants with child care responsibilities to access support and attend training whilst having their children cared for within the same facility, breaking down a significant barrier for some local residents.

Significant success has been achieved through collaborative working with Caerphilly County Borough Council partner local authorities and all the projects targets were met or exceeded. Over 370 residents were supported into employment; over 4000 people achieved accredited qualifications, and over 1000 went onto further learning.

Businesses plans have been written and submitted to the Welsh European Funding Office for new projects under the next round of Cohesion funding 2014-20 to continue this work. It is hoped the plans will be approved in June 2015, with project delivery starting in September 2015.

### **ONE BEAT – Voluntary Sector Showcase**

*One Beat* symbolises the tremendous partnership work that exists between the Voluntary Sector together with the Council and the other Compact Partner organisations signed up to the Compact Agreement with the Voluntary Sector: Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations, Gwent Police, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner Office, Caerphilly county borough Community/Town Councils and Caerphilly Business Forum - who all work together to improve local communities. This year, *One Beat* will hit the road as the event is taken into the heart of the community for four new *One Beat Roadshows*.

Working In partnership, Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations and Caerphilly County Borough Council, agreed more could be done to engage the local community so that residents can find out about the voluntary sector within the borough. As a result, *One Beat* will be taken out into the community. The Roadshows are planned to take place over the next 12 months at four locations in different parts of the borough. These new events will replace the annual event previously held at Penallta House and will take place as follows:

**Saturday 11th July 2015** - Blackwood (Methodist Church, Blackwood)

**Wednesday 7th October 2015** – Rhymney (St David's Community Centre, Rhymney)

**February 2016** (date to be confirmed) – Caerphilly (Twyn Community Centre)

**April 2016** (date to be confirmed) - Risca (Moriah Baptist Church, Risca).

You may be interested in attending all four roadshows or just one which is geographically convenient and applicable to your organisation. Roadshows will be open from 10.00am - 2.00pm, with tea and coffee available. For further details contact [gina.jones@gavowales.org.uk](mailto:gina.jones@gavowales.org.uk)

**Safer Caerphilly (Kathryn Peters & Natalie Kenny)**

[saferrccbc@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:saferrccbc@caerphilly.gov.uk)

## COUNTER-TERRORISM AND SECURITY ACT 2015

The Counter-Terrorism and Security Bill, which is currently before Parliament, seeks to place a duty on specified authorities *to have due regard, in the exercise of its functions, to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism*. The specified authorities listed include Local Authorities, Police, Probation, Education and the Local Health Board. Listed below are some of the requirements within the Act listed specifically for the Local Authority:

- Set up a multi-agency group to co-ordinate Prevent activity
- Use the counter-terrorism local profiles (CTLPs) to begin to assess the risk of individuals being drawn into terrorism
- Incorporate the duty into existing policies and procedures, so it becomes part of the day-to-day work of the authority
- Ensure appropriate frontline staff are, trained to understand Prevent, recognise the vulnerability of being drawn into terrorism and refer into the Channel process where appropriate.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

**Urdd Eisteddfod** - Safer Caerphilly had a presence at the Urdd Eisteddfod in May which included an information stand with interactive quizzes on anti-social behaviour and social media harassment. The Safer Caerphilly Social Media Harassment campaign was launched at the event to promote the problem of harassment via social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter. This was identified as a problem in the anti-social behaviour meetings where incidents of this nature seem to be on the increase. The presence at the Urdd Eisteddfod was to inform people attending the stand that they may be committing a criminal offence when posting certain messages.

**Project Bernie 2015** - the Safer Caerphilly Fire Safety Action Team once again ran Project Bernie over the two week Easter period. The project was officially launched at the Morrison's store in Bargoed on 27<sup>th</sup> March and was attended by various partners such as Gwent Police, South Wales Fire & rescue Service and Crime Prevention Panel members. Over 400 shoppers supported the scheme and signed up to the Bernie pledge. Project Bernie is based on a social marketing concept, which aims to reduce deliberate grass fires by addressing behaviors and attitudes within the community. The project ran in the Bargoed area over the

Easter period and involved a multi-agency response to the problem which has included advertising and marketing campaign, patrols of the area and numerous youth activities, which all focused on addressing the problem of deliberate grass fires. Due to the amount of grass fires across Gwent this year the Fire Service are now working with all partners to develop new initiatives to address the issue.

