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**Date: 25th November 2015**

Dear Sir/Madam,

A meeting of the **Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee** will be held in the **Penallta House, Tredomen, Ystrad Mynach** on **Wednesday, 2nd December, 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 of the County Borough Members only, at 10.00 a.m. in Core Meeting Room 1.3**, and **all Voluntary Sector Representatives at 10.00 a.m. in the Sirhowy 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

## A G E N D A

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

A greener place Man gwyrddach



To receive and consider the following minutes: -

- 3 Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee Meeting held on the 16th September 2015. 1 - 6
- 4 Caerphilly County Borough Councils Budget Setting and Local Government Re-Organisation Update - Chris Burns, Interim Chief Executive (10:35am to 11am)
- 5 Update on the White Ribbon Campaign and Junior and Youth Forum Priorities for 2016 - Caerphilly Youth Forum Representative (11am to 11:10am)
- 6 Compact Presentation and Q and A: Update on Operational Frameworks for Neighbourhood Care Networks in the Caerphilly Borough - Sam Crane, Aneurin Bevan Health Board (11:10am to 11:20am)
- 7 Caerphilly Borough Anti Poverty Strategy - Rob Hartshorn, Head of Public Protection & Anti Poverty Officer Champion (11:20am to 11:30am) 7 - 20
- 8 Voluntary Sector Representatives Question: Discussion on Community Centres and how the Voluntary Sector can be involved - Steve Hawkins Community Centres Service Manager (11:30am to 11:40am)
- 9 Review of Compact Agreement and Annual Compact Action Plan- Jackie Dix, Policy and Research Manager (11:40am to 11:45am) 21 - 24
- 10 Open Discussion: What's Happening in the Caerphilly Borough - an opportunity for all Compact Partners to raise key issues (11:45am 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 12:15pm):
  - a) Update from Aneurin Bevan University Health Board 25-26
  - b) Gwent Association of Voluntary Associations 27-32
  - c) Digest of Caerphilly County Borough Council Committee Reports 33-36
  - d) South Wales Fire and Rescue Service 37-38
  - e) Police & Crime Commissioner for Gwent 39-42
  - f) Gwent Police 43-46

To receive and note the following information items: -

- 12 Community Planning Quarterly Briefing - September to December 2015 47 - 60
- 13 Date of next meeting - 16th March 2016 at 10.30am in Sirhowy Room, Penallta House

**Circulation:**

Councillors L. Ackerman, Mrs E.M. Aldworth, J. Bevan, P.J. Bevan, D.G. Carter (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 R. Jones, Abbeyfield (Caerphilly) Society Limited  
Mr L. Clay, Abertridwr Community Church  
Ms J. Price, Bargoed YMCA  
Mr D. Morgan, Caerphilly 50+ Forum  
Ms P. Jones, Caerphilly Care & Repair  
Mr R.H. Cooke, GAVO (Vice Chair)  
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  
Mrs E. Forbes, GAVO  
Ms K. Stevenson, Groundwork Wales  
Ms A. Jones, Homestart Caerphilly  
Ms L. Jones, Menter Iaith  
Ms C. Loring, Right From The Start  
Mr M. Bridgman, SYDIC  
Ms M. Jones, The Parent Network  
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 C. Haire and Sergeant 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 16TH SEPTEMBER 2015 AT 10.30 A.M.

PRESENT:

Cllr. D. Carter – Chair

Councillors:

Ms. L. Ackerman, P. J. Bevan, R. W. Gough, Mrs. P Griffiths, K. James, J. A. Pritchard, R. Woodyatt

Together with:

Abertridwr Community Church	-	Mr. L. Clay
Bargoed YMCA	-	Ms. J. Price
Caerphilly 50+ Forum	-	Mr. D. Morgan
Caerphilly People First	-	Mr. C. Luke
Disability Can Do Organisation	-	Mrs. H. Williams
GAVO – Assistant Chief Executive	-	Mrs. E. Forbes
GAVO (Vice-Chair)	-	Mr. R. H. Cooke
Groundwork Wales	-	Mrs. K. Stevenson
Menter Iaith	-	Mrs. L. Jones
Right From The Start	-	Ms. C. Loring
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), Mrs. M. Chapman (Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner for Gwent), Mrs. D. Crossman (South Wales Fire & Rescue Service), Alison Palmer (CCBC/GAVO), Mr. B. Dando (Groundwork Wales), Mrs. C. Vernalls (Van Road United Reformed Church), Richard Davies (GAVO – Community Asset Transfer Support Consultant), Cllr. Julian Simmonds (Observing)

#### 1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Mrs. E. M. Aldworth, J. Bevan, Mrs. P. Cook, C. Hawker, G. Johnston, A. Lewis, D.W.R. Preece.

Also from, Ms. P. Jones (Caerphilly Care & Repair), Mrs. B. Helps (Caerphilly Parents & Carers Forum), Mr. A. Read (Cancercareline), Mrs. C. Williams (CRUSE Bereavement Care), Ms. A. Jones (Homestart Caerphilly Borough), Mr. D. Brunton (VOLUME), Insp. C. Haire & Sgt. A. O’Keefe (Gwent Police), Mrs. D. Lovering (Caerphilly Business Forum Representative), Ms. S. Crane & Ms. C. Gregory (ABUHB), Mr. J. Wade (Van Road United Reformed Church), Mr. H. Llewellyn (Town & Community Council Representative)

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None declared.

**3. MINUTES**

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming the three new Voluntary Sector Representatives joining the Committee from September (Mr R Jones (Abbeyfield), Ms L Jones (Menter Iaith) and Ms C Loring (Right from the Start), and also the newly elected councillor for Crosskeys Cllr. Julian Simmonds, sitting in on the meeting as an observer.

The Chair requested for a letter of thanks to be sent to Mr. Peter Jones, from the Abbeyfield Society thanking him for his valuable contribution to the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee over his many years of sitting on the Committee.

The Chair went through the minutes of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee 17<sup>th</sup> June 2015 for accuracy and matters arising.

On agenda item 8 within the minutes, relating to the Voluntary Sector Representatives question on offering third sector solutions to support service delivery with the New Leisure Strategy, a Voluntary Sector Representative asked for it to be added to the minutes “that the question on community centres was misunderstood by the Officer.” It was requested through the Chair for the Community Centres Service Manager who provided the information to attend the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee meeting in December, for a discussion on community centres and how the voluntary sector can be involved.

The accuracy of the minutes of 17<sup>th</sup> June 2015 was then agreed.

**4. STANDING ITEM:- WELSH GOVERNMENT OPTIONS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT RE-ORGANISATION – CLLR KEITH REYNOLDS, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL, AND CHRIS BURNS, INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Unfortunately both Cllr Reynolds and Chris Burns sent their apologies for this meeting as they had been called to an urgent meeting at short notice. However, they will attend the December Committee meeting where they will update on both local government re-organisation and the Council’s budget setting. The Chair noted at this moment in time there was no further news around local government re-organisation.

**5. COMMUNITIES ASSET TRANSFER PRESENTATION – RICHARD DAVIES, COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER CONSULTANT**

Richard Davies gave a presentation on the principles of Community Asset Transfer (CAT). He explained that his post with GAVO is funded by the Welsh Government for one year. He described his job as to advise and assist public bodies in producing a policy, procedure and process for CATs and developing a strong business case, in line with the Welsh Government National Asset Working Document:

*Community Asset Transfers in Wales – A Best Practice Guide*

<http://gov.wales/topics/people-and-communities/communities/community-asset-transfer/?lang=en>

CATs are a means by which the Voluntary and Community Sector can secure an interest in the use of public owned assets (buildings, land or services) through ownership, lease or licence, to enable them to deliver local services. The main benefit of CAT is it’s empowerment of the local community in forging its own destiny.

Richard outlined the following criteria for CATs:

- Primary purpose must be regeneration of profits where profit is returned to the organisation or the community
- A strong business plan and finances
- Good governance fully incorporated and constituted for social benefit
- Equality of Access policy that excludes 'Single use' operations
- Skills and capacity to effectively deliver services/have the potential to develop those capacities within their organisation.

There are the following property implications for CAT's, as properties are 'sold as seen', and care needs to be taken regarding maintenance costs and where this funding will come from:

- Condition of the property
- Maintenance of the property
- Existing employees / The Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 (TUPE)
- Long term planning for the future of the property.

The Chair thanked Richard Davies for his presentation, and asked if there were any questions from the Committee. Cllr. Rob Gough stated that voluntary sector organisations need some expertise in the field of consideration of possible redundancy of existing staff at some properties, and knowledge of redundancy payments / TUPE regulations. Cllr. Gough also advised that GAVO has considerable expertise when it comes to searching for funding for projects.

Groundwork Wales informed that they have specific services available to assist any organisations with their CAT.

A Voluntary Sector Representative commented he was aware of some community organisations where the management committee 'Old Guard' do not take kindly to change and new initiatives. Richard replied that this is a common situation and organisations should all implement a Succession Management Plan, to cover committee posts and maintain the function of the organisation. It may be that there are retired volunteers available for an organisation, with the necessary business acumen for CAT's.

Richard noted he was happy for organisations to contact him directly on CATs and gave his contact details as follows:

Mobile: 0772 007 2580

Telephone: 01443 229 587

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

## **6. VOLUNTARY SECTOR REPRESENTATIVES QUESTION: BUDGETS AND CONSULTATION WITH THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR**

Several Elected Members explained that the financial allocations from the UK Government to the Welsh Government are not known at present. In the normal course of events more would be known on budgets by the second week of December, but this year a Spending Review is being undertaken by the Chancellor through October and November which will delay the traditional timescales. It maybe the case that firm information will not be forthcoming until January 2016. The Chair agreed to call a special meeting of the committee when the budget is known.

It was also agreed through the Chair for an early meeting to be arranged with Martin Featherstone (CEO, GAVO) and his Deputy Emily Forbes, together with Chris Burns and the Leader on setting the Council budget, and how the voluntary Sector can help CCBC with the financial pressures.

**7. STANDING ITEM: BUDGETS – INTERIM REPORT PUBLIC SECTOR CUTS ACROSS GWENT LOCAL AUTHORITIES (VERBAL UPDATE) – EMILY FORBES, DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE, GAVO**

Emily Forbes described work being undertaken by GAVO to gather information on public sector grant cuts to voluntary organisations across Gwent. On a Wales wide level Emily handed out the latest information from the Wales Council of Voluntary Organisations 'State of the Nation Report'.

At the GAVO AGM on the 12<sup>th</sup> November in Newport, GAVO will be undertaking a survey from the membership on the effects of budgetary pressures.

Emily agreed to come back to a future meeting of the Committee to present a full report.

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

Emily Forbes said that the Voluntary Sector Awards Ceremony held recently at Blackwood Miners Institute was well attended and well received by the audience and the award winners.

A question was asked as to how many organisations benefit from rate relief. Cllr Rob Gough replied that this information is available from the Council's Corporate Finance Section.

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

**a) Update from the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board (ABUHB)**

A written report was provided with the committee papers. Cllr. Phil Bevan wondered from the report how volunteers will be utilised in improving access and quality of services through the Caerphilly County Borough Neighbourhood Care Networks, and what training they would receive. This query to be followed up through Catherine Gregory, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board.

**b) Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations**

A written report was provided with the committee papers. Cllr Lynne Ackerman praised GAVO's funding success, notably assisting Newbridge Tabernacle Church. Cllr Ackerman requested for GAVO to provide comparative yearly data for their funding and other statistics.

Mike Bridgman commented how impressed he was at the good work of GAVO, in spite of the financial situation and reduced budgets. He said that in this respect the Caerphilly County Borough would appear better than other areas of Gwent.

**c) Digest of Caerphilly County Borough Council Committee Reports**

A written report was provided with the committee papers. Following a question on the canal report Cllr Ken James, explained the reference to the Crumlin Arm of the Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal. In former years plans were discussed to have the canal navigable at Risca town centre to link with Cwmcarn Forest Drive. Ultimately the plan envisaged opening the whole of the section to join with the canal in the Newport and Torfaen sections. There are however, major financial implications affecting the canal on the Risca to Fourteen Locks stretch. The canal over the years has been culverted at a number of locations to allow road access to estates for example Ty Sign, and this bridging would cost vast amounts of money to adjust to make the canal navigable again.



Mike Bridgman noted that there was a large amount of monies carried over from the Welsh Church Act Fund, and there may be scope here for raising the amount of money awarded per successful grant application. Cllr Rob Gough said that there was concern about the low number of grant applications being received, and noted if the grant allocation is not spent that the total allocation for the following year may be reduced.

**d) South Wales Fire & Rescue Service**

A written report was provided with the committee papers. There were no questions raised on this report.

