

COMMUNITIES AND PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE 23.10.17

AREA CHAMPION: LIS EVERY FOR EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

First verbal feedback to Committee is due 23 October 2017. Due to unavoidable absence, I am unable to attend Committee on that date and share my feedback in person. I have instead provided this written informal feedback as a summary of the activity and actions carried out to date.

I have drafted an initial Action Plan based on the Role Description for the Champion role and links to the identified areas of this. Actions are identified, with the link partner, a timescale, identified resources and will include progress and outcomes/impact.

Research

My initial approach has been to undertake extensive research on what the role entails, the area of East Cambridgeshire and its demographic profile, and its stakeholders. It is vital that a good knowledge of the needs of the area and the work that is currently taking place is known and understood. The purpose is to identify good practice and work with local stakeholders on identified gaps which the Champion role can support, signpost, engage partners and create opportunities for partnership work, to reduce duplication and identify possible savings whilst encouraging community cohesion and sustainability. Details of the research are available on the action plan.

Following the research, the following plans are being planned or are in place:

Working with relevant service leads and other lead practitioners on community and volunteering activities

- Working with partners to identify a Community ambassador in each **Parish Council** who will be prepared to be the conduit for communication and planning;
- Compiling a register of service leads to enable Parish Councils to identify key personnel to support their activities (requested);
- Presentation to members at **District** or working individually with councillors (with the willing) to share the purposes of the role and create a working relationship;
- Individual discussions planned with Councillors on how the role can support;
- Plans in hand for a major conference on the transformation agenda and how it affects East Cambridgeshire, working with the **EC service leads**;
- A planned survey with **VCAEC** and other **volunteering organisations** to identify the barriers to volunteering

Activities working with the **Community Safety Partnership** and **EC departments**:

- Planning a multi-cultural event for EC with partners to engage with the local minority groups and identify local volunteers who would be willing to create more activities to support their communities and integration;
- Collaborating on the Faith Week exhibition and work with schools;
- Delivering assemblies to 2 schools (Soham and Witchford) on diversity;
- Additional work on the Prevent agenda in schools;

- Working with the stakeholders to develop the forums launching White Ribbon Campaign and Eyes and Ears Project;
- Working with the Rosmini Centre to deliver a Hate Crime and Vulnerability forum for both Littleport and Ely;
- Helping to compile Hate Crime/prevent literature for distribution to all Parish Councils
- Linking the Sports Development team with the activities undertaken in schools paid for by the Sports Premium to aid their well-being programme;
- Inputting to the District's Community Conference agenda;
- Further engagement with Littleport and Ely timebank to extend activities;
- Planning for an event to encourage volunteering (similar to the recent one in Cambridge); drawing the partners together to plan this.
- Arranging for our Housing Department to do a PSHE session on 'living away from home/budgeting' to the 4 secondary schools in EC.

Youth

- Working on the Youth Investment Fund bid, pulling local district youth clubs/police etc through the Community Safety partnership;
- Investigating bid for programme of work related activities, eg CVs, mock interviews for disadvantage young people;
- Setting up a survey with representatives of the Police Youth Forum to find out 'what would make young people return to this area to work after education and training';
- Exploring funding for the Stretham Youth Club for premises for a charity shop to ensure sustainability;
- Member of the Stakeholders Group for the Opportunities Fund for East Cambs and Fenland (£6 million) and the specific Working Party for Post 16 education and training.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have spent real time with me (County and District officers, volunteers, Youth Club leaders etc) as I start this role and who have embraced the role with such enthusiasm. I look forward to working with them all as the programme evolves. It is interesting to note that there is already a momentum to engage to add value to the great work that already exists whilst seeking to identify how gaps can be filled through knowledge of what is out there and networking resulting in the further development of the bottom up approach to community cohesion

Le.23.20.2017