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

- 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 night-time economy is ongoing for example, Street Pastors, Community Safety Wardens, Door staff etc.

A trial move of the taxi rank in Caerphilly is currently taking place. The rank has been moved into the bus station area from outside the *Irish Thymes* in a bid to reduce the amount of congestion and increase safety outside the public house at the end of a night out.

**Domestic Abuse Awareness Raising** - throughout March residents, groups and organisations were encouraged to join forces in *standing together* against domestic violence in the Caerphilly borough as part of a new social media awareness raising campaign. The *#caerphillystandingtogether* campaign aimed to raise awareness of domestic violence and the support services available in the borough, and to ultimately empower anyone who is experiencing domestic violence to seek support.

People were asked to *tweet their feet* and upload a photo of their feet to Twitter to show they believe violence in all forms is wrong using the hashtag. Throughout the month Caerphilly domestic abuse support services also tweeted using the same hashtag to promote services which are available to those experiencing domestic abuse and their families.

The campaign was highly successful with over 90 organisations and people sharing pictures of their feet and in excess of 250,000 people were reached throughout the month.

For more information regarding the campaign or domestic abuse please contact the Community Safety Team on: 01495 235350.





Join our campaign and tweet your feet to say

**#caerphillystandingtogether**



against domestic violence

@safercaerphilly



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



**ASB Victim Services Manager** - the Victims 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 through the court process. During 2014/2015 (April 2014 to March 2015) a total of 274 referrals have been received and contact made. The Victims Service Manager has supported over 1000 victims and witnesses of anti-social behaviour since she has been in post from 2010. Following a successful recruitment period this year a number of volunteers have joined the scheme, which has enabled the service to provide outreach sessions. This will be expanded further in 2015-16. Lana Harrison the Victims Services Manager can be contacted on 01495 235441 or e-mail: [harril5@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:harril5@caerphilly.gov.uk)

**Learning Caerphilly (Lynne Bosanko Williams)**

[familiesfirst@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:familiesfirst@caerphilly.gov.uk)

**Urdd Eisteddfod** - the Families First Team has worked closely with all the projects in the Families First Programme and also Flying Start, Communities First and the Youth Service to coordinate innovative community engagement opportunities and to publicise all services at the Urdd Eisteddfod this year. The Families First Programme ran lots of fun activities for families throughout the week, including face painting, a colouring competition, chatterbox sessions, messy play, storytelling and making Welsh love spoons using clay. There were stalls from each of the projects, with lots of information about the different support they offer for families across the Caerphilly borough.

**Families First Celebration Awards** – Families First will be holding their first Celebration to commend the outstanding work that staff and service users have achieved throughout the year. Award categories include:

- Practitioner of the Year Award
- Innovative Partnership Award
- Development and Learning Award
- Young Achiever of the Year Award (0-25 years old)
- Adult Achiever of the Year Award (25+ years old)
- Family Together Award
- Family Journey Award

The award ceremony will be taking place on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2015 at Llancaiach Fawr.

**Supporting Family Change (SFC) project** and Action for Children coordinated the delivery of Non Violent Resistance and Motivational Interviewing training for practitioners throughout the Families First Programme. This was attended by agencies such as Psychology, Inclusion and Support, Family Intervention Team and Families First Parenting. Two members of SFC staff became accredited and one staff member became a champion in the area and both are using the skills learnt in their roles.

**Health Outreach Project** – during this quarter all the baby massage groups have incorporated a Paediatric First Aid session in the programmes which have proved popular with parents. Parents report that the first aid session gave them confidence to try lumpy foods and finger foods with their babies safe in the knowledge that they were now confident to cope with any incidences of choking.