**e) Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Gwent –**

A written report was provided with the committee papers. Maria Chapman updated the Committee on a few points contained in her report. She noted that the Women's Pathfinder Scheme is now operating, which provides a whole system approach including support for women as an alternative to charging, during bail and pre-sentence and during resettlement from custody. Also the Gwent PCC in partnership with Torfaen Voluntary Alliance and Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations have funded a Third Sector Development Officer for 12 months to map the third sector that provide services aligned to the PCC's police and crime priorities. The officer will also assist in mapping areas of Gwent where people from a number of ethnic minority communities have settled. This will assist in helping those communities gain appropriate council and other agency services. Other activities would look to raise third sector awareness around the emerging commissioning landscape as existing grant funds are diminishing. With this in mind an OPCC Provider's Fair will be hosted in Christchurch Centre, Malpas, Newport on 13<sup>th</sup> October 15.

The HMIC (Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary) Report – the Peel Report has described Gwent Police as now doing well, as opposed to an earlier report previously undertaken last year.

Maria apologised for the PCC event, planned in the council chamber, having to be cancelled at short notice. This was because there had been a significant lack of response to the invitations sent out, for the meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> September.

**10. COMMUNITY PLANNING QUARTERLY BRIEFING:– JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2015**

To receive and note the following information items attached.

**11. DECISION & ACTION SUMMARY**

<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>DECISION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
1. Letter of thanks	To Peter Jones Abbeyfield (Caerphilly) Society Ltd	Letter to be sent from the Chair
2. Voluntary Sector Representatives Question	Chair requested for the Community Centres Service Manager to attend the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee meeting in December, for a discussion on community centres and how the voluntary sector can be involved	Community Centres Service Manager to attend December Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee

3. Budget	It was agreed through the Chair for an early meeting to be arranged with Martin Featherstone (CEO, GAVO) and his Deputy Emily Forbes, together with Chris Burns and the Leader on setting the budget, and how the voluntary Sector can help CCBC with the financial pressures	Meeting organised for 10 <sup>th</sup> November 2015
4. CCBC budget	It was agreed for a special meeting of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee to be called once the CCBC budget is known	Anticipated for February – March 2016
5. GAVO to gather information on public sector grant cuts to voluntary organisations across Gwent	Interim report presented, with full report to come back to the Committee	To come back to a future committee meeting to give a full report
6. Aneurin Bevan University Health Board information report	Cllr. P. Bevan wondered from the report how volunteers will be utilised in improving access and quality of services through the Caerphilly County Borough Neighbourhood Care Networks, and what training they would receive	Jackie Dix followed up through Catherine Gregory, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, with Catherine clarifying matters with Cllr. P. Bevan
7. GAVO information report	Cllr Ackerman requested for GAVO to provide comparative yearly data for their funding and other statistics	Emily Forbes to address in future reports

**12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

2nd December 2015 at 10.30am in the Sirhowy Room, Penallta House.

Meeting ended 12.06 pm.



## VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIASION COMMITTEE - 2ND DECEMBER 2015

**SUBJECT: CAERPHILLY BOROUGH ANTI POVERTY STRATEGY**

**REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR SOCIAL SERVICES**

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### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Committee Members of the Caerphilly Borough Anti Poverty Strategy, which was endorsed by Caerphilly County Borough Council's Full Council, and Caerphilly Local Service Board in June 2015. Implementation of the Anti Poverty Strategy is overseen by the Anti Poverty Board.

### 2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Caerphilly Borough Anti Poverty Strategy, was endorsed by Full Council and Caerphilly Local Service Board in June 2015. The implementation of the Strategy is overseen by the Anti Poverty Board.

### 3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 Tackling poverty is a Caerphilly Local Service Board, and Council priority, and integral to ***Caerphilly Delivers the Single Integrated Plan 2013-2017***. The Single Integrated Plan focuses on five outcome areas with poverty a key component in each to be addressed: Prosperous Caerphilly, Safer Caerphilly, Healthier Caerphilly, Learning Caerphilly and Greener Caerphilly. A wide range of public, private, voluntary and community organisations are engaged in tackling poverty through the implementation of the Single Integrated Plan.

### 4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 Following a public consultation exercise Caerphilly County Borough Council (CCBC) adopted an Anti Poverty Strategy in June 2015, which was also endorsed by Caerphilly Local Service Board (see Appendix 1 for Strategy). The Anti Poverty Strategy clearly states CCBC's commitment to tackling poverty. It brings together the broad range of activity needed to mitigate the impacts of poverty, to raise aspirations, to support people out of poverty, and to prevent poverty. CCBC is committed to ensuring local people are able to live fulfilled lives and enjoy an acceptable standard of living.
- 4.2 The Caerphilly borough approach to tackling poverty follows a model developed by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation of focusing on Prospects, Pockets, Places and Preventions as follows:
- **Prospects** – Caerphilly residents are able to develop employment skills, find work and progress within employment

- **Pockets** - Caerphilly residents are able to improve their income levels
- **Places** - Caerphilly residents are able to enjoy a high level of well-being in safe and sustainable housing and communities
- **Prevention** - Caerphilly residents who are affected or at risk of being affected by poverty have the skills and knowledge to improve their lives and achieve their potential.

4.3 An Anti Poverty Board has been established with the following membership: the Anti Poverty Champions Cllr Elaine Forehead and the Head of Public Protection, together with the Chief Housing Officer, the Chief Education Officer, the Head of Regeneration and Planning, and Gill Richardson, Executive Director for Public Health, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board. There is also a standing invitation to the Leader and Chief Executive of the Council to attend.

4.4 The Anti Poverty Board held its first meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> July 15. The meeting chaired by the Interim Chief Executive agreed to meet quarterly. There are a number of existing groups contributing to tackling poverty in the borough. The Anti Poverty Board has reviewed existing delivery arrangements and agreed to provide strategic lead to:

- The Welfare Reform Steering Group
- Poverty Programme Collaboration Group
- Training and Education Forum.

4.5 A complementary strand of work has been initiated in response to the 2014 release of the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation, which ranks St James 3 (largely comprising of Lansbury Park) as the most deprived area in Wales. The Lansbury Park Board has been established to address the multifarious adverse factors in Lansbury Park in an attempt to turn the area around in making Lansbury Park once more a desirable place to live, and to build in stability to the community. Caerphilly County Borough Council is determined to tackle the causes of this poor ranking. Work will focus on:

- Tackling low household income levels and debt
- Improving employment opportunities and helping people to become work ready
- Fostering healthy life styles in supporting and empowering local people to make healthy choices
- Focus on initiatives promoting the mental health and well being of local people
- Improving education attainment and promoting lifelong learning
- Improving access to local services through better coordination and understanding of local need.

## 5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Promoting social inclusion and tackling in-equalities is a fundamental part of the Anti Poverty Strategy.

## 6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Caerphilly County Borough Council's Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee (2<sup>nd</sup> June 2015) in commenting on the Anti Poverty Strategy noted –

*The Anti Poverty Strategy must operate within current austerity measures and therefore there is a need to be aware of the consequences of further cuts which may undermine the Strategy.*

## 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**

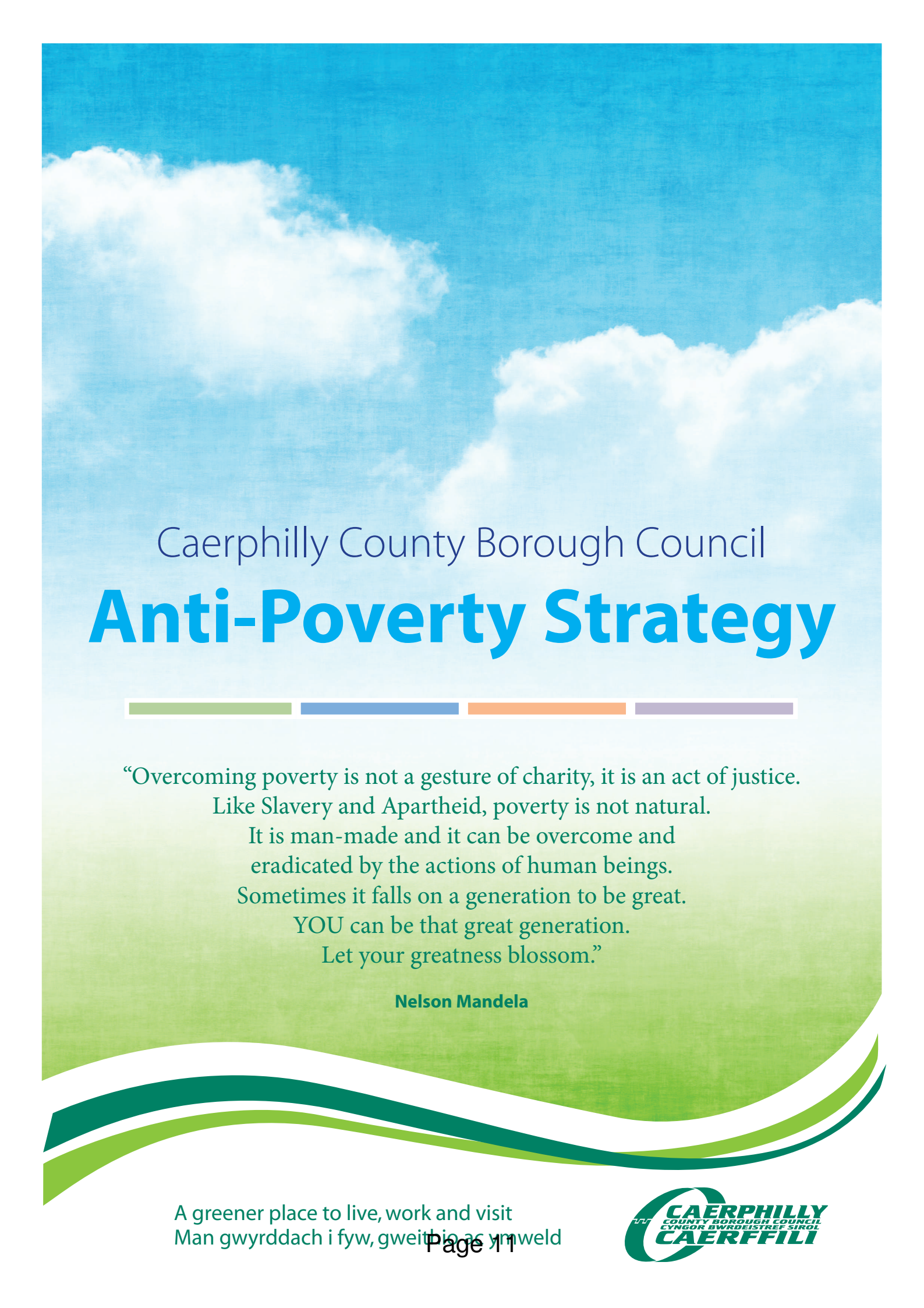
10.1 Local Government Act 2000.

Author: Rob Hartshorn, Head of Public Protection

Appendices:

Appendix 1 Anti Poverty Strategy

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Caerphilly County Borough Council

# Anti-Poverty Strategy

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“Overcoming poverty is not a gesture of charity, it is an act of justice.  
Like Slavery and Apartheid, poverty is not natural.  
It is man-made and it can be overcome and  
eradicated by the actions of human beings.  
Sometimes it falls on a generation to be great.  
YOU can be that great generation.  
Let your greatness blossom.”

**Nelson Mandela**

# Introduction

**Poverty harms people's prospects and damages their long term future. It also places a burden on public resources and service. It is in all our interests to tackle poverty.**

Caerphilly Council has a long track record of tackling poverty through a range of core services as well as the four Welsh Government funded programmes, Communities First, Flying Start, Families First and Supporting People. As a landlord we provide good quality homes and work hard to support our tenants and we are building upon this with our Welsh Housing Quality Standard improvement programme. We also work actively with our partners to tackle this priority as reflected in our single integrated plan, Caerphilly Delivers.

This Anti Poverty Strategy clearly states Caerphilly Council's commitment to tackling poverty. It confirms the priority that we give to this issue. It also brings together the broad body of activity that we have in place to mitigate the impacts of poverty, to support people out of poverty, and to prevent poverty.

We need a comprehensive approach to tackling poverty and we realise that we cannot address poverty on our own, but we wish to set out our commitment to playing our part:

Caerphilly Council is committed to ensuring its residents are able to live fulfilled lives and are not prevented from enjoying an acceptable standard of living due to economic, social or cultural disadvantage.

**In their publication "A UK Without Poverty" the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) define poverty as: When a person's resources are not enough to meet their basic needs. This includes the need to be part of society, by being able to participate in common customs and activities - like buying a birthday present for your partner or sending your child on a school trip.**

JRF go on to state that interventions that either increase the resources available to households or reduce the costs of meeting their needs will help to reduce poverty.

Recognising that the experience of poverty is dynamic, and differs at different stages of life, JRF propose that thought must be given to policies that have an impact now, those that are investments in the future and those that provide insurance against future events. This can be summed up as four Ps:

**This can be summed up as four P's:**

**Prospects:** Policies concerned with improving the life chances of individuals and their families, so people are able to escape poverty in a sustainable way.

