



## Appendix 1 Community Planning Quarterly Briefing October to December 2014

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

**Community Planning (Jackie Dix, Alison Palmer & Howard Rees)**  
[communityplanning@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:communityplanning@caerphilly.gov.uk)

### **Local Service Caerphilly Delivers Standing Conference 30<sup>th</sup> January 2015**

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

### **Welsh Government Local Service Board Support meeting 4<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### **Transport highlights include:**

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

#### **Employment support (primarily via Communities First) highlights:**

*Building Resilient Communities – Taking Forward The Tackling Poverty Action Plan*, published in July 2013, set out the Welsh Government's plans to help people out of poverty, including a proposal to create 5,000 training and employment opportunities for people living in workless households by the end of the 2017 calendar year. Caerphilly Basin has been chosen as one of 8 cluster areas to employ two *LIFT* Family Employment Mentors to help people from workless households into training or employment opportunities. People living in households where no one has worked for more than 6 months and are not on the work programme should get in touch to see how they can benefit. The programme is only eligible for people living in the following areas: Senghenydd, Abertridwr, Trecenydd, Penyrheol, Churchill Park, Lansbury Park, Porset Park, Mornington Meadows, Trethomas and Graig Yr Rhacca.

**Youth Hubs** continue in youth unemployment hotspots in Senghenydd, Abercarn, Crumlin and Rhymney in partnership with Job Centre Plus, Careers Wales and Communities First. Young people are able to drop in to get employment advice

and support on issues such as adult education, gaining work experience, creating a CV and applying for Jobs Growth Wales placements. The youth employment officers have supported 35 young people back into work since April, 58 have gained a JGW placement and 53 have completed an employment related qualification. To find out more, contact Greg or Lindsey on telephone: 01443 864139.

Communities First have developed a number of ....*That Works* programmes to provide individuals with the skills and training needed for a career in a specific sector of work. Routes into catering, outdoor skills and call centres have been delivered. At the end of the programmes individuals are supported to make the transition into employment, training and/or volunteering opportunities in the short and longer term. Since April, 30 people have gained employment and 132 have gained relevant qualifications to help secure work.

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

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

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

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

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

**Healthier Caerphilly (Lianne Dallimore)**

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

### **Healthier Communities**

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

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

### **Bouncing Back from Cancer**

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



## **Foodwise**

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

## **Healthy Hearts**

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

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

**Streetgames** sites run in the following locations:-

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

**Physical Activity sessions** take place in the following areas:-

**Dance Class** - White Rose - New Tredegar (Mondays)

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

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

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

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

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

## Sport and Leisure Services

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

### Learning Caerphilly (Lynne Bosanko Williams)

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

## GCSE and school successes

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

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

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

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

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

## **Supporting Family Change Launch**

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

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

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

The project is now welcoming referrals. For additional information contact:  
[sfc@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:sfc@caerphilly.gov.uk)

## **Interact**

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

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

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

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

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

## ***Petra the Penguin***

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

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

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

### ***Confident with Cash***

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

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

For further information regarding *Confident with Cash* email Jan Channing:  
[channingj@caerphillycab.org.uk](mailto:channingj@caerphillycab.org.uk)

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

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

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

**Anti Social Behaviour Victim Services Manager** - continues to attend all multi-agency groups to tackle anti-social behaviour, liaise closely with all departments within the local authority and outside agencies whilst supporting victims in the community and throughout the court process. During the second quarter (July 2014 – September 2014) a total of 77 referrals have been received and contacted. The Victim Service Manager has supported over 1000 victims and witnesses of anti-social behaviour since she has been in post from 2010. The Victim Services Manager (Lana Harrison) can be contacted on 01495 235441 or e-mail:  
[harril5@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:harril5@caerphilly.gov.uk)

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

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

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

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

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

**The Safer Caerphilly Volunteer Network** - incorporates the diverse range of individuals who are actively involved in their communities and have an interest in working alongside other partner agencies to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour. The Volunteer Network is made up of 229 individuals from groups such as Neighbourhood Watch, Crime Prevention Panels, Community Groups and Partnerships, Street Pastors and Tenants and Residents Associations.

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

The meetings are now held every six months with a newsletter being sent to members in between meetings. If you would like to attend the next meeting or would like further information on the Volunteer Network please contact the Community Safety office on 01495 235350.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## 50+ Positive Action (Mandy Sprague)

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

### Dignity, Respect and Age Equality

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

### Information and Empowerment

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

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