

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee Nuneaton and Bedworth Area Committee

Date of Committee 29 March 2006

Report Title Community Plan Update

Summary The report gives an update on successful progress to date undertaken by Warwickshire County Council in support of the delivery of the Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Plan.

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Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? No.

Background papers Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Plan – Shaping Our Future 2004/07

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:- Details to be specified

- Other Committees
- Local Member(s) Cllr Longden, Chair of Area Committee
- Other Elected Members
- Cabinet Member
- Chief Executive David Carter, Strategic Director of Performance & Development
- Legal Jane Pollard, Acting Head of Legal Services
- Finance
- Other Chief Officers John Deegan and Martyn Davey
- District Councils Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council – Dawn Ford, Regeneration Manager
- Health Authority

Police

Other Bodies/Individuals

FINAL DECISION YES

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

Further consideration by
this Committee

To Council

To Cabinet

To an O & S Committee

To an Area Committee

Further Consultation

Agenda No

Nuneaton and Bedworth Area Committee - 29 March 2006

Community Plan Update

Report of the Strategic Director of Performance & Development

Recommendation

That the Area Committee:

1. Acknowledge the successful progress of Directorates in implementing the actions within the Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Plan.
2. Ask the Funding Sub-group to develop suggested priorities for any Well-being Fund Commissions 2006/07 under the current Community Plan Aims.

1. Background

- 1.1 Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council's second Community Plan "Shaping Our Future 2004/07" launched by the Local Strategic Partnership in April 2004, has been a key driver to partnership working. The Plan was developed with key partners including the County Council and involved consultation with the Community Forum, the People's Panel and many community groups and individuals.
- 1.2 The current Community Plan covers the period to March 2007 and steps are now being taken to review the content and to progress the Plan after 2007. The Local Strategic Partnership has a strategic overview of the Plan and receives regular reports from each Theme Group, under its Performance Monitoring arrangements.
- 1.3 Additionally, officers from both Councils are working together to deliver projects, which have received Well-being Funding and to identify further crosscutting projects, particularly those with aims identified in the Community Plan.
- 1.4 **Appendix B** sets out local projects delivered over the last year through a joint funded process between the County Council and Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council, with local community and voluntary groups who contributed to the delivery of the Community Plan. The Area Committee provided match funding of £20,000 to this process from its Well-being Fund and recently

agreed to repeat a similar contribution in the forthcoming year to deliver more local projects through community and voluntary groups.

2. Progress to Date

- 2.1 Much progress has been made both by individuals, organisations and in partnership. Details at **Appendix A** outline some of the key projects that been successfully delivered against relevant Community Plan Aims by Warwickshire County Council. Many other aspects have been actioned through day-to-day service delivery plans.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1 The Community Plan is about the improving the social, environmental and economic, quality of life within the Borough. Making changes, working in partnership, sharing priorities and resources is a demanding and challenging approach. A lot has been achieved and the importance of a long-term commitment to sustainable results is the key to the success of the Community Plan.

DAVID CARTER
Strategic Director of
Performance & Development

Shire Hall
Warwick

24 February 2006

Community Plan Aims – Key Projects

Theme 1 – Community and Involvement

Priorities	Evidence
Encourage more people to volunteer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building Citizenship and Capacity in the Community – Volunteer Centre (Well-being Fund). Active Citizen project with young people.
Work towards removing poverty within the Borough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase client base and take up of Credit Union facilities (Social Inclusion Fund) • Increase uptake of Benefits through Warwickshire Welfare Rights and Advice Service (Social Inclusion Fund)
Provide help, support and guidance to community groups within the Borough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 editions of Local Lines produced by Area Office (Area Business Plan) • Over 60 Community Groups have been assisted by the Area Office • Camp Hill Residents' Forum/groups helped (PinCH)
Promote projects that involve young and older people together	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of Community Plan projects – WCC & NBBC (Well-being Fund) • Publicise and share results of Oral History Project with schools and communities`
Promote a community information and resource directory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warwickshire Libraries and Information Service and NBBC will recommend their preferred mechanism for Accessible Community Information to the Warwickshire On-Line Partnership