**Pockets:** Policies concerned with boosting households' resources now – primarily by increasing their income – so they are better able to meet their needs.

**Places:** Where people live shapes their lives, affecting their job prospects and access to essential goods and services and affordable housing.

**Prevention:** Almost anyone can experience poverty during their lifetime, so policies that insure against sliding into poverty are important.



# Our Aims

Caerphilly Council is committed to ensuring its residents are able to live fulfilled lives, regardless of who they are as an individual, and are not prevented from enjoying an acceptable standard of living due to economic, social or cultural disadvantage.

**1**

## Prospects

Caerphilly residents are able to develop employment skills, find work and progress within employment.

**2**

## Pockets

Caerphilly residents are able to improve their income levels.

**3**

## Places

Caerphilly residents are able to enjoy a high level of well-being in safe and sustainable housing and communities.

**4**

## Prevention

Caerphilly residents who are affected or at risk of being affected by poverty have the skills and knowledge to improve their lives and achieve their potential.

# What we want to achieve

## 1 Prospects

1. Working age people on low incomes are helped to develop skills, achieve qualifications (formal and informal), progress to employment and progress within employment.
2. Young people are provided with key employability skills, access to accredited training and support to secure sustainable employment.
3. Caerphilly residents are supported to improve prospects for employment through the provision of community education and employment programmes.
4. Flying Start Programme will be expanded to 25 areas to support child development and parental aspirations.

## 2 Pockets

1. Caerphilly residents are provided with information, advice and assistance on a range of social welfare issues to enable them to increase household income, manage debt and develop skills to improve their financial capability.
2. Caerphilly residents are supported to reduce the impacts of rising fuel costs.
3. Quality, accessible and affordable childcare provision is promoted to enable families to improve their income through accessing education, learning and employment.
4. Through working in partnership with local employers increase local employment opportunities and identify ways to increase employees incomes.
5. Ensure that all pupils eligible for Free School Meals are in receipt of their entitlement.

## 3 Places

1. Caerphilly Residents are able to live in homes that are affordable, warm and secure without the fear of homelessness.
2. Raise levels of healthy life expectancy across the borough and encourage residents to take responsibility for their own and their families health and well-being and make use of the opportunities and support available.
3. Working in partnership with families, parents and schools to increase participation and support the development of parenting skills.

## 4 Prevention

1. Identify and support vulnerable residents and families to reduce the impacts of poverty through the provision of targeted support.
2. Caerphilly residents are supported to manage the changes to welfare reform and prepared for the introduction of Universal Credit.
3. Improve pupil performance in all key stages through supporting and challenging schools to ensure that all pupils meet challenging targets set for them.
4. Reduce the levels of smoking and obesity.

# 1 Prospects

## 1. Working age people on low income are helped to develop skills, obtain qualifications (formal and informal) progress to employment and progress within employment.

How we will achieve it	How will we know
Advice, support and training will be provided to help individuals gain the skills, qualifications and experience necessary to secure employment.	<p>Number of people supported by Communities First and Families First to gain an employment related qualification (eg First aid in the workplace, food hygiene).</p> <p>Number of people referred to employment support by Council Tenancy Support Officers and WHQS staff.</p> <p>Number of people supported through Bridges into Work (2), into employment.</p>
Caerphilly Council will provide access to IT equipment and basic IT courses in community venues for individuals who are digitally excluded to gain essential skills that may assist in securing employment.	<p>Number of people supported by Communities First to gain Basic IT skills.</p> <p>Number of adults supported by Get Caerphilly Online and Families First who gain IT accreditation.</p>

## 2. Young people are provided with key employability skills, access to accredited training and support to secure sustainable employment.

How we will achieve it	How will we know
Young People (aged 16-24) who are not in employment, education or training are supported to access opportunities which help them to succeed in life.	<p>Number of young people supported by Communities First who gain an Employment related qualification (eg First Aid in the workplace, food hygiene).</p> <p>Number of young people supported by Communities First to secure a Jobs Growth Wales Employment Opportunity.</p>

## 3. Caerphilly residents are supported to improve prospects for employment through the provision of community education and employment programmes.

How we will achieve it	How will we know
Adult Community Learning will provide a range of interventions and support to help people improve skills and progress towards employment.	<p>Number of people gaining qualifications through Working Skills for Adults.</p> <p>Number of people achieving Basic Skills qualifications through Adult Community Learning.</p>
Working in partnership (Families First, Communities First, JCP, Basic Skills Unit and Coleg Y Cymoedd) a range of learning-based support will be provided to develop basic skills in literacy, numeracy and work related skills.	<p>Percentage of parents and families with low or no basic skills.</p> <p>Number of individuals engaged in basic skills community programmes.</p>

## 4. Flying Start Programme will be expanded to 25 areas to support child development and parental aspirations.

Services will be delivered across all identified 25 areas offering families with children aged 0-3years Enhanced Health Visiting, Early Language Development, Parenting Programmes and Family Support, and funded Childcare places.	<p>Number of children accessing the Flying Start programme.</p> <p>Percentage of 2 year olds reaching or exceeding their developmental milestones through the Schedule of Growing Skills (SOGS) assessment.</p> <p>Percentage of 3 year olds reaching or exceeding their developmental milestones through the Schedule of Growing Skills (SOGS) assessment.</p>
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# 2

# Pockets

## 1. Caerphilly residents are provided with information, advice and assistance on a range of social welfare issues to enable them to increase household income, manage debt and develop skills to improve their financial capability.

How we will achieve it	How will we know
Services will be commissioned that will assist residents to increase income, reduce debt, provide skills to manage finances and deal with short term crisis.	<p>Number of council tenants referred and supported for money and debt advice as a direct result of face to face support on the impact of welfare reform.</p> <p>Number of other residents referred to commissioned debt support services.</p> <p>Number of people supported to access the benefits they are entitled to.</p> <p>Value of financial savings generated for tenants/residents as a direct result of support.</p>
Healthy Start Scheme providing vouchers for free fruit and vegetables will be promoted to increase uptake.	Number of Healthy Start Scheme vouchers issued.

## 2. Caerphilly residents are supported to reduce the impacts of rising fuel costs.

How we will achieve it	How will we know
Energy efficiency measures are undertaken on properties through the WHQS and ARBED schemes and households are provided with specialist impartial energy use advice.	<p>Number of council tenants visited and provided with advice regarding energy saving measures and energy use.</p> <p>Number of tenants whose homes have been adapted as part of the WHQS works to meet their specific needs in accordance with Part 7.</p> <p>Number of homes benefiting from energy improvement measures under the Energy Companies Obligation (ECO), ARBED or similar government initiatives.</p> <p>Number applying to NEST scheme in private rented and owner occupier sector.</p> <p>Number of properties with improved energy efficiency levels through the WHQS improvements.</p>
Caerphilly Council will actively promote and support the use of collective community energy purchase schemes to benefit social and private sector households.	Number of residents registered to Cyd Cymru.

## 3. Quality, accessible and affordable childcare provision is promoted to enable families to improve their income through accessing education, learning and employment.

How we will achieve it	How will we know
Provision of childcare through the assisted places scheme, supporting family outcomes and sustainability of childcare provision.	<p>Number of children accessing places through Flying Start Childcare and the Assisted Places Scheme.</p> <p>Number of childcare settings offering contracted places in the borough.</p>

## 2

# Pockets

### 4. Through working in partnership with local employers increase local employment opportunities and identify ways to increase employees incomes.

How we will achieve it	How will we know
The Living Wage is promoted to businesses throughout the borough.	Businesses committing to the living wage.
Appropriate Council contracts to contain community benefit clauses such as targeted recruitment and training to create opportunities for local people.	Number of job created through WHQS targeted recruitment and training schemes.
Support the development of existing and new businesses.	Number of jobs created Number of jobs safeguarded.

### 5. Ensure that all pupils eligible for Free School Meals are in receipt of their entitlement.

How we will achieve it	How will we know
Promote the take up of Free School Meals.	Percentage of eligible pupils taking up the opportunity to access Free School Meals.

## 3 Places

### 1. Caerphilly residents are able to live in homes that are affordable, warm and secure without the fear of homelessness

How we will achieve it	How will we know
Residents are supported to live independently in their own homes.	Number of residents supported by Supporting People, tenancy support officers and Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS) officers to live independently.  Number of council homes adapted to comply with Part 7 of WHQS.
Existing council housing will be refurbished and future housing planned to meet the needs of the citizens of the county.	Number of properties refurbished to WHQS.  Carbon savings achieved on council housing stock via insulation schemes.
We will engage with private sector housing to provide advice and guidance to landlords and advice and assistance to tenants to maintain or access affordable housing in the PRS.	Number of landlords and letting agents accredited.  Number of PRS tenants supported to access or maintain existing tenancies.

### 2. Raise levels of healthy life expectancy across the borough and encourage residents to take responsibility for their own and their families health and well-being and make use of the opportunities and support available.

How we will achieve it	How will we know
A range of community based programmes will be provided to encourage healthy lifestyles.	Number of residents participating in Communities First, Flying Start and Families First healthy living programmes (eg Foodwise, Post and Pre Natal support package, mental health promotion, HENRY).  SF-36 Mental Component Summary Score (Welsh Health Survey).

### 3. Working in partnership with families, parents and schools to increase participation and support the development of parenting skills.

How we will achieve it	How will we know
Co-ordinate the provision of and access to Parenting Programmes to improve parenting skills.	Number of parents attending Families First and Flying Start Parenting Programmes.  Percentage of parents reporting they understand their child's needs better.
Communities First, in partnership with the Parent Network, will work with selected Secondary Schools to support families to overcome barriers and engage in their child's education.	

# 4

# Prevention

## 1. Identify and support vulnerable residents and families to reduce the impacts of poverty through the provision of targeted support.

How we will achieve it	How will we know
Through structured training and awareness sessions Caerphilly Council staff are able to signpost and refer residents to appropriate advice and support across a range of service areas and partners.	Corporate training statistics.
Through Supporting Family Change project (Families First and ISCAN (Integrated Service for Children with Additional Needs)) facilitate and deliver "joined-up" and coordinated services for individuals and families who need multi-agency support over and above universal services.	Number of families in receipt of Supporting Family Change support.  Percentage of families who feel that Supporting Family Change has made a positive difference to them on case closure.
Provide children and young people with access to educational or learning opportunities in non-formal and formal settings that contribute to reducing risk taking, anti-social behaviour and low level offending.	Number of young people achieving accredited outcomes through the Youth Service.
Provide targeted support to engage, build confidence and raise the aspirations of families who require more intensive support at a preventative level.	Number of families accessing universal services  Number of families engaged in outreach and flexible group sessions.

## 2. Caerphilly residents are supported to manage the changes to welfare reform and prepared for the introduction of Universal Credit.

How we will achieve it	How will we know
CCBC website is kept up to date and promoted as an information resource for both staff and residents.	Number of 'hits' on selected pages.
Residents are visited in their own homes and provided with advice and support with the changes.	Number of residents visited by Supporting People and Tenancy Support Officers.  Percentage of council tenants satisfied with the visit.

## 3. Improve pupil performance in all key stages through supporting and challenging schools to ensure that all pupils meet challenging targets set for them.

How we will achieve it	How will we know
Improve Key Stage 2, 3 and 4 results through supporting and challenging schools to ensure that all young people achieve the expected level at the end of each Key Stage.	Number / Percentage of children achieving Foundation Phase Indicator at of the Foundation Phase.  Number /Percentage of children achieving Core Subject Indicator at Key Stage 2.  Number /Percentage of children achieving Core Subject Indicator at Key Stage 3.  Number /Percentage of young people achieving Level 2+.  Threshold (5 GCSE's A* - C, including English/Welsh and Maths).

## 4 Prevention

### 3. Improve pupil performance in all key stages through supporting and challenging schools to ensure that all pupils meet challenging targets set for them.