**Integrated Family Learning Project** Language and Play staff have been trained in autism which has been especially useful for home sessions where young children are showing signs of being on the autistic spectrum.

The Super Shell-By team have delivered a total of 653 speech and language sessions and supported 38 children with speech, language and communication needs. Five school-based staff also attended training course to identify and support children with Speech, Language Communication Needs to enhance the services for families.

The Adventure part of the project has worked with 35 family members who have gained a range of accreditations: 18 National and Young Star Navigation Awards, 9 Children University, and 8 Millennium Volunteers awards. Caerphilly Adventures has also delivered progression outdoor education sessions at three schools (Tynewydd Primary, Pontllanfraith Primary & St. Martin's Comprehensive).



**Family Engagement Project** delivered a range of engagement services:

- In Upper Rhymney Valley an eight week cooking course was delivered with Communities First focusing on how to make healthy family meals on a budget. This is also Open College Network /Agored recognised. In addition in this area, and also Risca, job skills sessions were delivered with Youth Service Engagement and Progression project
- Through a dedicated Dads Group a range of initiatives have been facilitated including a DIY project (making and decorating children's bedroom furniture), cooking, job skills workshops, professional development and careers in the workplace Open College Network
- Through the Fitness Agored - young people have taken part in a ten hour fitness programme delivered by the Youth Service Accreditation Officer. Through participating in this project the young people have found a variety of new physical activities to enable them to lead healthier lives which can improve their self-esteem
- Through the Confidence Agored - 6 young people have completed a ten hour course. This project gave the young people the opportunity to talk openly about their confidence issues and set goals around improving their confidence.

**Interact (Learning Sets)** – are structured partnership events for all services and organisations that deliver services for children, young people and families (0-25 years). Interact events deliver Learning Set workshops in response to needs identified by the support services, embedding the principles of Families First, and providing a networking opportunity through *Market Place Displays* where projects and organisations share information and good practice.

The most recent event was held in March 2015 at Llancaiach Fawr Manor. It was attended by 76 individuals, representing 39 different organisations with good representation from both voluntary and statutory organisations.

At the last event the Learning Set workshops were focused on:-

- Social Media Safeguarding and Internet Safety
- Cyber-bullying
- Self-Harm.

Interact continues to be positively evaluated by participants who report that they value the Learning Set approach and the opportunities to network with a diverse range of practitioners and agencies from different sectors.

The Families First Programme has continued to develop and reach more families over the last year. From April 2014 to March 2015 the projects reported that they worked with 11,061 individuals. Although some individuals would have accessed more than one project, due to their need requirements at the time, it is still a substantial number of children, young people and families who have received a bespoke service to prevent their needs escalating into crisis or requiring further intervention.

Further details can be obtained from the Families First team by emailing:  
[familiesfirst@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:familiesfirst@caerphilly.gov.uk)

**Healthier Caerphilly (Lianne Dallimore)**

[HSCWB@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:HSCWB@caerphilly.gov.uk)

## HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

### Poverty and Health

Signposting the public to services which can provide support, advice and help on issues relating to poverty can massively reduce the burden on families. There is a wealth of excellent community based support services in the Caerphilly borough, and Neighbourhood Care Networks are working with Communities First and the Third Sector to raise awareness of these, and simplify signposting and referral into them. Many Communities First programmes are being delivered from health venues.

Public Health Wales advise there is evidence that a handful of health behaviours, cause the vast majority of premature mortality and morbidity. Smoking, obesity, poor diet, physical inactivity and alcohol misuse, are the major causes of years of life lost or of years lived with a disability.

Caerphilly borough has some of the poorest levels of health in Wales, and significant inequalities between and within individual wards. 26.3% of the population have a limiting long-term illness, the fifth highest proportion in Wales, with the highest proportions being in the north of the borough, and the lowest in the south. Premature (under 75 years of age) death rates remain significantly higher than the Wales average.