Theme 2 – Health, Welfare and Housing

Priorities	Evidence
Ensure everyone has the opportunity of a decent home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Influence provision for new homes in Camp Hill and other areas of the borough
Provide more education and awareness of drugs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Schools Drugs Advisor has been working across the county; so far in 2005/6 she has made 10 school visits, reviewed 15 drug education policies, trained 13 newly qualified teachers, 10 secondary school teachers and delivered 4 staff training sessions • Life Education Centre have visited 14 schools in Nuneaton & Bedworth district this financial year, reaching over 3,000 pupils
Provide support for vulnerable people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barriers to Healthy Lifestyles to undertake a pilot project targeting health deprived Super Output Areas through the Healthy Living Network (Social Inclusion Fund) • Home care modernisation beginning to have an impact on Nuneaton & Bedworth • Capacity plans being developed for the provision of appropriate care home placements • Development of Healthy Living Network initiatives
Work together to reduce the number of unplanned teenage pregnancies within the Borough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-group of the Lifelong Learning theme – Sexual Health and Relationships set up • Project to investigate the needs of Teenage Lone Parents through the Acorn Centre (Well-being Fund) • Respect Yourself leaflets updated and credit size card distributed • Respect Yourself website launched in all schools but schools in N&B received promotional resources • Youth Workers and Personal Advisers (PAs) trained in new Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) policy • Youth Workers and PAs trained re condom distribution • Straight Talking Project lead by school nurse teams and PAs & Youth Workers trained to assist with delivery • Expansion of young people specific sexual health service in Bedworth (January 2006) • Emergency Hormonal Contraception (EHC) service provision increased
Work towards reducing deprivation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Action Plan produced through Area Office • Healthy Living Network to undertake research in the four most health deprived Super Output Areas (as previously mentioned, via SIF)

Theme 3 – Community Safety and Crime

Priorities	Evidence
Tackling drug, alcohol and substance abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2005/6, the Northern Community Drug Team, based in Nuneaton, have seen increasing numbers of people. • The young persons Substance Misuse worker for Nuneaton & Bedworth has made initial contacts, conducted full assessments, had people commence the service and some have successfully complete treatment • Addaction* have approached a large number of people in Nuneaton custody suite and referred 25% to treatment services
Tackling anti-social behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pilot program started in Nuneaton and Bedworth to look at setting up Acceptable Behaviour Clinics, this will engage with Education and interventional agencies as well as enforcement agencies aiming to improve partnership working and success of Acceptable Behaviour Contacts. • Progress is being made with ASBO groups engaging with other agencies improving the success of ASBO's and supporting youths through Positive About Young People and the Nuneaton and Bedworth Leisure Trust. • The Countywide Strategy on Anti-Social Behaviour has been adopted by Nuneaton & Bedworth CDRP. • An action plan supporting the Strategy has been agreed by the Countywide ASB steering group for implementation across Warwickshire. • Best practice is being looked at through various pilot projects across Warwickshire for possible roll out in Nuneaton & Bedworth.
Reduce domestic burglary, car theft, violent crime, etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with the CDRP has helped reduce levels of crime in target areas
Reduce the fear of crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extension of Smart Water and training for local delivery through volunteers via the Police (Well-being Fund) • Supporting the community to develop safer streets by clean-ups and graffiti removal through NBBC (Well-being Fund) • Intergeneration Activities – NB Leisure Trust (Well-being Fund)
Work in partnership to reduce the number of disorder incidents in the Borough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with the CDRP has helped reduce levels of incidents in target areas

* Addaction – is the first part of 'addiction' plus the word 'action' to imply that action is being taken against addiction

Theme 4 – Lifelong Learning

Priorities	Evidence
<p>Give all people an equal chance to take part in appropriate learning and to succeed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Nuneaton and Bedworth Children’s Centres are scheduled to be open by the end of April 2006. With Camp Hill and Stockingford already designated. • CMS moving towards an Area Structure with newly appointed Area Manager developing strong links with schools within the Borough. ‘Wider Opportunities’ developing throughout the Borough with work taking place with Year 4 pupils to raise awareness and appreciation of music • Sub-group met on a number of occasions, with guest speakers on the main issues, looking at how better to provide help and support for people seeking employment and identify future skills gaps and training needs. Desktop data collection carried out and identified that real issue seemed to be lack of sharing of appropriate information, rather than no services in place and is being addressed through the sub group • Extend range of on-line learning and information resources at Libraries and improve usage of public ICT. • Promote national BBC RaW campaign (Read and Write) • Successes at Opportunities Centre, Pool Road Industrial Estate
<p>Develop a broader range of learning opportunities for young people to help keep them interested in learning and to equip them for adult life</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sexual Health and Relationship group publicising current services through the Healthy Living Network and work is taking place to identify levels of provision within the Borough and identify possible gaps. • Oral history project funded by the Area Committee has been set up to collect, preserve and publish vulnerable oral history of Nuneaton and Bedworth people associated with industrial heritage • 11-19 Area Coordinator with Aimhigher funding has facilitated a range of new activities to raise aspirations of young people. For example, collaborative activity based around Modern Foreign Languages for all Year 9 students, increase in vocational/work related courses on offer and Increase in courses on offer for Gifted and Talented
<p>Support schools to raise achievement and standards</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basics of Success Home Tutoring Project working with up to 70 families in Camp Hill area of Nuneaton, based around Manor Park secondary school and cluster Primary schools and has now been extended to Ash Green school working with Year 7/8 with 40 families. • County Extended Schools Coordinator appointed to post in October 2005 and schools invited to bid for pump priming funds. Funding allocations were made in December 2005 to a number of innovative and varied of projects in Nuneaton and Bedworth. • Continue Summer Reading Challenge to maintain reading skills across summer holiday.