How we will achieve it	How will we know
<p>Improve the performance of those pupils in receipt of Free School Meals against pupils who are not eligible for Free School Meals.</p>	<p>Percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals (FSM) who achieve the Foundation Phase Indicator (in teacher assessments) compared to pupils who are not eligible for free school meals.</p> <p>Number / Percentage of pupils eligible for FSMs who achieve the Core Subject Indicator at Key Stage2 (KS2), compared to pupils who are not eligible for free school meals.</p> <p>Number / Percentage of pupils eligible for FSMs who achieve the Core Subject Indicator at Key Stage3 (KS3), compared to pupils who are not eligible for free school meals.</p> <p>Number / Percentage of pupils eligible for FSMs who achieve the Level 2+ Threshold (5 GCSE's A* - C, including English/ Welsh and Maths), compared to pupils who are not eligible for free school meals.</p>
<p>Target key schools to improve attendance, reduce disengagement, improve social skills and reduce exclusions.</p>	<p>Number of young people with improved academic performance.</p> <p>Number of young people with increased attendance.</p> <p>Percentage of primary school attendance.</p> <p>Percentage of secondary school attendance.</p>

### 4. Reduce the levels of smoking and obesity.

How we will achieve it	How will we know
<p><b>Smoking:</b> Provide education in schools on the benefits of not smoking.</p> <p>Increase uptake of smoking cessation services.</p> <p>Train staff in brief intervention techniques for smoking.</p> <p><b>Obesity:</b> Promote healthy eating and physical activity.</p>	<p>Percentage of adults who reported being a current smoker (Welsh Health Survey).</p> <p>Percentage of adults reporting eating 5 or more portions of fruit or vegetables per day (Welsh Health Survey).</p> <p>Percentage of adults reported being active on 5 or more days in the past week (Welsh Health Survey).</p>





## VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE - 2ND DECEMBER 2015

**SUBJECT: REVIEW OF COMPACT AGREEMENT AND ANNUAL COMPACT ACTION PLAN**

**REPORT BY: ACTING DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES**

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

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- a) suggest a process for reviewing the Compact Agreement, and Annual Compact Action Plan;
- b) provide an opportunity for a discussion on the new policy directions ushered under the Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and implications for ways of working; and
- c) seek nominations to sit on the Compact Review task and finish group to be convened by the Policy Unit.

### **2. SUMMARY**

2.1 The Compact is an agreement between organisations and the Voluntary Sector in the Caerphilly County Borough. The Compact recognises the mutual benefits that can be gained from close co-operation and sets out guidelines for how all parties should work together. The Compact is delivered and monitored through an annual Compact Action Plan, which provides a detailed programme of work for shared activities.

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

- 3.1 The Voluntary Sector makes an important contribution to public service provision across the Caerphilly County Borough, and plays a key role in the implementation of *Caerphilly Delivers - The Single Integrated Plan 2013-2017*.
- 3.2 The Compact Action Plan is integral for operationalising the strategic, high level document *Delivery Together Compact Agreement 2013-2017* into practical shared work activities by the Compact Partners.

### **4. THE REPORT**

#### **4.1 Compact Agreement Review**

4.1.1 The Compact is an agreement between organisations and the Voluntary and Community Sector in the Caerphilly County Borough. The Compact recognises the mutual benefits that can be gained from close co-operation and sets out guidelines for how all parties should work together, and is delivered through an Annual Compact Action Plan, which includes over 70 actions. The Compact was first established in 1999, and is now in its fifth edition - *Delivering Together Compact Agreement 2013-2017*.

- 4.1.2 Every four years the Compact Agreement is reviewed, and it is intended for a comprehensive review to commence in March 2016, convened by the Policy Unit through a task and finish group consisting of GAVO officers, nominated Voluntary Sector Representatives, and a representative from each of the Compact Partners:-
- Gwent Police
  - Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner Office
  - Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
  - South Wales Fire and Rescue Service
  - Caerphilly county borough Community/Town Councils
  - Caerphilly Business Forum.
- 4.1.3 A thorough review of the Compact Agreement will be undertaken ensuring the Agreement closely relates to the Future Generations Act (Wales) Act 2015, which comes into implementation for public sector bodies from April 2016, replacing Local Service Boards with Public Service Boards, and introducing the following 7 wellbeing goals:
1. A more prosperous Wales
  2. A resilient Wales
  3. A healthier Wales
  4. A more equal Wales
  5. A Wales of cohesive communities
  6. A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language
  7. A globally responsible Wales.
- 4.1.4 The way these goals are pursued is crucial for fully meeting both the ethos and the requirements of the Act. In tackling the goals the sustainable development principle, is the integrating factor, recognising that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- 4.1.5 The Compact Agreement has always been grounded on the principal of community planning, initially through the Caerphilly Borough Community Strategy, now the Single Integrated Plan. The Future Generations Act will be replacing Single Integrated Plans, with Wellbeing Plans, which will provide the future framework for both the Compact Agreement and the Annual Compact Action Plan.
- 4.1.6 Following the May 2016 National Assembly Elections the future direction of Local Government Reorganisation in Wales will become clearer for possible incorporation in the new Compact Agreement. For example, an invitation to become a Compact Partner could be extended to further organisations that CCBC may need to collaborate with.
- 4.1.7 This time, it is suggested the review process, will also look in more detail at what the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee is aiming to achieve through its annual Compact Action Plan. The current intention of this annual plan is to provide a detailed programme of work for shared activities by the Compact Partners, with progress monitored through the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee, and an Annual Report produced on the achievements of Compact working. Although subject to consultation every year by Compact Partners and officers contributing information on the activity areas across the Compact Partner organisations, there has been little change to the format of the Compact Action Plan since 2009, with the need now to refresh the Committee's annual work programme, and especially so in the light of the Future Generations (Wales) Act.
- 4.1.8 It is envisaged that a number of meetings of the task and finish group will be needed in undertaking the review and scoping content for the revised Compact Agreement and format for the Annual Compact Action Plans. The meetings will take place between March to July, with the drafting of the revised Compact Agreement and Compact Action Plan by the Policy Unit taking place over the Autumn for consideration, and endorsement by the December 2016 Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee. The revised Compact Agreement will also need to be endorsed by Cabinet, and also by similar structures of ratification in the Compact Partner organisations. A Compact Agreement for 2017-2021 will also be going to Caerphilly Local Service Board for endorsement. The Compact Agreement will be published April 2017.

## 5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Promoting equalities is a fundamental part of the work of Compact Partners and features prominently in the Compact Agreement, and Annual Compact Action Plan.

## 6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 None arising.

## 7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 None arising.

## 8. CONSULTATIONS

- 8.1 Compact Partners were invited to give comments before the report was considered at the December Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee, with the comments below received:

- **Gwent Police & Crime Commissioner** - the review will also need to consider the impact of cuts on all organisations and each organisations capacity to deliver and attend meetings. There is a need to make meetings meaningful and outcome focussed rather than meeting for the sake of meeting.
- **South Wales Fire and Rescue Service** - the only issue will be the number of meetings required, with the Service covering all 10 Unitary Authorities.
- **GAVO:**
  - It would be helpful to reflect the wider legislative framework that sets the strategic context at the moment in addition to the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act, Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 and Public Service Reform;
  - The Welsh Government's new Principles for Working with Communities will need to be taken into account - <http://gov.wales/about/cabinet/cabinetstatements/2015/workingcommunities/?lang=en>
  - The Welsh Government is currently drafting guidance likely to advocate a shift in language from local Compacts to local Third Sector Schemes. GAVO sits on the national working group preparing for this new guidance and would be able to advise of the need to reflect any changes locally in the Caerphilly borough. In the same vein, we may wish to consider language of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee itself and test whether this fits the new policy framework;
  - Membership may need to be reviewed to reflect new members of Public Service Boards (such as NRW);
  - A discussion on additionality and added value of partnership working would be useful and
  - it would be helpful to scope Third Sector Engagement in the existing Single Integrated Plan and in the transition to Wellbeing Plans.

## 9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 For members to:

1. Comment on the new policy directions and suggested review process for the Compact Agreement, and Annual Compact Action Plan.
2. Nominate representatives to sit on the Compact Review task and finish group to be convened by the Policy Unit.

## 10. STATUTORY POWER

### 10.1 Local Government Act 2000.

Author: Jackie Dix, Policy and Research Manager, CCBC  
Consultees: Cllr. Carter, Chair of Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee  
Bob Cooke, Vice Chair of Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee  
Colin Jones, Head of Performance and Property, CCBC  
Rob Hartshorn, Head of Public Protection, CCBC  
Howard Rees, Programme Manager, CCBC  
Martin Featherstone, Chief Executive, GAVO  
Emily Forbes, Deputy Chief Executive, GAVO  
Alison Palmer, Community Planning Coordinator GAVO/CCBC  
John Elliott, Research Officer, CCBC  
Maria Chapman, Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner Office  
Ian Bartholomew, Nicholas McLain and Andrew O'Keefe Gwent Police  
Sam Crane, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board  
Donna Crossman, South Wales Fire and Rescue Service  
Cllr. Howard Llewellyn, Caerphilly borough Community/Town Councils  
Denise Lovering, Caerphilly Business Forum



## VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE - 2ND DECEMBER 2015

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

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

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### **NCN UPDATE REPORT:**

#### **1. SIGNPOSTING**

Signposting to services which can provide support, advice and help on a wide variety of issues can massively reduce the burden on families.

The Neighbourhood Care Networks, Primary Mental Health Team and Third Sector are working together to improve sign posting to local mental health support services.

Caerphilly NCNs are increasing their awareness of dementia through the development of dementia friendly communities and will be working with the new Dementia Primary Care Support Workers in the community supporting patients and families with new diagnosis of dementia.

#### **2. LIVING WELL LIVING LONGER (LWLL) PROGRAMME**

LWLL will start in the north of the county borough in November 2015. This is a Welsh Government Tackling Poverty priority and is being delivered on a pilot basis by Aneurin Bevan University Health Board and Public Health Wales.

Within Caerphilly county borough it will cover selected GP practices from Rhymney down to Ystrad Mynach and Markham (NCN North). In addition, following partnership discussions, it has also been agreed to deliver the programme in Lansbury Park.

The programme invites residents, age 40-64 (who are not currently on a chronic disease register), who live in the most deprived areas of ABUHB, to receive a cardiovascular risk assessment – a midlife MOT. In Caerphilly, it is anticipated that this will target around 7000 residents. Assessment will take place in local community venues.

Individuals are then supported to identify lifestyle changes to lower their identified risks and signposted to local services.

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

Working with a wide range of partners has seen an impact on the number of people referred into smoking cessation services and people stopping smoking in Caerphilly.

The majority of GP practices in Caerphilly now have smoking cessation champions who collate and make referrals into support services.

To increase uptake of smoking cessation services by pregnant women discussions have been held between midwives and Stop Smoking Wales, following which the way referrals are made by the midwifery service has been revised to make it more efficient and effective.

NCNs have funded training for Communities First staff in Caerphilly to delivery smoking cessation support to our most deprived communities.

There are currently 14 pharmacies offering an enhanced Level 3 smoking cessation support services across Caerphilly, with a further 4 awaiting accreditation.

Author: Catherine Gregory (ABUHB – Planning)



## VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE – 2 ND DECEMBER 2015

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

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

### GAVO QUARTER 2 REPORT

#### 1. KEY DATA FOR APRIL 2015 – SEPTEMBER 2015

Caerphilly	Yearly Target	Qtr 1	Qtr 2
Volunteers Placed	250	82	81
Enquiries good practice in managing volunteers	40	32	37
Website visitors	62000	18399	18379
Enquiries	4000	1353	1964
Trustee Enquiries	500	112	71
Trustee Events	5	0	0
Event participants	120	0	0
Funding advice enquiries	300	42	72
Funding events	7	0	4
Event participants	70	0	16
Funding obtained by groups	£250,000	£76,314	£925,680
New orgs/social enterprise developed	30	4	8
Strategic planning groups	35	10	18
Third Sector Networks / forums	10	6	5
Membership	370	370	350

#### 2. OVERVIEW

At a national level, Welsh Government, via a working group, have completed a report with recommendations setting out future plans for Welsh Infrastructure organisations (WCVA, CVCs and Volunteer Centres). Welsh Government has made it clear that an increased pace of change re: regional working is required, even if that does not fit with timelines for potential local government reform. GAVO continues to work collaboratively with Torfaen Voluntary Alliance (TVA) to ensure regional service provision for third sector support across Gwent and last year, submitted a Regional plan across the Greater Gwent (Health Board) footprint. We have also increased regional working through training provision and support for Volunteer management through collaborative approaches across the two CVCs.

At local levels, GAVO continues to deliver excellent services for the third sector and is on track with its key performance indicators for Core Delivery in Caerphilly, having exceeded some targets for the second quarter. A programme of Trustee events is planned for Trustee Week (2-9 November).

Internally GAVO has recruited to the ICT Officer and Administrator posts, highlighted as vacant in the last report. Throughout the period, there has been an increased focus on GAVO's Governance frameworks, structures and reporting as well as preparations for training for trustees and Local Committee members with a new GAVO Governance Toolkit developed for Board members. During the quarter a number of GAVO Committee meetings and team meetings took place. GAVO Thematic groups are driving forward key strategic aims under themes of: Marketing; Third Sector Support; Tackling Poverty; Volunteering; Training and Skills; Business Development and Income Generation; Health, Social Care and Wellbeing; Safeguarding; Health and Safety.

Planning is underway for GAVO's Annual General meeting (12 November), at the Christchurch Centre, Newport. This year the AGM is themed 'Building Third Sector Resilience in a changing world' with keynote speeches from ABUHB and Gwent Police; GAVO's Funding Conference will follow in the afternoon.

### **3. STRATEGIC WORKING AND ENGAGEMENT IN POLICY**

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.