With this in mind, the Wellbeing Improvement Network (WIN) has drafted a revised/refreshed action plan based on best practice and public health advice to help progress the health and wellbeing agenda in the Caerphilly borough.

**X Pod** – six week programmes are available for people who are diagnosed with pre-diabetes (impaired glucose tolerance), or those who want to reduce their risk of developing type 2 diabetes. X Pod can help people improve blood glucose levels, aid weight loss and raise understanding of healthy foods. The XPod Programme is currently being delivered in Gelligaer Surgery and at the North Rhymney Integrated Centre.

**Foodwise** – weight management programmes are available to help people manage their weight the healthy way. Sessions last one hour a week for eight weeks and include reading food labels, portion sizes and healthy balanced diet.

**Community Cooking** – practical cooking sessions take place in community venues to show people how fun and easy healthy eating can be. Residents can also gain an Agored accreditation as recognition for what they have learnt.

**Living Life To The Full** – this free course has been designed to tackle the everyday problems that everyone faces from time to time. It teaches key life skills that will help people feel better, happier and more in control of life. Also called *Twelve hours that can change your life*, the course uses Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) techniques to help people with mild to moderate depression or anxiety.

**Self Help Groups** – community mental health officers provide self help sessions for individuals over 18 years of age with an aim of improving mental well being, self help strategies and recovery. Sessions take place weekly in community venues.

**StreetGames** – Street Game sites are available across the borough for young people to access physical activity opportunities on their doorstep. Activities are held weekly and range from football, rugby, street golf, and many more. Young people can also volunteer with Street Games and gain free accredited training.

**Physical Activity Programme** – from April Communities First has been developing a new partnership with the National Exercise Referral Scheme (NERS). Four Communities First Physical Activity Workers will be employed to work with NERS to run programmes and consultations for level 3 participants to improve physical activity and reduce risk factors.

Discussions are being held regarding setting up the Communities First Physical Activity Project in partnership with the National Exercise Referral Team at the North Rhymney Integrated Centre in the near future. The Foodwise programme, also based there, continues to go from strength to strength.

***Living Well, Living Longer*** – is a new project to reduce the number of premature deaths from cardiovascular disease and cancer. The Upper Rhymney Valley Communities First Cluster, working in partnership with Aneurin Bevan University Health Board's inverse care law *Living Well Living Longer* started in March 2015.

*Living Well Living Longer* has identified cardiovascular disease and cancer as the major causes of premature mortality in the local area as they place a disproportionate burden on communities with the greatest socioeconomic deprivation. Cardiovascular disease and cancer share many factors, such as poor diet, little exercise, smoking and excess alcohol intake.

In the first phase of the *Living Well Living Longer project*, targeted support will be provided by identifying those at the greatest risk of developing cardiovascular disease, through *health checks*, if found to be at risk, information is then passed to GP's for signing onto local schemes to address people's needs.

Advice about diet and exercise, referrals to exercise and support schemes will be offered through Communities First, as will medical treatment for high blood pressure and raised cholesterol, where needed. Smoking cessation services are also being set up in the North Rhymney Integrated Centre, increasing the availability of community based smoking cessation support.

## ILLEGAL TOBACCO

Caerphilly Trading Standards Service together with Health Challenge Caerphilly have launched a campaign to encourage residents to report sales of illegal tobacco and cigarettes.



Illegal tobacco is a national problem and not unique to the Caerphilly borough, with sellers often specifically targeting children and people on lower incomes due to the affordability of the cheap tobacco. It may be sold in many places – from houses, in pubs and even at car boot sales. All tobacco products are harmful. Whether they are bought legitimately from a retailer or illegally on the black market, all tobacco products contain over 4,000 chemicals, at least 60 of which are known to cause cancer. One in two long-term smokers will die as a result of their addiction

Anyone who has any information on the sale of illegal tobacco in the Caerphilly borough can report it in confidence by telephoning 01495 235291 or visiting [www.caerphilly.gov.uk/illegal-tobacco](http://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/illegal-tobacco)