Priorities	Evidence
Make available clear information, advice and guidance about learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A number of discussions have taken place at ACLP and Learning Exchange meetings regarding improved IAG and further developments will be undertaken in the Spring.
Make sure that the buildings in which learning takes place are attractive, are open to everyone and offer up to date equipment and materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bedworth Learning Partnership is offering a programme of learning opportunities throughout the area based around Nicholas Chamberlaine, Ash Green and Exhall Grange schools and discussions have taken place with North Warwickshire and Hinckley College regarding the identification of progression routes. • WCC Adult and Community Learning Service looking to link with a number of schools to develop other learning clusters based on the successful Bedworth model. • Library improvement programme including DDA compliance and accessible ICT. • Developments in Early Years/Children Centres in Nuneaton and Bedworth

Theme 5 – Economy and Employment

Priorities	Evidence
Increase the opportunities for people to start their own business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 social enterprises supported and working closely with the community – Building Sustainable Neighbourhoods. • 10 new business units to be built at Centenary Business Centre. • Business links have included 3 business development and planning workshops, 1 awareness seminar and 15 business enquiries for start up advice. • Camp Hill Employment and Enterprise Resources (CHEERS) have helped 8 people to start their own business.
Promote local jobs for local people and create more job opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extension of the successful Brick Laying Training through the Opportunities Centre (Social Inclusion Fund) • Building Sustainable Neighbourhoods' have helped to create and safeguard jobs • Construction Apprenticeship Programme in Camp Hill – 8 work experience placements • 207 people have benefited from learning opportunities at the Opportunities Centre • Through PEP 156 have been helped into jobs • Queens Road – 20 business being given support, launch of shop front improvements and environmental scheme • In conjunction with Connexions 103 clients have been helped, 29 found full/part-time jobs and 69 have undertaken training.
Seek and promote investment from outside the area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warwickshire Investment Partnership – 49 inquiries, 2 new companies re-located to Nuneaton • Eliot Park Innovation Centre opened and businesses have taken up occupation
Reduce the percentage of families with low household incomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PEP – 76% of clients unemployed • CHEEERS – 8 people on benefits helped to start their own business and 17 helped into jobs

Theme 6 – Town Centres

Priorities	Evidence
Provide easily accessible town centres for all users regardless of mobility issues, satisfying local, regional and national policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £5M Improvements to the Nuneaton Ring Road enabling the pedestrianisation of Church St
Provide a friendly, attractive environment throughout the town centres, building on the local heritage and distinctive character of the towns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £4.5M investment in town centre in environmental enhancement projects (WCC, NBBC & ERDF)
Continually improve safety and security through both design and management of initiatives, ensuring that positive results are effectively communicated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through Town Centres Management Partnership, WCC contribution to town centre wardens
Actively encourage inward investment within the town centres, including the redevelopment of existing buildings and quality new developments, whilst equipping the local workforce with the skills needed to support this development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pursue opportunities with partners to secure 21st Century Library provision for Nuneaton Town Centre. • Progressing Nuneaton and Bedworth Masterplan considering long term vision for the town centres and the best/innovative use of emerging development sites • Opening of the Warwickshire Justice Centre
Encourage the development of quality facilities, attractions and events, building on the existing local assets and promoting these to attract a wider range of visitors and to raise the profile of Nuneaton and Bedworth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celebrate with partners the 150th anniversary of publication of George Eliot's first novel, set in Nuneaton, 'Scenes of Clerical Life'. • Town Centre Manager activities (WCC partner) - include transport, marketing and promotion and safety and security. • Visitor Economy Strategy for Coventry and Warwickshire 2005 - 2009

Theme 7 – Natural and Built Environment

Priorities	Evidence
Protect and promote public open spaces and natural habitats in the Borough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Clean-up with Art through NBBC (Well-being Fund) • Well-being Third Party Funding Commission to access Landfill Tax Credits
Encourage the community to recycle and keep areas clean and tidy and reduce the number of abandoned vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting the community to develop safer streets by clean-ups and graffiti removal through NBBC (Well-being Fund) • WCC offices have facilities for recycling