Representation of third sector interests at strategic partnerships include Caerphilly LSB, Leads Group and Delivery Group, RDP LAG, Caerphilly Access Forum, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board Partnership, and Greater Gwent Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Partnership. The third sector is also represented through membership of the Wellbeing Integration Network, the 3 Neighbourhood Care Networks and the Social Care Workforce Joint CCB and BG Partnership Board (where third sector providers are well represented through the open forum).

GAVO facilitated the Caerphilly Voluntary Sector Representatives nomination process in the last quarter according to the Terms of Reference; as nominations did not exceed vacancies, voting was not required and new members have now been elected. GAVO continues to facilitate Voluntary Sector Representatives meetings which capture third sector issues and feed into full Liaison Committee meetings on a quarterly basis.

Third Sector representations continue to be made to offer support to the local authority, particularly looking for new solutions to third sector delivery of public services. It is difficult to obtain a definitive list of services to be discussed, as, understandably, this information can be politically sensitive. A keen focus currently is community centres and leisure services, and whether there is scope for new models of delivery in these areas. Discussions are scheduled at Liaison Committee in December. Additionally, GAVO's CEO and Deputy CEO will be meeting with the Leader and CEO of the local authority to discuss financial implications for the sector given likely budget cuts ahead.

Asset Transfer is moving up the agenda, with Welsh Government's consultation on Protecting Community Assets closing during the period (11 Sep); GAVO facilitated a number of consultation workshops to feed into the exercise. GAVO's Deputy Chief Executive has been invited to a Welsh Government led External Advisory Group on Asset Transfer (first meeting due October 2015). GAVO's Regional Community Asset Transfer Support Officer (CATSO), continues to work with representatives of the local authority, particularly on the adoption of best practice policy, procedure and process for Community Asset Transfer, which is being taken forward for ratification through internal processes. As raised previously, there are potentially 42 community centres in Caerphilly which could be transferred to third sector ownership. Additionally, there is a cultural shift in viewing assets as not simply buildings, but also the services attached to those building; therefore, part of the dialogue re: third sector service delivery links very closely with potential CATs.



GAVO's Deputy CEO and TVA's Senior Officer met with Caerphilly Procurement Team to explore options to support third sector organisations to tender for and deliver services in Caerphilly and on a wider Gwent footprint. Agreement was reached that we need to seek opportunities for third sector providers to influence service design at an early stage, rather than tendering for a service that is already specified and limited. CCBC's Head of Procurement is very open and willing to make the process as easy and attractive as possible to encourage third sector providers; the challenge now is to find a real case study / example to demonstrate this commitment and best practice.

#### **4. CONTRIBUTION TO SIP**

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**

##### **Core Development work**

GAVO's core Third Sector Support service continues to offer governance and funding advice and one to one support to third sector organisations. In the reporting period, 71 trustee enquiries were received and responded to and 8 new groups established. A fantastic funding outcome was achieved this quarter, with a total of £925,680 confirmed for third sector groups – most of which coming from a large bid to Welsh Government for Newbridge Tabernacle Baptist Church building refurbishment which has required extensive support from Caerphilly's Third Sector Development Manager. A range of community, allotment and church groups have received support in the period, a notable number of which are run by older people. These include groups such as Cwmcarn OAP's, Risca OAP's, Bedwas over 50's, Crosskeys Community Group, and Libanus Lifestyles. A number of community groups have also been developing luncheon clubs and a number of the allotment groups have been focussing on developing relationships with primary schools with the aim of passing on skills to children.

GAVO's newly defined Membership offer will be live from 1 October 2015 (Qtr 3). This will be a huge piece of work in order to ensure all members reaffirm their membership through new forms and processes. It is likely that next quarter will therefore see a decrease in membership for every area of GAVO, whilst forms are being completed and collated and out of date information removed from databases; progress and initial numbers will be reported in Qtr 3.

The newly formatted One Beat Roadshow programme has begun with support from CCBC Communications Team; the first event in Blackwood on 11 July and the second in Rhymney on 7 October. Between the two events, over 60 third sector stalls were booked and 80+ public attended.

Further to the last quarter report, the "Are you on the Radar" Event was held on 23rd July for all Voluntary Sector Forum participants/members to provide networking, information and revitalise the Forum structure. The consultation workshop aimed at ensuring the forum meets the needs of third sector organisations in the borough and encourages a more diverse range to get involved in providing representation to the Liaison committee and other engagement structures. Discussion groups commented on where, when and how often forums should be held. Initial findings suggest appetite for a single Caerphilly wide Forum; this has since been followed up with an online survey open for 6 weeks, to gather views from those unable to attend the event. Following analysis of results, added to the outcomes from the event, it is hoped GAVO will be able to announce the consensus for future direction of the forums towards the end of November.

##### **Grant administration**

GAVO continues to administer Caerphilly's Health Social Care and Wellbeing grant and Gwirvol Cash for you Grant, equally across the GAVO footprint. In the last quarter, GAVO has agreed to deliver a community benefit grant scheme of £18,000 on behalf of Lightsource Renewable Energy.

## **Active and Involved Citizens**

Another fantastic Volunteer Achievement Awards evening was held, this year in Blackwood Miner's Institute which proved to be a great venue. The event was a success due to the strong partnership work and support of CCBC's Communication and Policy teams. A new format was introduced this year, where guests invited to present awards, also read out the details of the volunteer's achievements which worked very well. GAVO's Volunteering Officer gave a passionate speech on the power and value of volunteering. Alison Palmer compered the evening faultlessly and all who attended commented that the event ran very smoothly and was a great celebration of volunteering in the borough. The Supreme Volunteer was Bryn Pontin from Cwmfelinfach, nominated by the Forester Walk Club, Cwmfelinfach Community Centre Management Committee and Cwmfelinfach Residents Association for his work in the community. The Supreme Volunteer award was presented to Bryn by Sir Simon Boyle, Lord-Lieutenant for Gwent and President of GAVO.

Since the last report, GAVO's Volunteering Team has launched a new Certificate Scheme to recognise the number of hours volunteered by adults (in the same vein as the young people's Millennium Volunteering Scheme). This has already proved extremely popular and a number of certificates have already been signed by GAVO Board members and Senior Management Team.

Welsh Government's Volunteering policy was launched at the Eisteddfod in late summer and throughout this period GAVO redrafted its own Volunteering Policy, not only to reflect best practice set out by Welsh Government, but also to ensure that its policy was up to date and meaningful. This will be ratified through policy approval frameworks within GAVO's Governance structure next quarter.

Caerphilly Volunteering Team has continued to engage at a local level with various organisations, to maintain the visibility of Caerphilly Volunteering and increase the awareness of volunteering opportunities across the borough. Volunteering Officers support organisations with best practice in terms of recruitment and management of volunteers, placing 81 volunteers and answering 37 best practice enquiries - an increase on last quarter best practice enquiries, and reaching the annual target already.

## **Healthier**

Caerphilly Health and Social Care Alliance continues to support the facilitation of a thriving and sustainable third sector in Caerphilly through keeping abreast of Health and Social Care policy issues, attendance at Neighbourhood Care Networks, responding to policy consultations and feeding information into other partnerships. GAVO continues to support the local authority and local health board partners in implementing the Social Services and Wellbeing Act by:

- Representation at Greater Gwent Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Partnership (at both Leadership group and Partnership Forum);
- Health and Social Care Facilitator role brokering partnerships;
- Facilitating consultation events with providers;
- Submitting responses to consultation on particular elements of the Act;
- Regular communication with third sector organisations re: mapping services (supporting the Information Advice and Assistance element of the Act);
- Updating third sector networks and forums on the legislation and opportunities for third sector involvement;
- Promoting development of social enterprises or other third sector structures through Core Development Teams;
- Training Community Health Champions;
- Delivery of EPP Programme.

Caerphilly County Borough and partners including GAVO are leading the way on developing a Dementia Friendly Community, with piloting a new approach to supporting people living with dementia and their carers. Caerphilly Borough has recently been awarded the 'working towards a dementia friendly community 2015/16' by the Alzheimer's Society and an action plan will develop the initiative across the borough. GAVO is a member of the steering group taking this forward and producing an action plan for Caerphilly. The Health and Social Care Facilitator was also invited to a panel discussion on Dementia at the National Assembly in Cardiff providing an opportunity to share best practice from Caerphilly Borough in relation to the development of the Dementia Friendly Communities Initiative.

### **Sunflower Hospital Volunteering Project (Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr)**

Volunteers continue to be referred from the Volunteer Centre but this period has also seen an influx of new volunteers who study health and social care programmes at the local college. There are limited hospital befriending schemes in the area so local students take up the opportunity to volunteer with the Sunflower Project to undertake the experiential volunteering hours required of their curriculum. These have either learned of the project through word of mouth or have been signposted by the college. From April to September, 46 people were interviewed and there were up to 35 active volunteers.

The project has an embedded Parkinson's Awareness volunteering scheme which allows the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board to raise awareness across the wards about the disease. The volunteers promote the aim of ensuring that such patients receive their medication on time.

There is more reliance on the project staff and volunteers assisting the Health Board with distributing and completing patient experience questionnaires. Additionally, project staff have recently received training to support ward staff with a mealtime companion scheme for patients which is scheduled to start shortly. Assistance in these areas alleviates some pressures on ward staff.

Over the last 6 month period, there were 3719 instances of patient befriending with 281 people receiving pampering sessions and 521 involved in group activities.

### **Learning**

GAVO provides a range of training as part of its infrastructure support to the third sector. GAVO is a member of the POVA trainers network with the Workforce Development team and the Safeguarding Boards' Training Group's for both Children and Adults, as well as contributing to the content for delivery. There has been a significant uptake of training in Caerphilly in the quarter (which is often in the case in September). GAVO delivered 23 courses to 199 participants. A range of activities have been planned for Trustees Week 2-6th November across GAVO, including training and events for trustees on good governance, finance and the roles and responsibilities of trustees in Caerphilly county borough.

Two of the Community Voice Projects in CCB have got together, Menter Iaith and RVS Care to Listen, Listen to Care, and have been arranging for children from Welsh language schools to visit care homes to sing and meet the residents. It has proved very successful with Welsh speaking/learning young people getting to talk to residents whose first language may have been Welsh and residents enjoying the opportunity to join in with familiar songs.

### **Safer**

The Regional OPCC Third Sector Development Officer has had a busy second quarter, preparing for a large scale Gwent wide Provider Fair. This event follows on the mapping exercise reported on in the last quarter, to raise awareness of Third Sector service provision across Gwent, of which organisations are delivering services that match the priorities of the Police and Crime Plan. The event planned for Quarter 3 aims to bring together Third Sector

organisations and Commissioners to explore new ways for designing and delivering services effectively across Gwent, under the police and crime priorities. The Development Officer attends meetings of the Safer Caerphilly Delivery group and GAVO and Torfaen Voluntary Alliance (TVA) are members of Safer Gwent meetings.

### **Community Voice Programme Case Study**

GAVO is funded by the Big Lottery to manage the Valley Voices portfolio. The aim is to provide opportunities for Welsh communities to get their voice heard by connecting them with Local and National decision makers. The Valley Voices Portfolio consists of 9 projects and covers Caerphilly and Blaenau Gwent. The following success story is from Draethen, Waterloo & Rudry (DWR) Community Council - 'One Voice for a Safer Community'.

DWR One Voice for a Safer Community – was developed to tackle the road safety issues that impact on the villages of Draethen, Waterloo and Rudry on a daily basis. The villages are situated in the green belt area between Caerphilly, Newport and Cardiff and as a result the country lanes are used as a rat-run for commuters. Community spirit has declined as residents no longer feel safe walking along the country lanes so local people have taken a number of actions to address local issues including meetings with local authority officers, setting up a working group, developing a shared action plan and undertaking surveys. The DWR Working Group undertook the Door to Door Engagement Survey and produced a questionnaire and information leaflet to hand out to every resident they interviewed. The survey aimed to get 150 replies for an effective survey and managed to get 185 replies.

### **Traffic Survey**

On the 4th June from 7.00am until 7.00pm fifty six volunteers participated in a traffic survey that covered ten points around Draethen, Waterloo and Rudry. Up to that date, 95 people had signed up to the project, 53 of whom were members of the DWR Timebank. On the day a further 17 people signed up to the Timebank. The day went without a single hitch. A minibus transported volunteers to the different traffic points. Refreshments were available throughout the day at Rudry Parish Hall or HQ as it affectionately became known.

## **5. CONTACTS**

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

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Author: Emily Forbes, Assistant Chief Executive, GAVO



## VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE – 2ND DECEMBER 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):-

#### **CRIME AND DISORDER SCRUTINY COMMITTEE, 19TH MARCH 2015 DOMESTIC ABUSE PROCESSES FOR VICTIMS.**

The Community Safety Manager and the Domestic Abuse Coordinator, in response to a members request at the meeting held on 20th March 2014, provided Members with an overview of the report, which highlighted the services available across the borough to victims of Domestic Abuse and in particular, what support is available to victims in crisis outside of normal working hours.

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.