## INTRODUCING THE NEW GWENT ADULT DRUG, ALCOHOL AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

On the 1<sup>st</sup> May a Gwent Wide substance misuse service was launched. This service is provided by a consortium made up of Kaleidoscope, Drugaid and G4S, and is known as the Gwent Drug and Alcohol Service (GDAS). The service provides a full range of recovery orientated activities for adults over 18 who are motivated to make changes including:

**Drug and alcohol** - brief interventions, detoxification, medication prescribing to support abstinence from alcohol, structured psychosocial interventions, mutual aid and peer support programmes, outreach services, needle exchange, harm

reduction advice and support, substitute prescribing for opiate dependency, relapse prevention groups, crisis support, assessment, health promotion advice and support, aftercare programme, recovery coaching, criminal justice specific interventions, access to training, volunteering and peer mentoring opportunities.

**Family and concerned others** - information and advice, crisis management, mutual support, safety planning and safeguarding, structured counselling, structured psychosocial interventions, recovery groups and Parent and Carer Training.

**Professional support** - training to agencies on screening and substance misuse and guidance and consultancy to professionals regarding issues affecting adults who use substances.

The service also incorporates criminal justice substance misuse interventions.

The service can be accessed through a single point of contact telephone number: 0333 999 35 77 Email: [info@gdas.wales](mailto:info@gdas.wales) Website: [www.gdas.wales](http://www.gdas.wales)

## Gwent Drug and Alcohol Service Gwent bases

<b>Blaenau Gwent</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Crug Las	1 Church Street Ebbw Vale NP23 6BE  01495 301855
The Citadel	Mount Street Tredegar  01495 713040
<b>Caerphilly</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Chambers House	Pontllanfraith Road Blackwood NP12 2BW  01495 233403
St Fagan's	St Fagan's Street Caerphilly CF83 2FZ  02920 868675
<b>Monmouthshire</b>	<b>Contact</b>
The Junction	Cedar House Station Road Chepstow NP16 5PB  01291 635355
<b>Newport</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Powell's Place	Old School Building Powell's Place Newport NP20 1LU  01633 245 893
Godfrey Road	11 Godfrey Road Newport City Council NP20 4BP  01633 252045
<b>Torfaen</b>	<b>Contact</b>
The Lighthouse	George Street Pontypool  01495 742314



## **OUTCOME G1 Improving local environmental quality**

Each year Caerphilly County Borough Council has provided funding, from its Community Schemes budget, to the Greener Caerphilly partnership to be managed as a small grants fund to facilitate and stimulate partnership working. Projects involve at least two partnership organisations, providing at least £1 for £1 match funding. The following is an updates for 2014/15 on one of the project's funded:

### **Pollinators Project**

Schools, allotments and landowners were encouraged to create a wildflower meadow patch within their grounds for pollinators, such as bees. The project included a free workshop on pollinators and free wildflower seeds for the creation of a wildflower patch.

The work included a *Plant a Patch for Pollinators* project which was a partnership project between the Council and Pollen8 Cymru, with funding from the National Botanic Gardens and the Council's CEQ fund. Twenty-seven schools have received a free talk, with every school in the borough receiving free seeds for a 1m<sup>2</sup> pollinator patch, with some schools planting wild flower meadow's up to 10m<sup>2</sup>.

With Welsh Government introducing the new Pollinator Action Plan, this is a key opportunity to encourage communities, and in particular, schools to engage in curriculum projects to utilise and enhance their grounds for pollinators.

## **OUTCOME G2 Reducing the causes of, and adapting to the effects of Climate Change**

### **Reducing Ecological Footprint *One Planet Development***

In 2010, the Welsh Government published Technical Advice Note 6, *One Planet Development, Planning for Sustainable Rural Communities*, as part of its commitment in *One Wales: One Planet*, that: *within the lifetime of a generation, Wales should use only its fair share of the earth's resources*. To gain planning permission any development must have an initial ecological footprint of 2.4 global hectares per person or less with a clear potential to move to 1.88 global hectares per person over time. Under this initiative Caerphilly County Borough Council received a planning application for a smallholding at Nant-y-Cwm Farm, Rudry under the One Planet Development legalisation.