Theme 8 – Transport and Access

Priorities	Evidence
Better facilities for pedestrians by providing more pedestrian crossings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safer Routes to School schemes completed
A reduction in the amount of illegal parking by improving the enforcement of parking regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Controlled access to pedestrian areas, relocation of disabled parking and free parking for Blue Badge holders in all car parks introduced
Traffic management on existing roads to reduce congestion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marston Lane traffic signals on canal bridge
Ensure that the design of roads and transport systems makes them accessible for all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of over 40 dropped kerb facilities
Better and safer facilities for cyclists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wem Brook Trail cycleway completed • Maple Park footbridge completed

Shaping Our Future

How the Community Plan works

This Second Community Plan, launched in May 2004 by the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) aims to improve the quality of life for everyone who lives, works and visits the Borough.

The plan has eight key priorities. Within each of those priorities there are five community priorities that were highlighted through extensive consultation.

Each 'key priority' group has a lead organisation and contact, whose responsibility it is to engage partners in working together to deliver the plan. These groups are working extremely well together and their progress is monitored regularly by the partnership.

Community Plan Fund – this is the first funding made available from Warwickshire County Council and Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council for the plan to allow community and voluntary groups to contribute to the delivery of the plan directly. Fourteen community projects were approved and will be delivered over the next 12 months.

The projects currently approved are:

1. **Rainbow Sunshine Company** (£1800) – To run social inclusion workshops, to give people with learning disabilities a voice, to explore painful issues through theatre, to provide an insight to carers and volunteers the needs and concerns of disabled people. DVD to be produced.
2. **Refurbishing for the Blind** (£4873) – One completed project is the refurbishment of two rooms in the United Reform Church, Nuneaton where the Warwickshire Association for the Blind and Talking Newspapers now operate from.
3. **Member Expansion Programme** (£2177) – To create a wider awareness of the benefits of Credit Unions locally. To recruit new members to volunteer and run NCU making it more accessible.
4. **George Eliot Environmental Action Project** (£1500) – An Environmental Action Project. To start and manage a local recycling "clean up" campaign. To convert a currently disregarded piece of land into a wildlife reserve and nature area.
5. **Wildlife Garden** (£2000) – To provide a planting scheme on a derelict site, which will encourage wildlife and remove an eyesore.
6. **New Toilet Block** (£5000) – Contribution towards project to build a new toilet block on Newdigate Allotments, which will house male and female toilets and hand washing facilities on the allotment site.
7. **Providing Pedestrian Stops** (£3820) – Contribution towards project to develop a safe pleasant seating and planted area off the pathway for parents to collect small children. Hope to relieve congestion on crowded route and create a garden style haven of safety for over 200 pupils.

- 8. Mother and Toddler Group** (£5000) – Education Courses, PC Training Courses – better job prospects. Educate and Enlighten. Bringing all age groups together.
- 9. The Welcome Garden** (£2991) – Front entrance to the school is very run down; children who have no real pride in the environment run through the rose beds. School Council, Schools Maintenance & Friends of Newidgate have worked together and will work on two new flower beds to enhance the environment and give a pride in the school for all the community.
- 10. Rise and Shine** (£2800) – The project will target 10 – 15 pupils on a daily basis. The group of children will work with two trained teacher assistants. In their own room, pupils will learn to interact positively with each other. Focus will be on raising self-esteem and positively encourage good social skills.
- 11. Resource Café – Social Enterprise Group** (£2990) – To enable service users to build confidence and learn new skills, thereby improving quality of life at two bases – New Horizon, Bedworth and Clarence House, Nuneaton
- 12. Ford BMX Track** (£3449) – Contribution towards project to provide a BMX cycle track for young people.
- 13. Shout** (£600) – Contribution towards a project to run a summer play scheme of arts based activities for children between the ages of 7 – 14 years.
- 14. Koffee Bar Klub** (£1000) – The project takes place in the family room and some of the things that the children would like to do includes: Craft Classes, Walks, Litter Picking, Summer Fete, Building a Go Kart.

The plan has helped partner organisations pull in external funding for their projects and to help deliver the priorities and objectives of the plan.

The Community Strategy is entitled “Shaping Our Future”, with the key word being OUR. The partnership is trying to ensure that as many partners, groups, individuals are involved and engaged within partnership activities and one of the best compliments of the Community Plan is that agencies, groups feel they are working better together and that strong relationships have been built.

Dawn Ford
Regeneration Manager
Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council

January 2006