In addition, the Committee noted that various projects and preventative educational activities are conducted with young people, such as Safe Relationships Training within schools, to

educate young people on the signs of Domestic Abuse and the #caerphillystandingtogether campaign, which asks young people to 'tweet their feet' to raise awareness of domestic abuse and demonstrate their support to the campaign.

### **CRIME AND DISORDER SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 10TH SEPTEMBER 2015**

The purpose of this report is to inform Elected Members of the new Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 and in particular the duty placed on specified authorities for Prevent and Channel.

The Government's national counter-terrorism strategy CONTEST has four components: Prevent, Pursue, Protect and Prepare. The Prevent component of the strategy is a partnership responsibility with 'specified authorities' including local government, police, health, criminal justice, education and child care sectors, playing a key role in identifying and supporting at risk individuals. Prevent primarily focuses on preventing vulnerable people from being drawn into extremism, and committing acts of terrorism, through the Channel multi agency process.

The Act places the 'Prevention of People Being Drawn into Terrorism' and 'The Support for People Vulnerable to Being Drawn into Terrorism' on a statutory footing. The Act is supported by two sets of statutory guidance relevant to the specified authority role. The Prevent Duty Guidance' and 'The Channel Duty Guidance.' The relevant Sections of the Act came into force on the 1st of July 2015.

### **EDUCATION FOR LIFE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 22ND SEPTEMBER 2015**

#### **REDUCTION IN FUNDING FOR ADULT COMMUNITY LEARNING**

To inform members of the outcome of the reduction of funding, for the academic year 2015/16.

Over the past 2 years there has been a significant reduction in funding for Adult Community Learning. This has resulted in the service having to make changes in the delivery model and reduce the amount of provision it can support.

The number of learners has decreased from 2664 in 13/14 to 2061 in 2014/15. This reflects the reduction in the number of courses the service was able to provide in 14/15. It is anticipated that this figure will continue to decrease due to the funding reductions for 15/16.

### **HEALTH, SOCIAL CARE AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 20TH OCTOBER 2015**

#### **FIT FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS – A CHILDHOOD OBESITY STRATEGY FOR GWENT TO 2025**

This report seeks the Committee's views on a draft childhood obesity strategy for Gwent to 2025. The report also aims to assist in the development of an organisational understanding of the significant impact of obesity and childhood obesity on people and the public service sector.

The draft childhood obesity strategy and action list presents a vision of healthier, fitter future generations – where obesity will not be harming children and limiting the wellbeing of future generations in Gwent as it is today. It outlines the important and wide ranging benefits to people, communities and public services from effective and co-ordinated action on childhood obesity.

The Strategy makes the case that childhood obesity should be included as a priority wellbeing objective, for both Public Service Boards and organisations because of its relevance to the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the significant harm childhood obesity causes right across the wellbeing goals.

Following analysis of local action from comprehensively collected sources and a thorough analysis of the evidence, including the views of people and practitioners, the strategy recommends areas for action for ABUHB, Local Authorities and Public Service Boards. This strategy is a "call to co-ordinate" and suggests shared governance for accountability and

scrutiny within both organisations and Local/Public Service Boards.

## **REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 15TH SEPTEMBER 2015 CONSIDERATION OF IMPLEMENTING 20 MPH SPEED LIMITS IN CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH**

The report considered the implications of implementing 20mph speed limits across the county borough within residential areas, and had been prepared following a request from a Member of the Regeneration and Environment Scrutiny Committee.

Officers explained that the Council's adopted Speed Management Strategy (SMS) is an evidenced-based approach that seeks to implement 20mph speed limits and zones in accordance with national guidance and best practice. Through this SMS, 20mph speed limits or zones are only considered for implementation in a fairly localised area around a school or locations of main attractors of vulnerable road users.

The SMS requires the school to have a Travel Plan as this provides useful information and evidence about problems and also secures additional benefits such as a commitment to travel more sustainably and community support. The main benefit of a 20mph speed limit outside schools is that it encourages sustainable travel and also educates drivers (and future drivers) about the area in which they travel being in close proximity to a main attractor of vulnerable road users.

To date 20mph limits have been introduced around 38 school sites (over half of the schools within the county borough). Each year the schools continue to develop their Travel Plans and at present the Engineering Services Division is working with 16 schools to develop their Travel Plans and action plans, some of which will result in further 20mph limits.

### **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





## VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE – 2<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER 2015

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

**REPORT BY: SOUTH WALES FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE**

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The South Wales Fire and Rescue Service has carried out the following work of interest within the Caerphilly Borough area since the last Voluntary Sector Committee Meeting held on 16th September 2015.

### Participation in Operation Bang

Each year anti-social behaviour and the dangerous use of fireworks surrounding Halloween and Bonfire night has resulted in attacks on fire crews and other emergency services. For the past 6 years the Fire Crime Unit at SWFRS has been working with our partners to control and reduce the number of attacks on crews and the number of unwanted bonfires over this period.

### Key Areas of Work for the Fire Crime Unit

- High Visibility Patrols
- Identification of Dangerous Bonfires
- Identification of Bonfires – single point of contact identified
- Monitoring community bonfires to ensure safety of materials being added
- SWFRS working with Police and Community Wardens
- All high risk Arson Vulnerability Assessments (AVA) followed up and completed
- Multi Agency Community Action Days organised
- Engagement with youth groups in many areas
- Meetings with local traders in hot spot areas to discuss the storage of rubbish adjacent to buildings.

In addition to Operation Bang, we also delivered the following:

Home Fire Safety Talks delivered to Ystrad Mynach Hospital, carers group (Audience participation of 30+)

Home Fire Safety Talk delivered to Age Connects, local group (Audience participation of 10+)

Home Fire Safety attendance at Caerphilly Disability Forum Information Sharing Event (Attendance of 100+)

Road Traffic Presentations including Domino Presentations to Ystrad Mynach College (Audience participation of 150+)

Continued delivery of Home Fire Safety Checks, to high risk / vulnerable individuals within the area.

Author: Donna Crossman, Partner Agency Manager, Home Fire Safety Support Team,  
South Wales Fire & Rescue Service

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## **VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE – 2ND DECEMBER 2015**

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

**REPORT BY: POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR GWENT**

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### **OPCC Third Sector Provider Fair**

Gwent PCC Ian Johnston provided funding for GAVO and TVA to employ a Third Sector Liaison Officer who is now responsible for establishing strong links between the voluntary and community sector and his office. The Liaison Officer is responsible for developing opportunities and services that meet the emerging needs of communities which are linked to Mr Johnston's priorities in his police and crime plan.

An event was held at the Christchurch Centre in Newport between on Tuesday October 13th, the Gwent-wide Third Sector Provider Fair was organised by the Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations and the Torfaen Voluntary Alliance with support from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Gwent, Ian Johnston. The event included presentations from the Welsh Government and Wales Cooperative centre to encourage greater third sector collaboration to tender for public service provision.

The event provided an opportunity for voluntary and community sector organisations to come together to network, showcase what they can offer and develop strong relationships with service providers and commissioners.

### **Gwent OPCC Scoops Award for Transparency**

There are 41 Police and Crime Commissioner offices throughout England and Wales and the Gwent OPCC is among 9 which have recently been presented with a new National Quality Mark for Transparency.

The Quality Mark has been awarded by CoPaCC (Compares Police and Crime Commissioners), an independent national body which monitors police governance. The CoPaCC award was presented for how the PCC and his office provide the public with key information in accessible format on their website including information about who they are and what they do, what they spend and how they spend it, what their priorities are, how they make their decisions and information around complaints, policies and procedures.

The PCC commented that "It has been important to me from day one as Commissioner to be as open and transparent as possible."

### **HMIC Report on Gwent Police**

The PEEL (Police Effectiveness, Efficiency and Legitimacy) assessment report published by HMIC in October is an annual inspection of day-to-day policing and reports on how well each force cuts crime, provides value for money and provides a service that is legitimate in the eyes of the public.

The inspection looked at three areas:

- How well does the force use its resources to meet demand?
- How sustainable and affordable is the workforce model?
- How sustainable is the force's financial position for the short and long term?

Gwent Police achieved 'Good' ratings in each of the three categories and HMIC highlighted that they were 'impressed with the quality of the work that has gone into planning' the new Force operating model with 'more police officers put into frontline roles'. The report also highlighted how:

- Gwent Police is well prepared to face its future financial challenges;
- has successfully reduced its spending over the last spending review period;
- improved its understanding of demand;
- and is effectively planning for future financial challenges

This year has also seen an increase in public confidence and overall victim satisfaction in the service they receive from Gwent Police and that direction of travel is continuing to improve. The accuracy of crime recording in Gwent is also among the best in England and Wales.

### **Building Bridges with Our Communities**

A valuable piece of engagement and research work is underway in Gwent which aims to build relationships and improve trust and confidence between the Police and some of the hardest to reach and least involved communities in the region.

Gwent Police Community Support Officer, Jenny Mullis, has been appointed by Race Council Cymru (RCC) as a part-time Development Worker to promote Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic (BAME) inclusion throughout the region. In a project funded by Ian Johnston, the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) for Gwent, Jenny will be working part time on the task until March 2016.

The intention is to enhance trust and confidence in the Police and the OPCC, leading to better communication and understanding between the Police, OPCC and BAME communities across Gwent. There will be a specific focus on those perceived as the hardest to reach groups.

### **Dedicated Support for Older Victims of Crime**

Based next to Blackwood Police Station, Connect Gwent is a multi-agency service which aims to provide positive and lasting support to all victims of crime. The service was launched by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Gwent, Ian Johnston, in May 2015.

The Older People's Commissioner for Wales visited the Connect Gwent victims' care hub to see how the first ever multi-agency service of its kind in Wales provided victims of crime, including older people, with a comprehensive package of support. The Commissioner was impressed that Age Cymru has established a presence at Connect Gwent in order to provide specific specialist support for older victims of crime.

If you have been a victim of crime, you are entitled to certain information and support from criminal justice organisations such as the police and the courts. The Victims' Code is a Government document which explains what you can expect from these organisations from the moment you report a crime until after a trial has finished.

Information is available to help victims understand their entitlements under the Code:  
Follow this LINK:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/341367/adult-victims-code-leaflet.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/341367/adult-victims-code-leaflet.pdf)

## **Good Neighbours Stop Rogue Traders**

In October, The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Gwent Police and Trading Standards officers joined forces in a crack-down on rogue trading and door step crime.

During the week officers worked closely with colleagues from local Trading Standards teams. They have been gathering intelligence, visiting businesses, carrying out patrols, and conducting vehicle checks across Gwent. Local Neighbourhood Policing teams were also out in their communities providing residents with advice and guidance on how they can keep themselves and members of their communities safe.

Results from the enforcement side of the week include:

- 28 vehicles stopped and checked
- 3 vehicles seized - 2 x no insurance and 1 x suspected to be stolen
- 1 caravan seized - suspected to be stolen
- 3 Traffic Offence Reports issued for vehicles not having MOTs
- 5 vehicles given temporary prohibitions by DVSA
- 10 vehicles dipped for red diesel
- 3 people arrested on suspicion of theft\*
- 2 people arrested on suspicion of Trading Standards offences\*\*
- 1 person being investigated by the Department of Work and Pensions
- 1 person reported for driving without a licence

## **New Multilingual Stop and Search Leaflets**

The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Gwent, Ian Johnston, monitors the use of stop and search powers used by Gwent Police. With a diverse population and with numerous languages spoken in Gwent across communities of varying sizes, Gwent PCC Ian Johnston's office has produced the Stop & Search: Know Your Rights leaflet. The leaflet outlines the rights of individuals if or when they are stopped and searched by the Police and has been translated into six different languages to represent some of the make-up of local communities.

The leaflet, which is also available online on the Commissioner's website, has been translated into Arabic, Bengali; Chinese, English, Polish and Welsh.

## **Hate Crime Awareness Week**

Gwent Police has a zero tolerance approach to hate crime: it can destroy lives; instil fear and break down the fabric of communities and neighbourhoods. Hate crime can affect anyone and, if not tackled, can lead to the isolation and victimisation of individuals and vulnerable groups along with the polarisation of communities.

During National Hate Crime Awareness Week 2015 (10th - 17th October), Gwent Police and Gwent PCC Ian Johnston will join other Commissioners and Police Forces in Wales, the Welsh Government and Victim Support in running a range of local and national initiatives to raise awareness about hate crime and to encourage more people to report them. Throughout the week there was a focus on each type of hate crime - religion, disability, sexual orientation, and race and gender identity.

In addition, Victim Support Cymru received funding from the four Police and Crime Commissioners in Wales to run a non-stop Hate Crime Roadshow around Wales aimed at informing residents what hate crime is; how they can report it and what support they are able to receive.