After a detailed process Nant-y-Cwm Farm became the first One Planet Development in Wales to receive permanent planning permission. The 16-acre site is home to Dan and Sarah Moody and their five children. As part of the



process Dan and Sarah produced a detailed management plan and ecological footprint analysis which demonstrates their commitment to sustainable living, including how they will provide for at least 65% of their basic household needs from land based activity within five years.

### **OUTCOME G3 Maximising the use of the environment for health benefits**

**Go Green for Health (GG4H)** - Groundwork's BIG Lottery funded programme, has begun operating in the Mid Valleys West Communities First Cluster area in the Caerphilly borough, encouraging people from Greater Bargoed, Gilfach, Cefn Hengoed, and surrounding areas to become more active their local green spaces.

The team have been installing the Go Green Tracking Units in Bargoed Park and Parc Penallta. Over 140 people have registered their Smart Cards, which are swiped on the Go Green Tracking Units. The programme was officially launched on 11<sup>th</sup> April, at the Bargoed Spring Fayre.

The programme is a *community prescription* of activity in the outdoors designed to prevent ill health and improve the management of chronic conditions. The GG4H programme combines using the natural environment with innovative technology and approaches to increasing a community's active levels. Although open to all community members, the programme is keen to support individuals with chronic conditions and assist them with techniques to manage these conditions and getting more active.

The programme will have three distinct elements which include:

- one to one support for individuals with barriers to being active
- technology to get all residents active in their local areas
- volunteer led activity encouraging sustainability of the programme's message.

**50+ Positive Action (Mandy Sprague)**

[50plus@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:50plus@caerphilly.gov.uk)

### **Dignity, Respect and Age Equality (DRAE)**

- **Protection of Vulnerable adults POVA** - the Welsh version of the peer to peer presentation is being filmed through working with Menter Caerffili
- **Dignity and Dementia Resources** - the feedback from people using the reminiscence pods has been excellent.
- **Developing a Dementia Friendly Museum** - the Winding House museum staff in New Tredegar have now all received the Dementia Friends training and are now developing their exhibits to be more accessible and suitable to those living with dementia.

### **Information and Empowerment**

- The twitter account [@50plus\\_AgeWell](https://twitter.com/50plus_AgeWell) is proving to be an excellent way to connect with a wider audience. The twitter account has 285 followers and



regularly shares information on services and support with around 30,000 people per month

- The Caerphilly County Borough 50+ Forum launched their redesigned website [www.caerphillyover50.co.uk](http://www.caerphillyover50.co.uk) at their AGM in April along with a [Caerphilly Over 50 facebook page](#) Both the website and Facebook reach has far exceeded their expectations. The feedback on the new design has also been positive including the following example –

*Love the new website. So clear, concise, informative and, most importantly, easy to use! Lots of info here to help me get the best advice and support for my 85-year-old parents. Brilliant work.*

- Get Caerphilly online worked with the 50+ Forum to run three workshops at the Forum's AGM to help people be the most from their iPad/tablets, stay safe on line and how to get themselves started on face book and twitter. Requests to run another session in Newbridge & Risca have already been received.

### **Living Longer Ageing Well**

- In April the first draft of the **Living longer Ageing Well delivery plan** was circulated to key stakeholder and the 50+ Smarter Working Network receiving over 300 comments
- In May a **Living Longer Ageing Well workshop** was held with over 50 *professionals* working across the borough to begin to understand what is currently happening and how to work better together
- At the **Urdd Eisteddfod** children, parents and grandparents were asked to tell us what does and does not make an age friendly community and what could they do to make their own community more age friendly.

For more information please contact Mandy Sprague on 01443 864277 or email [spragm@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:spragm@caerphilly.gov.uk)

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