Author: Maria Chapman (For the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent)

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**VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE –  
2ND DECEMBER 2015**

**SUBJECT: ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR - GWENT POLICE**

**REPORT BY: CAERPHILLY LOCAL SERVICE BOARD**

**“Caerphilly Delivers” - Single Integrated Plan  
Highlight/Exception Report & Scorecard**

**Outcome: Safer Caerphilly**

**Priorities:**

- S1- Reduce the incidents of anti-social behaviour and reduce the fear of becoming a victim of anti-social behaviour.
- S2- Reduce crime and the fear of crime for the residents of the county borough.
- S3- Reduce the harm caused to communities through substance misuse.
- S4- Support domestic abuse victims and their families and raise awareness of domestic abuse, violence against women and sexual violence.
- S5- Improve the education, information, early intervention, prevention and harm reduction in relation to substance misuse in the county borough.

Date: 31/07/2015

**Context:**

This report highlights the progress of the above Priorities/Outcome contained within “Caerphilly Delivers” – the Single Integrated Plan (SIP).

**Section 1** is the report presented to the Leads Group on 17th August, 2015.

The Caerphilly LSB is requested to consider and comment on the following actions/recommendations:-

1. Note the contents of this report.

Following consideration of the recommendations, the Leads Group will progress actions on behalf of the LSB:

**Section 1: Safer Caerphilly - Highlight Report**

<p>‘What do we want to do?’ (Priorities)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To introduce new Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO’s) under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, to alleviate anti-social behaviour at local authority bus stations namely Bargoed, Blackwood, Nelson and Caerphilly (including Caerphilly Train Station area) and various bus shelters.</li> </ul>
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Partners helping us to achieve this:	CCBC Gwent Police ABUHB SWFRS National Probation Service Wales Community Rehabilitation Company Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Report Authors:	Kathryn Peters - Community Safety Manager Natalie Kenny – Community Safety Officer

### **Where are we now?**

The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 brought in a new power for local authorities to deal with anti-social behaviour problems in a geographical area by imposing conditions on the use of an area. The aim is to ensure that the law-abiding majority can use and enjoy public spaces, safe from anti-social behaviour.

PSPO's replace a number of existing legal provisions including Designated Public Place Orders, Gating Orders and Dog Control Orders. Existing Orders made under previous legislation subsist for a period of 3 years from October 2014; at this point they will be treated as PSPO's.

PSPO's can prohibit a wider range of behaviours than previous legislation. Section 50 of the Act allows a local authority to make a PSPO relating to the activities carried out or likely to be carried out, in a public place if it is satisfied on reasonable grounds that two conditions are met:

1. Activities are having a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, or it is likely that they will do;
2. That the activities are of a persistent or continuing nature, are unreasonable and justify the restrictions imposed by the order.

The Safer Caerphilly Partnership, in discussions between Gwent Police and the Local Authority Community Safety Unit, Integrated Transport Unit and the Town Centre Development Manager have determined that PSPO's at the four local authority bus stations and selected bus shelters are needed to alleviate problems being experienced by members of the public.

### **Story behind the data/curves:**

In relation to bus stations Gwent Police have provided evidence of persistent youth annoyance, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse, damage to property and intimidation of members of the public taking place at Bargoed, Blackwood, Caerphilly and Nelson Bus Stations. Issues vary at each station. For example newly planted trees were recently damaged at the regenerated Nelson Bus Station. Bargoed Bus Station and Caerphilly Bus Station have a high number of reports related to youth anti-social behaviour.

Blackwood Bus Station suffers from congregations of homeless substance misusers who make use of the area for seating and shelter. Incidences of defecation in the waiting area, discarded needles, and persons injecting and sleeping in the public toilet are recorded. Homelessness support services work extensively with these individuals, however many are resistant to support. At present there is no ability to prevent individuals sitting in the bus stations all day. Persistent complaints are received from members of the public, local businesses and the taxi trade. Local authority cleansing staff has had to deal with the clean-up of excrement, blood and drug paraphernalia. Enforcement operations are conducted by partners and proactive use is made of the CCTV system, however current resources and legal powers are not sufficient to address the persistent nature of the problems.



### **What has worked well? (Successes)?**

The Safer Caerphilly Partnership has always had a proactive approach to dealing with anti-social behaviour and historically the county borough has seen large reductions in the number of reported anti-social behaviour incidents.

During the first quarter of 2015/16 the number of requests for service for anti-social behaviour matters made to CCBC were down by 108 when compared to the first quarter of the previous year.

Referrals into the Anti-Social Behaviour 4 Strike Process were also down by 7 when compared to the first quarter of the previous year.

The total number of reported anti-social behaviour incidents reported to Gwent Police were down by 363 during the first quarter of 2015/16 compared to the first quarter of the previous year.

Partners have been working to address anti-social behaviour across the county borough and tackle hotspot areas and issues as they arise. Problem Solving Groups have been convened to look at the issues at Blackwood Bus Station and extensive work has been carried out by partners to solve the identified problems. However due to the persistent nature of the issues at the Bus Stations and Shelters across the borough partners have made the decision to use the PSPO's under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

### **What are the challenges/barriers?**

Prior to making an Order the local authority is required to consult with the Chief Constable, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, appropriate community representatives, and owners and occupiers of land in the restricted area. Further, the local authority must notify town and community councils. Consultation and notification has taken place and no adverse responses have been received. Gwent Police and the Integrated Passenger Transport Unit are particularly supportive.

In addition to statutory consultees, consultation has taken place with British Transport Police and Arriva Trains Wales in relation to the Caerphilly Bus Station. The Caerphilly and Blaenau Gwent Youth Offending Service, the local bus companies and neighbouring business owners at the bus stations have also been consulted.

As a result of the consultation with Arriva Trains Wales, the lessees of Caerphilly Train Station requested that the area proposed at the Caerphilly Bus Station be extended into their leased area of land to encompass the Caerphilly Train Station within the restricted area. The British Transport Police evidence of anti-social behaviour supports this request.

Stagecoach requested that an additional bus stop be included at Heol Aneurin, Penyrheol due to problems being experienced by their staff and the travelling public. This request is supported by Gwent Police evidence, the area is a persistent source of anti-social behaviour.

Proposed and new PSPO's must be publicised. However the new legislative regime allows that the local authority websites may be used instead of press notices. The text of the proposed PSPO's was publicised with a social media message driving the public towards a web page and also by public notices placed in the locations. Responses received were limited to complaints about anti-social behaviour in areas not subject to the PSPO's. These have been progressed by referral to the Community Safety Warden Service.

### **What actions are we going to take to improve? (Next steps)**

A report will be going before Cabinet in July to seek approval of the proposed PSPO's. If approval is granted the local authority must then provide sufficient signage to allow users of the area to be aware of the conditions imposed and the consequences of non-compliance.

It is an offence to breach a provision in a PSPO punishable by a fine up to level 3 on the standard scale (£1000). In relation to restrictions relating to alcohol the fine is up to level 2 on the standard scale (£500). Alternatively a fixed penalty notice may be offered. The local authority has authorised its Community Safety Wardens to issue fixed penalty notices in the amount of £100 for breaches, reduced to £75 for payment within 7 days. Police Constables are directly authorised under the Act. Gwent Police have indicated that they would make use of local authority fixed penalty notices, subject to an internal decision making process.

Author: Kathryn Peters – (CCBC Community Safety Manager)  
Natalie Kenny – (CCBC Community Safety Officer)

On behalf of the Caerphilly Local Service Board



## VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIASION COMMITTEE - 2ND DECEMBER 2015

**SUBJECT: COMMUNITY PLANNING QUARTERLY BRIEFING SEPTEMBER TO  
DECEMBER 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 September to December 2015 for information.

### **2. SUMMARY**

- 2.1 The briefing reports the activities of delivering the outcome areas for *Caerphilly Delivers the Single Integrated Plan 2013-2017* for community planning between September to December 2015.

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

- 3.1 *Caerphilly Delivers the Single Integrated Plan 2013-2017* is the pre-eminent partnership document for the Caerphilly county borough, which sets out a plan for improving quality of life for local people and communities. 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 September to December 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 with implementing *Caerphilly Delivers the Single Integrated Plan 2013-2017*.

### **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 2013-2017*.

### **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 September to December 2015



## Appendix 1

### Community Planning Quarterly Briefing October to December 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)

## FUTURE GENERATIONS UPDATE

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act became law in April 2015, and under the Act the Welsh Government has duties and powers to publish guidance for public bodies to help with implementing the Act when the legislative requirements commence in 2016. Two important consultations have now been published in helping with this:

### 1. **Shared Purpose: Shared Future: Draft Statutory Guidance for the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**

Although the consultation on this document closed on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2015, the document contains key information on:

- introducing the Act outlining the challenges and opportunities public bodies face, along with a breakdown of what impact the legislation is expected to make and the change expected;
- technical and practical guidance on the actions public bodies, public services boards (currently local service boards) and community councils must follow to comply with the Act.

Below is the link to the consultation and associated documents -

<http://gov.wales/consultations/people-and-communities/shared-future-shared-purpose/?status=open&lang=en>

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 49**

## 2. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015: How do you measure a nation's progress?

The purpose of this consultation is to seek views on a set of national well-being indicators for Wales that are intended to measure progress in achieving a prosperous, resilient, more equal and healthier Wales, with cohesive communities, a vibrant culture, thriving Welsh language and a globally responsible Wales. The consultation document sets out draft proposals for 40 national well-being indicators for Wales, which the Welsh Government will be required to publish an annual report on showing what progress has been made in achieving the goals.

Below is the link to this consultation, which closes on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2016 - <http://gov.wales/consultations/people-and-communities/future-generations-act-how-do-you-measure-a-nations-progress/?lang=en>

### Appointment of the new Future Generations Commissioner

Sophie Howe has been appointed as the Future Generations Commissioner. Ms Howe is currently Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner for South Wales, and will begin her role early next year. Ms Howe said –

*I am delighted and honoured to be appointed as the first Future Generations Commissioner for Wales. Wales is one of the first countries in the world to put sustainable development at the heart of everything it does. I look forward to working with public bodies across Wales to encourage them to take greater account of the long-term impact of the things they do and to act as a guardian for the needs of future generations. (Source: The Wales We Want press release 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2015)*

**Prosperous Caerphilly (Antony Bolter)**

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

## REGENERATION

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

**Tourism** - tourism and visitor numbers are 9.3% above target. Quarter 2 saw over 150,000 visitors to the Caerphilly borough tourism venues at Llancaiach Fawr, Cwmcarn, The winding House and Visit Caerphilly during the months of July, August and September.

**Business Support** - the Welsh Government no longer supports the South East Wales Local Investment Fund and South East Wales Community Economic Development programmes. Instead Business Support is now provided through the

Welsh Government's Business Wales Service, which supports entrepreneurs, start-up and established businesses in Wales. Business Wales can help by offering information, guidance and business support on: Start Up, General Business Management Support, Tendering Support, Employment Advice, Environmental Management Advice, International Trade, Business Support, Mentoring Support. A range of workshops are also available tailored to starting and growing a business, such as; Customer Care, How to Tender, Sell 2 Wales, e-Procurement, branding, web marketing and raising venture capital.

There is also the Accelerated Growth Programme, which is a Welsh Government initiative aimed at high growth companies looking at entering their next growth phase. The programme offers a range of services such as coaching and consultancy, legal, HR, marketing advice, and practical support to overcome tactical growth challenges.

## **COMMUNITIES FIRST**

### **Employment Projects**

There are 3 main employment projects delivered by Communities First in the Caerphilly borough:

1. Employment Support 25+ for the unemployed;
2. Not in Education, Employment, or Training (NEET) support which targets those who are aged 16-24;
3. LIFT Scheme for the long term unemployed, which runs only in the Caerphilly Basin and Upper Rhymney Valley Communities First cluster areas and targets those in workless households.

The projects are not mutually exclusive, so if a programme being run aimed at people 25+ is suitable for people Not in Education, Employment, or Training they are able to attend that programme.

Work clubs continue to provide weekly drop in opportunities across the Caerphilly borough to offer one to one support, advice and guidance. In addition, the Employment Support Officers continue to offer 1-2-1 appointments for customers wanting more in-depth support, perhaps to create a CV or complete an application form.

Communities First have developed a number of *That Works* programmes seeking to provide individuals with the skills and training needed for a career in a specific sector of work. Routes into catering, construction, care, retail, outdoor skills and call centres have all been delivered (see Communities First cluster area updates below for further details).

Communities First also has a trained Steps to Excellence facilitator delivering courses in the community, in partnership with Flying Start staff, to help improve confidence, self esteem and goal setting.

Communities First, Flying Start and Families First in the Caerphilly county borough (as early adopters of the Welsh Government's Common Outcomes Framework) have recently undertaken an exercise to produce an Employment Pathway, detailing how customers who are unemployed or economically inactive can progress between each programme, avoiding duplication between the programmes and outlining a truly holistic employment support route for individuals.

## **COMMUNITIES FIRST CLUSTER AREA UPDATES**

**Caerphilly Basin Cluster** - through the Employment Support 25+ project, 37 sessions were delivered in the quarter 2 period, exceeding the quarterly target of 20 sessions. This included weekly 1-2-1 work surgeries, which were hosted in the Communities First office in Lansbury Park, the Trecenydd Community Centre, Graig y Rhacca Resource Centre and Senghenydd Community Centre. In total, the cumulative numbers of participants for quarter 1 and quarter 2 at this stage are 65 participants aged 25+ and 38 participants aged 16-24.

The following training programmes were also delivered:

- Two Door Supervisors Programmes (21 attendees in total, 19 of whom completed the course and received the accreditation)
- Food Hygiene Level 2 (9 attendees in total, all of whom completed the course and received the accreditation).

The following course also commenced in quarter 2, and is due to be completed in quarter 3:

- Working in Customer Service (10 participants).

**Mid Valleys East Cluster** – the Employment Support Officers (ESOs) have concentrated efforts on 1-2-1 appointments with participants during quarter 1 and 2 to provide individuals with more intensive support. 47 individuals have accessed this provision to date, gaining support with creating CV's, applying for jobs online and completing application forms, identifying training needs and any other support needs that could be met by the wider Communities First team, such as help with mental health issues.

ESOs also run 5 – 10 day sector specific training through Routes to Work: Retail and Routes to Work: Construction. The retail programme was attended by 8 learners in total, gaining a range of qualifications from Customer Service, Underage Sales Prevention, Communication Skills, Health & Safety and Manual Handling. The construction programme was attended by 8 learners with all 8 learners gaining Level 1 Award Health & Safety in Construction and 6 also achieving CSCS site cards, First Aid and Risk Assessment accreditations.

Work clubs with free IT access also run on a weekly basis at the Cluster Office building in the Groundwork Wales Office, Bryn Road, Pontllanfraith. The work club is open every Wednesday morning between 10am and 12pm and accepts



referrals from Job Centre Plus advisors and other partners as well as self-referrals.

There are two further routes courses planned for quarter 3 and quarter 4. Route to Work: Care being delivered mid-November and Route to Work: Industrial Plant including forklift driving licenses in January 2016.

One day training courses have run in different venues within the cluster, these have included Health & Safety, Manual Handling, Food Hygiene and First Aid. Further one day training courses will be held throughout quarter 3 and 4. Further details can be found by ringing 01495 222605 and asking for Communities First.

**Mid Valleys West Cluster** - a Customer Service and Retail that Works course have been run to coincide with Christmas seasonal employment. There has also been a completion of a SIA licence course to support those wishing to enter the security industry with a potential job outcome. This again was planned to coincide with the additional security opportunities around the Christmas period.

Work clubs continue to provide weekly drop in opportunities across the cluster area, offering drop-in employment support. Literacy and numeracy classes are available upon request. There will be a new class starting in January 2016. Please email [commfirst@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:commfirst@caerphilly.gov.uk) to find out more.

**Upper Rhymney Valley Cluster** - the current *That Works* programme being delivered is a Personal Track Safety course to enable participants to work on the railways (12 people are undertaking the training).

The *Get Well Get Work* project, which works with participants who have been removed from Employment Support Allowance (ESA) and transferred to Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) continues to attract numbers. It has been found that the majority of these participants have mental health issues and have been workless for some considerable time. This project aims to bring back the *work ready* ethic.

A Communities 4 Work Department for Work and Pensions Community Employment Adviser started during the summer, with a second Adviser starting in November.

Due to high demand in the North of the Borough, six tablet computers sessions have being delivered, which has been the first structured tablet computer sessions run, with consideration now being given to rolling this out across the Caerphilly county borough.

An iPad session has also been run at Brodawel Sheltered Housing Centre in Caerphilly. The centre has recently purchased iPads but many of their staff were not comfortable with using them. The centre specialises in people with dementia,

and the staff will now be using the iPads to train up the residents and use it as a tool for engagement.

The Cloud 9 project has been launched in Trinant Primary School and several orders have been placed already. To coincide with this, Get Caerphilly Online has run an internet safety session and online money saving session for the parents of people purchasing equipment through the scheme. Increasing skills and knowledge of parents is an important aspect of this project.

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.

### **CAERPHILLY & BLAENAU GWENT CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU (CAB)**

The CAB provides outreach advice surgeries across the Caerphilly county borough, for residents to drop in to gain information on managing debt, housing, employment and accessing benefits. Since April, 886 people have accessed the outreach service with 209 of these reducing/managing their debt, and 355 accessing the benefits they are entitled to. Details of the surgeries are provided below:

<b>CAB Outreach Venues and Opening Times</b>		
<b>Venue</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>
Communities First Cefn Fforest Community Centre	Mondays	9am-12noon
Rhymney Valley Food bank and CAB at Hafod Deg	Tuesday	10:30am-12:30pm
Communities First Cefn Hengoed Youth Centre	Wednesdays	9.15-11.30am
Communities First Office Lansbury Park	Wednesday afternoons	1:30-4pm
Graig y Rhacca Resource Centre	Thursdays	1:30-4pm
Bedwas Council Chambers	Alternate Wednesdays	9:30am-12noon
Communities First Neuadd St Cattwg, Gelligaer	Thursdays	9:30am-12noon
Newbridge Tabernacle Church	Thursdays	9.30am-12noon
Senghenydd Community Centre	Thursdays	9:30am-12noon
Caerphilly Library	Fridays	9:30am-12noon
Rhymney - Hafod Deg	Fridays	9:30am-12noon
Customer First Pontlottyn, Customer First Office	Last Friday in Month	9:30-11am
Rhymney Valley Food Bank and CAB at Hafod Deg	Tuesday	10:30am-12:30pm



## HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

**The Benefits of Signposting** - signposting to services can help provide support and advice on a wide variety of issues and reduce the burden on families.

Caerphilly Neighbourhood Care Networks (NCN), Primary Mental Health Team, and Third Sector organisations are working together to improve sign posting to local mental health support services. Notably Caerphilly NCNs have provided funding to establish a web based Dementia Roadmap, which provides high quality information about the dementia journey from diagnosis to end stage. This, alongside local information about services, support groups and care pathways will assist primary care staff to more effectively support people with dementia and cognitive impairment and to reassure and provide information to families, carers and people with dementia from their first concerns about dementia and throughout the dementia journey.

Caerphilly NCNs are also increasing their awareness through the development of dementia friendly communities and will be working with the new Dementia Primary Care Support Workers in the community supporting patients and families with new diagnosis of dementia.

**Living Well Living Longer (LWLL) Programme** - started in the north of the Caerphilly borough in November 2015. This is a Welsh Government tackling poverty priority and is being delivered on a pilot basis by the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board and Public Health Wales.

Within the Caerphilly borough LWLL will cover selected GP practices from Rhymney down to Ystrad Mynach and Markham (NCN North). In addition, consideration is being given to deliver the programme in Lansbury Park.

The LWLL programme invites residents in the 40-64 age category (who are not currently on a chronic disease register) and live in the most deprived areas of the health board coverage to receive a cardiovascular risk assessment – a *midlife MOT*. In Caerphilly, it is anticipated that this will target around 7000 residents. Assessment will take place in local community venues. Individuals are then supported to identify lifestyle changes to lower their identified risks and signposted to local services.

**Smoking cessation support** - working with a wide range of partners has seen an impact on the number of people referred into smoking cessation services and people stopping smoking in the Caerphilly county borough. The majority of GP practices in Caerphilly now have smoking cessation champions who collate and make referrals into support services. NCNs have funded training for Communities

First staff in Caerphilly to delivery smoking cessation support. There are currently 14 pharmacies offering an enhanced Level 3 smoking cessation support services across Caerphilly, with a further 4 awaiting accreditation.

To increase uptake of smoking cessation services by pregnant women discussions have been held between midwives and Stop Smoking Wales, following which the way referrals are made by the midwifery service has been revised to make it more efficient and effective.

## Learning Caerphilly (Lynne Bosanko Williams)

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

**Caerphilly Youth Service Celebrates** - young people throughout the Caerphilly county borough were the focus at a celebratory event in October, organised by Caerphilly Youth Service. Over 100 young people were celebrated during the evening in categories such as volunteering, special commitment, young inspector, overcoming barriers and sports. Caerphilly Youth service facilitates the development of young people by providing settings and opportunities that promote achievement.

**Adult learners celebrate success** - outstanding adult learners from across the Caerphilly borough have been recognised at a special *Celebration of Achievement* event at Lewis School Pengam. The event is organised each year by the Caerphilly Learning Festival Planning Group, which is made up of a range of organisations who deliver and co-ordinate adult learning across the area. Various awards were presented to individuals and groups before the overall Caerphilly winner was announced - *The Parent Forum Hengoed and Cefn Hengoed*. The Parent Forum is funded by Families First, Communities First and Flying Start and supports and empowers parents throughout the county borough through participation and the opportunity to learn new skills.

**Integrated Family Learning (Families First) Trinant Primary School** - parents took part in a story box project to support their children with literacy. The story box activities encouraged parents to take supported steps by focusing on a different skill each week. At the end of the course each child was presented with a completed story box (that they helped to make) and a picture book to take home. All of the parents commented on their improved confidence as a result of taking part in the course.

**Confident with Cash (Families First and Supporting People)** - in recognising projects which transform people's lives in the borough, the Transforming Lives and Communities Award by Caerphilly County Borough Council was awarded to the Confident with Cash project. This project assists families that are in debt crisis and helps them to develop financial knowledge and skills through one to one work and home visits.

**ASB Victim Services Manager** - continues to attend all multi-agency groups to tackle anti-social behaviour, liaise closely with all departments within the local authority and outside agencies whilst supporting victims in the community and through the court process. The Victims Services Manager (Lana Harrison) can be contacted on 01495 235441 or e-mail: [harril5@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:harril5@caerphilly.gov.uk)

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

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

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 with Street Pastors, Community Safety Wardens, door staff etc.

Further promotion of the scheme will take place throughout December 2015 with the Safer Caerphilly After Dark logo being beamed onto the side of Caerphilly Castle in the week leading up to *Bleak Friday*. A promotional campaign will take place in the lead up to Christmas focusing on anonymised open letters from the various staff that support the night-time economy and how the actions of members of the public under the influence of excessive alcohol affect their ability to carry out their jobs, and the effect this can have on their personal lives.

**White Ribbon Day** - is the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and falls annually on the 25<sup>th</sup> November. The White Ribbon Campaign aims to prevent Violence Against Women and Girls and promote respectful relationships. Caerphilly County Borough Council were successful in obtaining White Ribbon Status in July 2014. The White Ribbon Campaign Town Award is for Councils demonstrating their commitment to the aims of the White Ribbon Campaign by:

- involving men and boys in prevention activities;
- addressing and altering social norms that lead to violent behaviour against women;
- increasing awareness on the issue and providing services aimed at reducing the incidence of domestic violence;
- mobilising communities under the goal of ending violence against women and girls.

Much has been achieved within the Caerphilly borough, which was highlighted through 16 days of activity leading up to the 25<sup>th</sup> November White Ribbon Day with activities including:

- *Walk a Mile* Event around Caerphilly Castle
- Domestic Abuse Services stands at Council buildings
- Beaming a White Ribbon onto Caerphilly Castle
- Youth Forum Poster unveiled and advertised
- Press releases on White Ribbon and the Castle walk
- Featured White Ribbon overview on the front page of the Safer Caerphilly website
- 16 day Twitter activity with domestic abuse/White Ribbon messages.

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



For further information relating to Community Safety please contact a member of the team on 01495 235350 or visit - <http://your.caerphilly.gov.uk/saferccb/>



## Outcome G1 – Improving local environmental quality

### Greener Caerphilly Small Grants Fund

The Greener Caerphilly Small Grants fund, provided by Caerphilly County Borough Council from the Community Schemes budget, is aimed at maintaining community assets and maximising the benefits of joint environmental projects in the borough. This fund is a key element of the work of Greener Caerphilly, stimulating joint work and providing invaluable funding for priority projects.

In 2015/16, 9 projects applied for a total of £21,000 from a grant fund of £10,600. Greener partners including Keep Wales Tidy, Communities First and Caerphilly Homes all provided funding to ensure that the full £21,000 was available to support all 9 projects in full. Discussions are ongoing to align timescales for the different grant schemes to allow funding for approved projects to co-ordinated.

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

### **7 recycling bin sins campaign**

Residents across the Caerphilly county borough have received a visit from a trained officer representing Caerphilly County Borough Council in August and September as part of a brand new campaign which aimed to remind and re-educate residents on what can and cannot be recycled.

In order to work to address these issues, Caerphilly County Borough Council has worked alongside Waste Awareness Wales on developing a *7 recycling bin sins* campaign – that is, the seven things that cause the most problems by residents incorrectly placing these items in their recycling bins.

These *bin sins* include nappies, pet poo, electrical items, textiles, food waste, hard plastics and non-recyclable packaging such as crisp packets and polystyrene. Further information can be found at:

<http://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/CaerphillyDocs/Bins-and-recycling/Is-yours-a-sin-bin.aspx>

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